

Jodi Neuenschwander
Lassen County Local Child Care Planning Council
472-013 Johnstonville Road, North
Susanville, CA 96130

February 16, 2021

Lassen County Board of Supervisors
220 S Lassen St. #4
Susanville, CA 96130

Dear Supervisors,

With the implementation of the Welfare Reform legislation, AB 1542, it is required that a Child Care Planning Council be implemented on a formal basis in each county. Section 84993(b) of AB 1542 state the County of Board of Supervisors and County Superintendents of Schools shall certify the members of the Local Child Care Planning Council.

In 1991, the Lassen County Board of Supervisors and the Lassen County Board of Education approved both a joint resolution and a member roster with regard to the Child Care Planning Council relative to a Federal Child Care and Development Block Grant. The Council has been operating since that time and has actively worked in the development of child care services and has completed a needs assessment in 2018.

AB 1542 allows for designation of the local planning council; providing the required membership category designations. To that end, the Lassen Child Care Planning Council is submitting an updated Certification Statement of the Lassen County Local Child Care Planning Council Composition for consideration of approval by the Lassen County Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,



Jodi Neuenschwander
Local Planning Council Coordinator

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT
REGARDING COMPOSITION OF LPC MEMBERSHIP

Return to:

California Department of Education
 Child Development Division
 Local Planning Council Consultant
 1430 N. Street, Suite 3410
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Due Date:

Annually on January 20

Please complete all information requested below:

County Name: Lassen County		County Coordinator Name and Telephone Number: Jodi Neuenschwander 530-251-8733
Membership Categories		
20% Consumers (Defined as a parent or person who receives, or who has received within the past 36 months, child care services.)		
Name of Representative	Address/Telephone Number	Appointment Date and Duration
Jamie Schultze Parent	699 Old Archery Road Susanville, CA 96130 530-249-5714	Appointed 11/19/2020-11/19/2022
Ashley Gutierrez Parent	616 Ash St. Westwood, CA 96137 530-250-5349	Appointed 11/19/2020-11/19/2022
20% Child Care providers (Defined as a person who provides child care services or represents persons who provide child care services.)		
Name of Representative	Address/Telephone Number	Appointment Date and Duration
Tambra Bowles Leap Ahead Learning Center	1200 Paiute Lane Susanville, CA 530-252-6100	Appointed 11/19/2020-11/19/2022
James Hall LCOE- After School Program	472-013 Johnstonville Rd. N. Susanville, CA 96130 530-257-2196	Appointed 11/19/2020-11/19/2022
20% Public Agency Representative (Defined as a person who represents a city, county, or local education agency.)		
Name of Representative	Address/Telephone Number	Appointment Date and Duration
Ronda Hall Lassen County Public Health	1445 Paul Bunyan, Suite B Susanville, CA 96130 530-251-2461	Appointed 11/19/2020-11/19/2022
Wendy Jacobs Sierra Cascade Family Opportunities Head Start Family Service Workers Leavitt Lake and Lassen Centers	710-400 Willow St. Susanville, CA 96130 530-257-7530	Appointed 11/19/2020-11/19/2022

Membership Categories

20% Community Representative (Defined as a person who represents an agency or business that provides private funding for child care services, or who advocates for child care services through participation in civic or community-based organizations but is not a child care provider or CDE funded agency representative.)

Name of Representative	Address/Telephone Number	Appointment Date and Duration
Phoebe Freeman Quality Counts California	472-013 Johnstonville Rd. N. Susanville, CA 96130 530-250-5055	Appointed 11/19/2020-11/19/2022
Brenda Poteete Sierra Cascade Family Opportunities Head Start	65 N. Union St. Susanville, CA 96130 530-257-1206 x1001	Appointed 11/19/2020-11/19/2022

20% Discretionary Appointees (Appointed from any of the above categories or outside of these categories at the discretion of the appointing agencies.)

