

CCPC Membership Applications for Consideration

Applicant Name	Pamela Cullum
Employer	Sonoma HEALS
Job Title	Director of Community Outreach and Engagement
Designated to represent employer?	No
Designated to represent another organization?	No
Membership Category	Community
Please describe your relevant experience/expertise that you believe would make you a valuable member of this body.	I am an Indigenous, African American who would provide input, share insights, and collaborate with fellow community members to make a positive impact on the lives of children and families. I am also the Director of Community Outreach and Engagement for the Sonoma HEALS Program. I am a Certified Full Spectrum Doula Provider servicing Sonoma, Solano, Marin, Sacramento and San Mateo Counties.
What interests you most about this agency? What skills or experience would you bring to best support the work of this agency?	I believe that we need a strong team of like-minded individuals who have the best interest of Sonoma maternal/infant/child health care issues and disparities in the forefront of legislation and policies, to help prevent and improve maternal and infant deaths. I am a Diversified Registered Nurse with 40+ years of experience in the medical field indebted to improve overall community health disparities.
Application Status	recommended appointment. CCPC approved 9/5/25.

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Applicant Name	Lara Brown
Employer	Town of Windsor
Job Title	Recreation Program Coordinator
Designated to represent employer?	Yes
Designated to represent another organization?	No
Membership Category	Public Agency
Please describe your interest in being a member of the Council. Be sure to mention what you feel you could contribute.	I have been interested in joining this council for awhile over the course of my career in the ECE field. I feel that I can contribute a wide breadth of experience and knowledge from many sectors (see next question's answers). I'm also personally passionate about community building as I've co-founded a music industry organization called Sonoma County Music Social. In my free time I'm a musician, and I have built skills like creating meeting agendas, assembling guests for panel events, and fundraising through creating this organization. I'm also very interested in political action and public speaking. My mother, Tanya Hauck, was formerly a fundraiser at places such as Cal Poly SLO, Mills College, CSU East Bay, and now currently at the University of Minnesota. She continues to actively mentor me in the ways of large campaign giving, grant writing, and the art of fundraising through storytelling. I can bring my connections, skills, and talent to this council and hope to have the opportunity to do so.
What experiences have you had that are relevant to child care or related fields (as a parent, provider, community member, etc.)?	I have directed Title 22 programs (Beth Ami Community Nursery School), Title 5 programs (North Bay Children's Center), and currently direct three license-exempt preschool programs (Children's Circle, Montessori in Motion, Kinderclub). I also spent time working as a therapeutic behavioral services coach with Seneca Family of Agencies. In that role, I worked with severely at-risk children and their families to help modify the child's and parent's behaviors to ensure the child was not removed from the home. Previous to my current position, I was the religious school

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	director for Congregation Shomrei Torah, where I helped guide the spiritual growth of students from preschool age to seniors in high school. Because of my varied and extensive work experience with children in many modalities, I think I would be a positive contribution to the council.
What would you hope to gain or achieve by becoming a member of the Council?	Recently, I was looking at the 2023 California Child Care Portfolio put out by the California Child Care Resource & Referral Network, and noticed that in Sonoma County the number of children under 5 living in poverty has increased by 44% since 2021, even though it decreased by 11% across the state. This statistic has kept me up at night. I want to help be a part of changing that. I think continuing efforts to make child care more affordable, ensuring the health of our youngest citizens, and providing supports to families can help in this effort.
Application Status	recommended appointment. CCPC approved 9/5/25.

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Applicant Name	Sarah Bellak
Employer	Kaiser Permanente
Job Title	Registered Nurse
Designated to represent employer?	No
Designated to represent another organization?	No
Membership Category	Child Care Consumer
Please describe your interest in being a member of the Council. Be sure to mention what you feel you could contribute.	I am interested in serving on the Child Care Planning Council because I believe that high-quality, equitable child care is foundational to individual, family, and community health. With over a decade of experience in nursing and a Master of Public Health (MPH), I bring a systems-level understanding of the social determinants of health, including access to early childhood education and care. In addition to my professional background, I am the mother of a 10-month-old and an active consumer of child care in Sonoma County. Navigating the child care system firsthand has deepened my appreciation for the challenges families face—particularly around access, affordability, and the availability of care that supports diverse work schedules and developmental needs. This experience motivates me to advocate not only as a public health professional but also as a parent committed to creating better systems for all families. I bring strong collaborative skills, a data-informed approach to decision-making, and a deep passion for supporting families and providers alike. My dual perspective as both a professional and a parent enables me to offer a well-rounded and empathetic voice to the Council's work.
What experiences have you had that are relevant to child care or related fields (as a parent, provider, community member, etc.)?	My husband and I are both working professionals, and when our baby, Ellis, was born, we were fortunate to piece together child care using our strong familial support system. We traded workdays and coordinated care between us, which—while hectic and

