

**Early Childhood Education (ECE) Advisory Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup> 2020**  
**3:00- 4:00pm**  
**Lake Tahoe Community College**  
**Room A106**

**Attendees:**

Karen Allen, Shelly Martinez, Kerry David, Tina Barna, Alexis Hughes, Leslie Amato, Maxine Alper, Ali Bissonnette, and Sara Fuchslin.

**ECE Program Updates:**

Ali provided an overview of the most recent Annual Program Review in comparison with data from the previous years. Student enrollment and success rates have increased. The program maintains a good balance between distance education and face-to-face courses. There has been growth in Hispanic, Asian, and African American student demographics. There has been an increase in students ages 25-29, however one continuing underrepresented population concern continues to be the number of male students. There has been a high demand for ECE102-Child and Adolescent Growth and Development to be offered in the evening, which will be met in spring 2020 with a 6pm class. Some common concerns among the group include the need for continuing education, degrees vs. certificates, the permit matrix, and how all of those combined help students in the real world. Certain classes (such as math) may be holding students back from completing an Associate Degree- which can hold them back from attaining their Site Supervisor permit. Alexis mentioned that having a Site Supervisor permit allows people to gain more responsibilities while working in the field. There is an overall sense that there is potential for more child care career opportunities in South Lake Tahoe, but there is a lack of trained staff. This led to the discussion that although enrollments may at times be low for ECE courses, often those courses are required for students to advance in their career. Ideas to encourage students to stay on track and be successful include a referral service (if a class is cancelled, providing an alternative option of where to take the class), possible re-configuration of the courses (is it possible to combine classes?), lowering costs, and making it a goal to lower student confusion with the degree/certificate/permit options.

**Update on Child Development Training Consortium:**

Karen provided an overview and update on the Training Consortium. The funds are being used this year by offering ECE students a \$100 stipend for every ECE class they take. Students can apply at the CDC or online. To qualify, students must be working in California and the stipend does not apply to non-credit courses. They have thought about raising the stipend to \$200/class in an effort to increase applicant interest. Help spread the word!

**Partner/Member Updates:**

**Shelly:** Talked about the mentor program- which provides teachers with stipends in exchange for their time to work with students in need of extra help. Encourages mentors work with students in study groups and build positive relationships and share experiences.

**Leslie:** The Child Development Center has received a grant to provide evening child care on Mondays and Tuesdays for students. Also includes dinner and is wait-list free! 0-5 age limit. The Tahoe Parent Nursery School is scheduled to break ground this May!

**Alexis:** The CDICDC has just hired new staff and are excited to prepare for the Spring & Summer Camps.

**Tina:** Choices for Children has new trainings set up for the next few months, including training for Family, Friends, and Neighbors and Trauma-Informed Care. They are also offering free parenting classes. Day of the Young Child is coming up on March 28<sup>th</sup>. It is a free event with activities, booths and games. They are excited to collaborate with multiple departments from LTCC. The theme for this year is “Mindfulness” and they will have special activities such as yoga.

**Perkins:** There is no current update at the moment.

**Adjournment**