



## 2020 Supporting the Coordinated Needs of Working Families and Children

The California Alternative Payment Program Association (CAPPA) is a 40-plus year network of community-based public and private nonprofit agencies that support working families and children. CAPPA stands ready to support budget and legislative proposals that target lifting families out of poverty, stabilizing employment and supporting continuity of care for children from birth on.

Today, there are 76 Alternative Payment Programs (APPs) that administer California's subsidized child care programs across all 58 counties. The focus of these programs are to support working families and those on the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program with access to a variety of early care and education settings inclusive of high quality Title 5 centers, Family Child Care Home Education Networks (FCCHENs), family child care providers, and small business child care and early learning providers. Additionally, these programs may too link families living in or near poverty with access to supports for housing, food, clothing, and mental health amongst a list. ***In 2019/20 APPs are funded to support vouchers for 57,930; children in CalWORKs Stage 2 - 62,314; children in CalWORKs Stage 3 - 54,437; for a total of 174,681<sup>1</sup> subsidized children 0-12. Despite this, there is still an unmet need of over 2.2 billion children who are eligible for subsidized childcare.***

It is hugely important that the programs needed to break the cycle of poverty and move families towards self-sufficiency do so in a coordinated fashion. To achieve this, families need affordable and accessible child care in times that best support their 24 hour/7 days per week needs, Earned Income Tax Credits (EITCs), transportation, housing, health care, food and jobs. Additionally, it is important that the child care providers who are working hands on with our families are supported so that they can thrive as well.

To support working families, children and our providers, we ask for your consideration of the following:

- To support strengthened continuity of care for children and stability of employment for parents, we need to secure at least 100,000 additional child care vouchers for families to access child care and early learning in our 24 hours/seven days per week economy.
- To invest in a coordinated support system of public and private nonprofits that believe best outcomes for children, families, and communities occur through strong partnerships and varying areas of expertise.
- To value child care businesses by reimbursing for the actual true cost of child care and with stable payments for the child care slot(s) contracted in the timeframe contracted.
- To support community based Alternative Payment Programs (APPs) as a "one-stop" shop of information for families eligible for subsidized child care as well as an information source for other resources such as Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), transportation, domestic violence, behavioral health, respite, regional centers, parenting & home visits, lending libraries, foster care, medical & mental health and disaster relief and emergency services.

CAPPA will be pursuing legislation to move forward the issues identified above. CAPPA stands ready to serve as a resource and to support you making impactful investments in a mixed delivery child care and early education system. We value those efforts that lift families up from poverty, supports the need for parents to work, and targets attainment of longer-term educational outcomes for children starting at birth.

If you need additional information, please contact Denyne Micheletti Colburn at (916)567-5697.

<sup>1</sup> <https://cappa.memberclicks.net/assets/StateBudget/2020/DMC%202020-21%20GB%20%282%29.pdf>