Name of Representative	Address/Telephone Number	Appointment Date and Duration
Melissa Rojas Lassen County Child and Family Resources	472-013 Johnstonville Rd. N. Susanville, CA 96130 530-250-5055	Appointed 11/19/2020-11/19/2022
Vacant		

Authorized Signatures

We hereby verify as the authorized representatives of the county board of supervisors (CBS), the county superintendent of schools (CSS), and the Local Child Care and Development Planning Council (LPC) chairperson that as of _____, the above identified individuals meet the council representation categories as mandated in AB 1542 (Chapter 270, Statutes 1997; California *Education Code* Section 8499.3). Further, the CBS, CSS, and LPC chairperson verify that a good faith effort has been made by the appointing agencies to ensure that the ethnic, racial, and geographic composition of the LPC is reflective of the population of the county.

Authorized Representative - County Board of Supervisors	Telephone Number	Date
Authorized Representative - County Superintendent of Schools	Telephone Number	Date
Patricia A. Anderson	530-257-2196	1-27-2021
Local Child Care Planning Council Chairperson	Telephone Number	Date
Jodi Greenxhuander	530-251-8733	1-27-2021

Lassen County
Child Care Planning Council
Strategic Plan

2020 – 2025

Prepared for:

Lassen Child Care Planning Council
Lassen County Office of Education
Child and Family Resources
472-013 Johnstonville Road, North
Susanville, Ca 96130
(530) 257-9781

August 1, 2020

Lassen Child Care Planning Council

HISTORY

In October 1991, the United States Congress established a federal Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) through which each state was allocated funds to assist low-income families in obtaining child care and development services.

Subsequently, California developed a State Plan which specified that local communities should have a voice in the appropriation and allocation of CCDBG funds. In the same year, AB2141 authored by Assemblywoman Jackie Speier was passed which requested each county to establish a Local Child Care and Development Planning Council (LPC) to identify priorities for CCDBG funds based on the needs of families. In 1997, AB1542 was passed establishing welfare reform legislation (CalWORKS) revising the membership and responsibilities of local planning councils and establishing the County Superintendent of Schools and the County Board of Supervisors as the governing and appointing bodies of the Council. There are currently 58 individual planning councils representing each county in California. As council members are appointed by the public agencies, the councils are required to conduct business in accordance with The Brown Act.

The primary mission of the LPCs is to plan for child care and development services based on the needs of families in the local community. Through collaborative efforts with other individuals and organizations interested in the welfare of families, LPCs should also support the existing child care infrastructure by coordinating services that are locally available. As a result of planning, collaboration, and support for the child care systems that exist, the LPCs plan and determine local priorities for new state and federal funds. In order to be fully effective, councils are highly encouraged to strengthen the partnerships with both public and private organizations in each county. By forming strong community partnerships, each group involved becomes empowered to share their ideas and concerns during the local planning process.

Although the new language on governing local child care planning councils is found in the welfare reform legislation, the purpose and scope of the LPC goes beyond child care programs funded by the federal block grant. LPCs are intended to serve as a forum to address the child care needs of all families in the community and all child care programs – including both subsidized and non-subsidized child care.

LASSEN CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I – NAME: The Lassen Local Child Care Planning Council shall be referred to hereafter in this document as the “LPC”. The LPC is operated as a program of Lassen Child & Family Resources, a division of the Lassen County Office of Education.

ARTICLE II – AUTHORITY: The LPC was formed in June of 1991 by the Lassen County Board of Supervisors and the Lassen County Office of Education. This was done in accordance with the State Law established by Assembly Bill 2141 that encouraged the formation of county level Child Care Planning Councils.

ARTICLE III – PURPOSE AND DUTIES: The purpose of the LPC shall be to plan for, coordinate and advocate for child care programs and services county wide. The Mission Statement of the LPC is “To provide leadership and assistance in the establishment and support of quality child care by:

- *Supporting* quality child development programs and quality relationships in a child’s life
- *Assisting in the expansion and development of child care programs*
- *Serving as a focal point for community support of child care*
- *Supporting and enhancing the training and recruitment of child care professionals”*

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP: The LPC Program Coordinator and LPC Chairperson shall make every effort to ensure the composition of the LPC represents the demographics of the County as a whole. Membership consists of approximately 10 active permanent members, and meets the membership requirement categories as established by the California Department of Education; “*Composition of LPC Membership*”. The membership roster will be submitted to the Lassen County Board of Supervisors and the Lassen County Superintendent of Schools according to California Department of Education requirements.

