



Welcome to Early Care and Education (ECE) for All Newsletter #2!

The goal of this newsletter is to update community members and stakeholders on the development of San Francisco’s Five-Year Spending Plan for early care and education.

What is the Early Care and Education for All Initiative?

On June 5, 2018, the voters of San Francisco passed [Proposition C \(Prop C\)](#) to create funding for the Early Care and Education (ECE) for All Initiative. Prop C could provide **an estimated \$121 million annually in new funding to support and improve access to quality ECE for children** ages 0-5 in San Francisco. The ECE for All Initiative established a nine-month planning process for OECE to develop a Spending Plan for the first five years of Prop C funding.



Above and above right: Parents and ECE educators participate in Community Town Hall #1.



Phase One Community Engagement

Between November 2018 and March 2019, parents, families, teachers, ECE administrators and other community members across the city contributed their input on **priorities, needs and opportunities for early care and education** in San Francisco to inform the draft Five-Year Spending Plan. Thank you to all who participated!

As shown in the table below, OECE offered many opportunities for community participation.

Outreach Opportunity	Approximate Number of Participants
Community Town Hall #1 at the San Francisco Public Library to collect public input on spending priorities.	50+
Community Input Sessions with a variety of stakeholder groups and Special Events such as the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families (DCYF) Summer Resource Fairs and the City of San Francisco Preschool Fair.	2,900+
Parent and Provider Toolkit Sessions. OECE designed an outreach toolkit and training with everything needed for community members to conduct their own input sessions.	200
“ECE Bucks” participatory budgeting activity (used at all sessions and special events).	800+
Online Survey in English, Spanish and Chinese for those unable to attend a meeting or event to indicate their ECE priorities.	618

Update on Legal Challenge

Given a pending legal challenge against Prop C and the potential that an adverse result could lead to refunds of taxes paid, the San Francisco Controller’s Office has indicated that any funds collected cannot be spent until the lawsuit is settled. Ideas and strategies

generated from the planning process will help identify how San Francisco’s early care and education systems can improve to better meet the needs of families and professionals, with whatever resources are available.



Meeting People Where They Are: Broad Community Engagement

OECE is committed to collecting input from diverse families and ECE professionals on key needs and priorities. Instead of asking the community to come to us, we went to them! We provided **accessible and equitable engagement opportunities** to ensure that we heard from a wide range of community members. Several community input sessions were held across the city (see the matrix below).

Input Sessions	Dates	Approximate # of Participants	Participation Description
Model Center Meeting	10/25/18	18	Center directors and educators, ECE systems partners
City of San Francisco Preschool Fair	11/7/18	800	Mainly parents of 3-4 year olds; also educators and systems partners
Community Town Hall	12/8/18	50+	Parents and ECE educators, including a strong representation from the Chinese ECE community
Child Care Planning & Advisory Council (CPAC) Meeting	12/12/18	23	CPAC members
Parent Voices	1/18/19	11	Low-income parents
Family Child Care Association of SF Board	1/18/19	11	Family Child Care Center Directors and staff
DCYF Citywide Summer Resource Fair	2/9/19	1,100	Parents and families of children 0-5
DCYF Summer Resource Fairs in 11 Supervisorial Districts	February – March 2019	~600	Parents and families of children 0-5
Family Resource Centers	2/25/19	15	Family Resource Center directors and staff
Edvance Leadership and Equity Event	3/2/19	350+	ECE students, community members, practitioners, policy makers, and administrators
TOTAL		2,900+	



Spotlight: Family Resource Center Input Session

On Monday, February 25, 2019, OECE and First 5 San Francisco co-hosted an input session for directors of Family Resource Centers (FRCs) to **discuss priorities for investing in quality supports for families** with children aged 0-5. The FRC directors and staff shared input on the needs and priorities for San Francisco's children and families, and **articulated a broader vision** for how the early childhood system could address those needs through the Prop C planning process.

Participants noted that FRCs are an important part of the support services that San Francisco provides for its families with young children. During the discussion, participants highlighted how FRCs:

- Support a **holistic, multi-generational approach** to childhood development;
- Help families in a variety of situations connect with ECE and other services;
- Create close relationships with **diverse families**; and,
- Invest in community involvement and provide a **strong model** for family engagement and collaboration.



