

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

LA Family Child Care Providers United www.childcareproviders united.org

CONTACT PERSONS

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DATE PROGRAM/ ALLIANCE BEGAN

LA Family Child Care Providers United was launched in summer 2017

LA FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS UNITED

Los Angeles, CA

SERVICE DELIVERY AREA

The family child care providers/home educators are mainly from the Southern area of Los Angeles County which includes the cities of Los Angeles, Inglewood, Bellflower, and Carson; however, any home educator who wishes to join the group from other areas of LA County is welcome to participate.

POPULATION SERVED

Due to the demographics of the area, most families served by Alliance members are Black or Brown. Some home educators only serve families that receive child care subsidy; others serve both full cost, fee paying families and families receiving child care vouchers.

SUMMARY OF APPROACH

LACPU is a peer networking Alliance, whose mission is to share information, resources, and connections among existing family child care providers as well as the new generation of family child care providers and staff, so that they can free up the time, money and resources needed to improve their business and reach their personal goals.

LAUP currently has 25 members (based on the membership guideline of attending at least five meetings) and a total of over 65 home educators have participated in the monthly meetings. Monthly meeting topics are determined by the needs of the members, sharing of a resource for the group, and review of legislation and regulations relevant to their work or families.

Activities are typically peer-to-peer exchanges, such as:

- Coverage: providers cover for each other for illness, doctor's appointments, etc.
- **Referrals:** LACPU members refer families within the network
- **Purchasing:** Access to locally grown fruits and vegetables and other supplies via Facebook page or email
- Networking: LACPU Facebook Group
- Helping Circle: ten minutes at each meeting for one attendee to present on a topic that would be useful to LACPU members
- Marketing assistance: workshop on online marketing; individual support with computer use for marketing
- **Community building:** holiday parties, social events, game nights, and celebrating accomplishments

• **Presentations:** on professional or personal matters that interest members on demand Future plans include a substitute pool, advocacy and shared work on benefits (health care, retirement, etc.)

TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM(S) USED BY THE ALLIANCE

No Alliance-wide technology platform is supported.

SERVICES PROVIDED

Marketing, training, subsidy supports, substitutes (via peer coverage)

FUNDING

Funding sources for Alliance startup: First 5 LA grants

IMPACT

LAFCPU members have formed a strong support community, contacting one another between meetings on all aspects of programs operations, such as: written family policies, COVID-19 safe practices, communicating effectively with the local child care subsidy program, assistance with applying for federal and state PPP grants, community resources for parents in need, updates on licensing and state regulation changes, and Boosting enrollment via better marketing.