ARTICLE V – ATTENDANCE: If three consecutive regular meetings are missed by members without notice, the LPC Coordinator or the LPC Chairperson shall contact them to determine their continued interest, and recommend that they be replaced if appropriate. All changes in LPC membership will be submitted to the County Board of Supervisors and County Superintendent of Schools.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS: The LPC shall meet monthly with the exceptions of July and December. Regular meeting dates may be changed if the membership agrees that there is a more suitable time for the LPC meetings. All meetings and minutes of prior meetings shall be open and available to the public.

ARTICLE VII – QUORUM: A quorum shall consist of members present and participating in a noticed meeting, but not less than five (5) members.

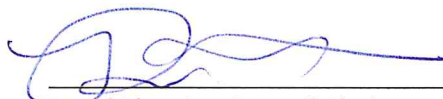


ARTICLE VIII – OFFICERS AND DUTIES: The LPC officers shall consist of chair and vice-chair persons. These officers shall be selected by majority vote from the membership present at the September meeting of the LPC year and shall serve for two calendar years. It shall be the duty of the chair or vice-chair to call meetings, set the agenda with the CFR Program Coordinator, make committee assignments and preside over meetings of the LPC. It shall be the duty of the CFR Program Coordinator to mail or email notices of all LPC meetings, maintain records of LPC membership, attendance at LPC meetings and minutes of all LPC meetings. All duties of the LPC Coordinator will be as an employee of Lassen Child & Family Resources as a division of the Lassen County Office of Education.

ARTICLE IX -- COMMITTEES AND DUTIES: Committees to address special needs or requirements of the LPC are appointed by the chair or vice-chair as needed.

ARTICLE X – DECISION MAKING: Decisions made by the LPC shall be made by majority vote.

ARTICLE XI – BYLAWS: These Bylaws shall become effective upon approval of the LPC with notification to the Board of Supervisors and Superintendent of Schools. These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the LPC, provided the amendments have been submitted to the membership at least 30 calendar days following the meeting at which the amendment was proposed. All amendments must be approved by the LPC, with notification to the Board of Supervisors and the County Superintendent of Schools.

Amended and approved this 17 day of September, 2020 at the regularly scheduled meeting.

	Phoebe Freeman	9-25-2020
Local Planning Council Chairperson	Printed Name	Date
	Jodi Neuenschwander	9-17-20
Local Planning Council Coordinator	Printed Name	Date
	Patricia Thurman	9-17-2020
Lassen Child & Family Resources Director	Printed Name	Date

Mission Statement

The mission of the Local Lassen Child Care Planning Council is to provide leadership and assistance in the establishment and support of quality child care by:

- ❖ Supporting quality child development programs and quality relationships in a child's life
- ❖ Assisting in the expansion and development of child care programs
- ❖ Serving as a focal point for community support of child care
- ❖ Supporting and enhancing the training and recruitment of child care professionals

Lassen Planning Council Membership Composition

20% Consumers:

Jamie Schultze - Parent
Ashley Gutierrez – Parent

20% Child Care Providers:

Tambra Bowles-Leap Ahead Learning Center
James Hall – LCOE After School Program

20% Public Agency Representative:

Ronda Hall- Lassen County Public Health
Wendy Jacobs- Sierra Cascade Family Opportunities Head Start

20% Community Representatives:

Phoebe Freeman – Quality Counts
Brenda Poteete- Sierra Cascade Family Opportunities Head Start

20% Discretionary Appointees:

Melissa Rojas- Child and Family Resources

Parental Responsibility and Choices

The Lassen County Child Care Planning Council recognizes the fact that parents or guardians have the right and responsibility to make the best decisions for their child. Often, parents or guardians must make the critical decision to find care for their child so they can work outside the home.

Lassen Planning Council supports the parent or guardian's right to choose the appropriate care for their child. The Lassen Planning Council is striving to provide information and resources to assist parents and guardians in making the appropriate choice for their child's care.

The Council supports the local Resource and Referral program which provides information to parents and guardians of the options for child care in centers or licensed family child care. The Council also supports the Resource and Referral program which offers subsidized child care for qualifying families.