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	unsustainable—allowed us to keep costs down and maximize Ellis's time with family. However, by the time Ellis reached six months, it became clear that this piecemeal approach was no longer feasible. We began the daunting process of searching for professional care that aligned with our values—and, as first-time parents, we honestly didn't even know where to begin. Fortunately, we quickly discovered that there are some amazing resources within Sonoma County. We were pleasantly surprised by the outpouring of information and support we received—particularly from organizations like 4Cs. Their guidance made the process less intimidating. This experience opened my eyes to how complex and overwhelming it can be for families to access appropriate child care—and how vital accessible, family-centered resources are to navigating it. It also sparked my desire to give back by helping ensure that other caregivers receive the same thoughtful support that we did. It reinforced the ongoing need for clear information, strong infrastructure, and comprehensive support for both families and providers.
What would you hope to gain or achieve by becoming a member of the Council?	By becoming a member of the Child Care Planning Council, I hope to contribute to and learn from a community of individuals committed to improving child care access, quality, and equity in Sonoma County. I want to be part of the solution in building systems that support all families—especially those navigating barriers due to income, language, or geography. Through Council participation, I look forward to gaining a deeper understanding of child care policy, funding structures, and community needs across the county. I am eager to collaborate with other members to help shape practical, sustainable strategies that uplift both families and providers. Ultimately, I want to help ensure that no parent feels lost or unsupported when trying

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	to find care that aligns with their values—and that every child has access to nurturing, developmentally appropriate environments that set them up for lifelong success.
Application Status	recommended appointment. CCPC approved 9/5/25.

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Applicant Name	Leslie Corral Cisneros
Employer	First 5 Sonoma
Job Title	Program Director
Designated to represent employer?	Yes
Designated to represent another organization?	No
Membership Category	Public Agency
Please describe your interest in being a member of the Council. Be sure to mention what you feel you could contribute.	I am interested in becoming a member of the council to continue to build collaborative partnerships in the community in service of children and families. Access to high-quality child care and services is critical for the well-being of our community. As a member of the council, I will support approaching the work of the council through an equity framework and uplifting considerations for those furthest from opportunity and access. I will also contribute to these efforts through my experience in after school, expanded learning opportunities programming, and systems collaboration with the early learning and care professional community.
What experiences have you had that are relevant to child care or related fields (as a parent, provider, community member, etc.)?	I have experience in after school expanded learning programs, specifically in child care for children ages 5-12. I worked directly in child care for seven years, including five years as a site supervisor of an after school program in Santa Rosa serving elementary-age youth. In this role, I managed AmeriCorps members who provided academic support services to students during school hours, as well as hourly classroom lead staff who provided care, academic support, and enrichment activities after school. I served as a vital bridge between the school community, especially between teachers and working families, while ensuring children had a safe and supportive environment after school. Additionally, I organized and hosted family engagement events and collaborated with community partners to enhance program offerings, tailoring activities to meet the needs and interests of the children in our care.

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	For the past three years, I have worked with First 5 Sonoma County, supporting our Quality and Equity in Early Learning initiative. In this role, I have engaged with the early learning and care community to understand their needs in professional development, technical assistance, facilities, mini-grants, and administrative support. I co-lead the Quality Counts Sonoma Consortium, where we leverage the expertise of professionals within the ECE system to design professional development opportunities that address the emerging needs of our community. I have designed and implemented various programs that support ELC professionals with professional development and facilities. With ARPA funding, I developed an ECE facility grant program that has supported the improvement, expansion, and construction of both center-based and home-based child care facilities in Santa Rosa, positively impacting the child care community.
What would you hope to gain or achieve by becoming a member of the Council?	By becoming a member of the Council, I hope to deepen my understanding of the needs of children and families while learning from individuals with diverse perspectives. I am eager to explore ways to address the systemic challenges and barriers that families face to secure a safe and enriching learning environment for their children. I also hope to apply this knowledge to the various programming I oversee and administer in my current role as Program Manager with First 5 Sonoma County, in support of the ELC workforce.
Application Status	recommended appointment. CCPC approved 9/5/25.