

Day One – Wednesday, February 8, 2012

INVESTMENTS IN EARLY LEARNING: Let Evidence Lead the Way



* The conference takes place in the GRAND NAVE BALLROOM.

- 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**
- 9:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. **WELCOME**
Kris Perry, Executive Director, First 5 California
- 9:20 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **OPENING REMARKS**
Early Childhood: Reflecting Back and Looking Forward
Joan Lombardi, Ph.D., Child Development and Social Policy Advisor; Former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Early Childhood Development, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**
Early Childhood Education: The Key to America’s Future
Mark Shriver, Senior Vice President, U.S. Programs, Save the Children
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. **BREAK**
- 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **MORNING PANEL DISCUSSION**
“Leading in Tough Times”
Moderator: Tim Fitzharris, Ph.D., Legislative Advocate, Child Development Policy Institute
Catherine Atkin, President, Preschool California
Carlise King, Research Director, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network
Camille Maben, Director, Child Development Division, California Department of Education
Yvette Sanchez Fuentes, Director, Office of Head Start, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
 The panelists will discuss critical leadership roles for program directors and public policymakers in this era of austerity and shrinking budgets. When nothing seems to stay the same and unexpected change is the rule, how can we bring the early learning field into a state of collaborative equilibrium? Panelists represent state, federal, family services providers, and advocate views of “Leading in Tough Times.” They will discuss strategies for working together in view of the greater good for children and families.
- 12:15 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. **BREAK**
- 12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **LUNCHEON SERVICE**
- 1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. **LUNCHEON KEYNOTE ADDRESS**
Tribute to Rob Reiner
 Introduction and remarks by Kris Perry, Executive Director, First 5 California
Rob Reiner, Founding Commission Chairman, First 5 California, Children’s Advocate, Actor, and Director
- 2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **BREAK**

AGENDA

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

AFTERNOON PANEL DISCUSSION

“Leveraging Dollars, Champions, and Quality with Local Funds”

Dennis Cima, Senior Vice President, Silicon Valley Leadership Group

Evelina Du, Senior Research Associate, WestEd

Yolanda Garcia, Director, Institute for Excellence in Early Education, WestEd

J. Ron Lally, Co-Director, Center for Child and Family Studies, WestEd

Meera Mani, Ed.D., Director, Children, Families, and Communities Program, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation

Diana Mendley Rauner, President, Ounce of Prevention Fund

Jolene Smith, Chief Executive Officer, First 5 Santa Clara County

Buu Thai, Trustee, Franklin-McKinley School District

Charles Weis, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools, Santa Clara County Office of Education

Educare of California at Silicon Valley is a public-private partnership consisting of businesses, foundations, school districts, and government entities who share a common goal of bringing a state-of-the-art, full-day, year-round school, funded mostly by existing public dollars, to Santa Clara County.

The facility, quality programming, and services that will be offered at Educare will be the best of early education and family support practices that will braid existing local, state, and federal funding sources. The partners share a belief that they are investing in an integrated strategy of practice, policy, and research that will change the way California and the nation view early childhood education.

The panelists will describe a collaborative effort to bring a national evidence-based model for high-quality early education and family support practices to Santa Clara County. They will highlight the development of collaborative relationships around a shared vision to increase their investment in early learning and narrow the achievement gap. The areas covered will include shared leadership, community building, and a vision to better the entire community. The panel will build the case for Educare, its importance in the local effort to narrow the achievement gap, and its role as a lever for local, state, and national policy change.

4:00 p.m.

CLOSING REMARKS

Kris Perry, Executive Director, First 5 California

4:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Day One – Reception

Hosted by the Water Cooler and Advancement Project

Honoring Rob Reiner

Delaine Eastin, Former California State Superintendent of Public Instruction



Day Two – Thursday, February 9, 2012

STRONGER TOGETHER: Winning Our Children’s Future

* The conference takes place in the GRAND NAVE BALLROOM.

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

WELCOME AND OPENING COMMENTS

Kris Perry, Executive Director, First 5 California

Molly Munger, Co-Director, Advancement Project

9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

OPENING ADDRESS

Early Childhood Revolution: Getting to the Heart of the Matter

Sterling Speirn, President and CEO, W. K. Kellogg Foundation

- 10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. **MORNING PANEL DISCUSSION**
Prenatal to Third Grade: Innovations in Policy and Practice
REMARKS: Ted Lempert, President, Children Now
Moderator: Catherine Atkin, President, Preschool California
Toby Boyd, Board Member, California Teachers Association
Meera Mani, Ed.D., Director, Children, Families, and Communities Program, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
Ralph Smith, Senior Vice President, The Annie E. Casey Foundation; Managing Director, The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading
Jerry Weast, Ed. D., Founder and CEO of the Partnership for Deliberate Excellence, LLC, former Superintendent of Montgomery County Public Schools, Maryland
- In order to develop a truly child-focused, comprehensive education system, early learning leaders must continue to think beyond the age and grade silos. Panelists will discuss the innovative policies and practices they have developed and supported to promote children’s development and achievement. The conversation will also explore strategies for building support among teachers, parents, administrators, and political champions to create seamless transitions at each step in a child’s progress through the education system. Panelists will address how early learning leaders can develop collaborative strategies for making a compelling case for P-3 investments in the midst of dwindling public resources.
- 11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **BREAK**
- 12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. **LUNCH SERVICE**
- 12:30 p.m. – 12:40 p.m. **REMARKS**
The Honorable Tom Torlakson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
- 12:40 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. **LUNCHEON KEYNOTE ADDRESS**
Building & Supporting Teacher Quality in Early Care and Education
Linda Darling-Hammond, Ed.D., Charles E. Ducommun Professor of Education, Stanford University School of Education
- In conversation with:*
David Rattray, Senior Vice President of Education and Workforce Development, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, President, UNITE-LA
- 1:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **BREAK**
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **AFTERNOON PANEL DISCUSSION**
Getting Real About Revenue: Can 2012 Be the Year?
Moderator: Molly Munger, Co-Director, Advancement Project
John Hein, Chief Political Consultant to Our Children Our Future Act Campaign
Carol Kocivar, President, California State PTA
Kim Pattillo Brownson, Director of Educational Equity, Advancement Project
Joshua Pechthalt, President, California Federation of Teachers
- Call to Action:*
Molly Munger, Co-Director, Advancement Project
- California is shortchanging the future of our children and our state. Since 2008, early care and education programs have lost a staggering \$1.2 billion. The most recent budget proposal adds another devastating half-billion dollar cut to vital child development programs in California.
- We can and must do better. Can 2012 be the year? Political experts and initiative leaders share new opinion research about California voter attitudes and priorities, and strategies for 2012.
- 3:30 p.m. **CLOSING RECEPTION & CONFERENCE ADJOURNS**