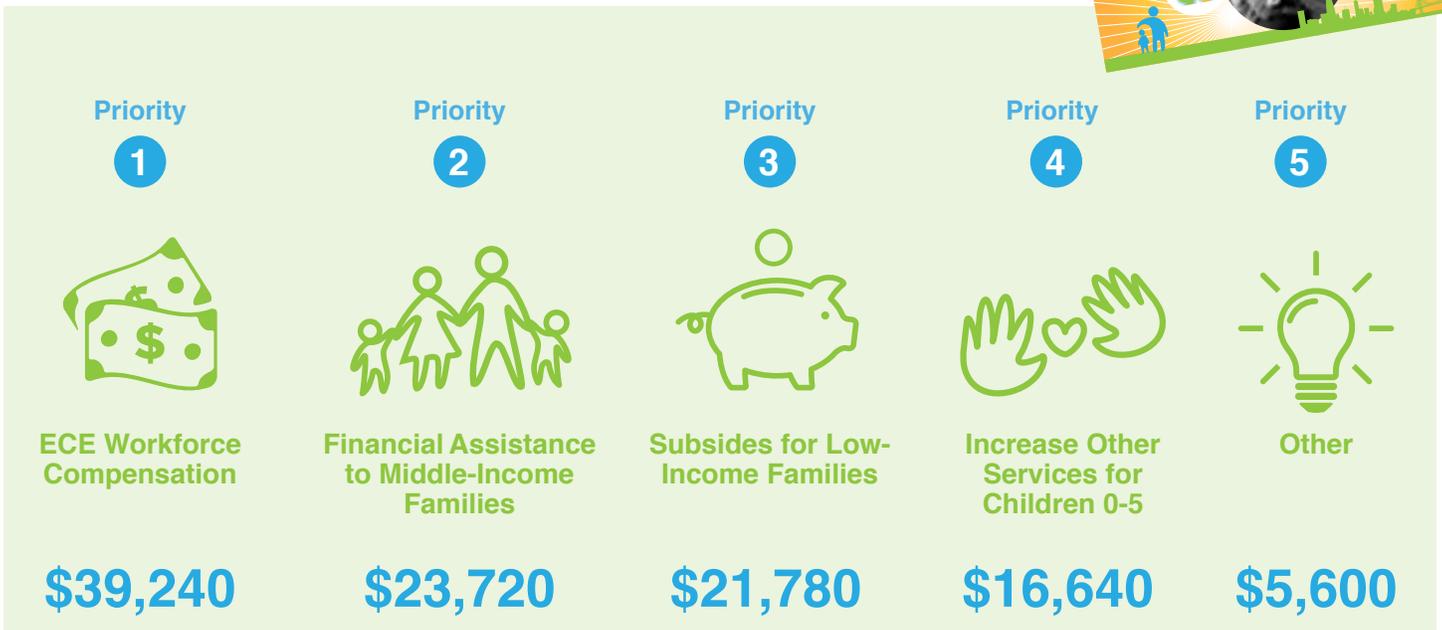
Above: Directors and staff participate in the Family Resource Center input session.



What We Heard: Community Outreach Results

Overall, more than **800 people** participated in the “ECE Bucks” participatory budgeting exercise. Participants were provided with \$120 in “ECE Bucks” which they could distribute as they liked between the four key priorities in the Prop C legislation plus an “Other” category. The dashboard below shows the results.

What We Heard: “ECE Bucks” Dashboard





ECE Priorities: Community Input and Recommendations

Through the Town Hall, input sessions, toolkits and online survey, OECE collected detailed feedback from community members on their ECE priorities and needs. Here’s a brief summary of what the community had to say about their priorities for ECE in San Francisco.

Priority: ECE Workforce Compensation

- To expand access, **living wage and benefits** needed for quality teachers and staff
- More equitable rates, funding and support for teachers and staff at Family Child Care Homes
- Provide better/equitable access to education and training
- More **staffing and support** needed to meet administrative requirements

Priority: Subsidies for Low-Income Families

- Neediest families a priority to **close the achievement gap**, reduce inequality
- Provide equitable access, keep low-income families in city
- More ECE options: **non-traditional hours**, multiple languages, convenient locations
- Improvements to enrollment process, fewer barriers, **more ECE choices**
- Make it easier for families to get information and understand their eligibility

Priority: Financial Assistance to Middle-Income Families

- Keep moderate-income families in San Francisco
- Many have **incomes too high to qualify** for assistance, but still cannot afford childcare
- A **prime motivation** for Prop C voters

Priority: Increase Other Services for Children 0-5

- Family Resource Centers: working model for **supporting family and child success** in and beyond ECE settings
- Quality substitute support; city wide sub-pool; emergency care network
- More services for families in multiple languages
- More **mental health** and **special needs services**
- Better trained consultants and case workers
- More on- and off-site special interest programs: arts, sciences, sports, creativity, etc.

Other Needs Suggested

- Increased support and funding for **equipment and facility improvements**, particularly for Family Child Care Homes
- Support, services and better information for families including homeless families
- **Basic needs** assistance for families





What's Next: Phase Two Community Engagement

During April and May 2019, OECE, with guidance from their Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC), and Ad-Hoc Committees formed in collaboration with the San Francisco Child Care Planning and Advisory Council (CPAC), will use the Phase One input to inform the draft Spending Plan. Once the draft is complete, we'll launch Phase Two – bringing the draft

Plan to the community for review and feedback during a second Community Town Hall in early June.

Questions? For more information, please see our webpage at sfoece.org/prop-c-planning/ or contact Shahde Tavakoli at shahde.tavakoli@sfgov.org or by phone at (415) 355-6764.

Timeline for Prop C Community Engagement

