

Los Angeles County Education Foundation

ACTION ITEM: ADOPTION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN

The Los Angeles County Children's Planning Council (CPC), a public-private collaborative, is an influential vehicle promoting reform in systems of services for children. The Council is an initiator of and advocate for service integration, data-driven and outcome-based planning, and inclusion of local communities in decision-making. The CPC facilitates the formation and ongoing development of regional decision-making bodies in the eight Service Planning Areas (SPAs) in Los Angeles County, known as SPA Councils. In addition, since 1994, the organization has issued the Children's Scorecard to track the County's progress toward improving the lives of children and families.

LACOE works with the CPC on a number of levels. For example, the two organizations – along with First 5 L.A. (the Commission formed through Proposition 10) – co-sponsored the meeting of district superintendents on school readiness in the summer of 2002. The County Superintendent is a council member, and several LACOE staff members are active members of CPC committees. The CPC is interested in partnering with the Foundation to foster interest in school readiness in the business community.

One of the CPC's strategic goals is to expand the number of organizations that, along with the County Board of Supervisors, have adopted the five desired outcomes for all children in Los Angeles County. These outcomes are as follows:

- **Good Health** -- Children receive routine well-child care, as well as timely access to care for all medical, dental, and mental health needs in order to grow up healthy and well.
- **Safety and Survival** – Children have parents and caregivers to protect them from harm. Children receive the help they need to prevent them from harming themselves, other people, property, and the environment.
- **Economic Well-being** – Children have the resources they need (generally through parents and caregivers) to meet their needs for food, shelter, transportation, child care, health care, and education.
- **Social and Emotional Well-being** – Children have nurturing and secure relationships with parents and other caregivers and experience positive social interactions with other children.
- **Educational Success and Workforce Readiness** – Children have educational experiences that build their knowledge and skills and are prepared to enter the workforce, become productive members of society, and reach their highest aspirations.

By adopting these outcomes, organizations commit to seeking measurable results in their work to benefit children, youth and families. Each adopting organization – while carrying out of its unique mission – agrees to collaborate and cooperate, wherever possible, with other groups so that “Los Angeles County children...experience a safe, healthy, and nurturing childhood which prepares them to become responsible and contributing members of the community.” (Los Angeles County's Vision for Children)

It is recommended that the Foundation, by Board action, join other organizations in adopting the five desired outcomes for children.