The Council's purpose is to advocate for and advise on county-wide child care programs and services to meet the varying needs of children and families of Lassen County.

Goal

Throughout the next five years, the Local Lassen Planning Child Care Council (LPC) will facilitate conversations and projects which support the needs of children and families for Lassen County. Through collaboration and coordination LPC hopes to support implementation of resources through a variety of agencies. By implementing this plan, the children of Lassen County will have a healthier environment and families will be supported enhancing the future.

Child Care Information

The following statistics are current as of June 2020:

- There are currently 697 available child care slots in Lassen County.
 - 121 designated School-age
 - 283 designated Preschool
 - 72 designated Infant & Toddler
 - 221 designated After School
- There are currently 442 year round available child care slots in Lassen County at Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes
- There are 166 available child care slots in Family Child Care (FCC) in 15 active homes.
 - 8 active licensed large family homes (12 - 14 children)
 - 7 active licensed small family homes (6 - 8 children)
 - 5 offer possible care for non-traditional hours
- Lassen County's economic base is correctional officers for the three working prisons and the employees that maintain forests in the Lassen and Plumas Districts.
- The decrease in budget funding for child care and child care institutions Lassen County, of the State of California, and the United States of America has impacted the families in Lassen County greatly.
- The rural setting and vast distances between the communities of Lassen County present barriers for obtaining employment and child care services, especially in South County and Westwood.
- There is a need for child care during non-traditional hours of care, including extended hours, overnight, and weekends due to the fact that the economic base requires traditional and non-traditional hours of child care for employed families.
- There is a need for more infant and toddler child care.

❖ Information from the *Network Child Care Portfolio 2013* and Lassen Child and Family Resources

Strategic Plan Summary

The Lassen Local Child Care Planning Council meets regularly on the third Thursday of the month to discuss and notify agencies and individuals of programs and activities which support the families of Lassen County. Through this interaction, Lassen County is better able to serve the families and children through conversation and development of planned programs and support each agency's program.

LPC, with reduced funding of AB212, plans to collaborate with agencies to offer opportunities for families and child care providers to attend activities which provide information and strengthens families and programs for children.

Collaboration – LPC supports activities which provide information and training for child care providers, parents, and agencies to enhance the care of children. LPC supports all activities which improve the quality of care for all children and families of Lassen County.

LPC Website – The Website will be supported and maintained to provide information about LPC, Child and Family Resources, Subsidized Child Care information, Lending Library, Low Cost Car Seat Program, Exceptional Connections, and other pertinent information of family and child care needs. Links to agencies and information for families and child care.

Marketing – The marketing campaign plan is to recruit new family child care providers through posters and advertising on social media. Posters will be distributed throughout the community of Lassen County to inform the public of the advantages of Family Child Care Homes. Give-away items and incentive bags will be used to promote Child and Family Resources which provides information to promote quality child care. Ongoing outreach throughout the year will be done to promote child care in Lassen County.

Survey of Needs – A survey of parental and a survey of provider needs will be conducted every five years. The Survey will begin at the annual Children's Fair occurring on the first Saturday of May and will be conducted throughout the summer ending in August. The surveys will be compiled and presented at the November LPC meeting and available on the LPC website the first of November.

Priorities for 2020-2025

1. A need for more child care slots available for infants and toddlers.
2. A need for more child care slots available during non-traditional hours, evening, overnight, and weekend.
3. A need for more child care slots available in the outlying areas, out of Susanville, in Lassen County.
4. Support and maintain the information of the Lassen Planning Council at the Child and Family Resources Website as funding allows.
5. Support a Community Resource Directory maintained by Lassen County Public Health Department.
6. Provide professional learning opportunities and resources to child care providers to enhance the quality of child care programs.

Strengths and Weaknesses of Lassen County Child Care Needs

Strengths:

- Small community
- Local support
- Strong child care collaboration

Weaknesses:

- Weather
- Transportation
- Rural
- Geographically spread out living areas
- Economically depressed
- Shortage of Infant and toddler care
- Shortage of non-traditional, evening, overnight, and weekend care
- Lack of funding available