



**Citywide Parent Policy Committee (CPPC)
Hybrid Full Council Meeting - Tuesday, March 24, 2026**

Meeting Location: Virtual Only

Microsoft Teams Link: DFSS Citywide Parent Policy Council (CPPC)- Full Council meeting |Meeting-Join |
Microsoft Teams

10:30 am-12:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

- Call to Order – Jasmine Jordan calls the meeting to order at 10:34 A.M
- Roll Call/Establish Quorum – Quorum established.

DFSS staff

Mara Martinez
Craig Zemke
Martuice Brooks
Charles Hall
Raven Jackson
Soung San
Jocelyn Buchanan
Delilah Bedolla
Linda Williams
Tasia Evans
Sharron Davis
Berenice Vargas
Sharay Johnson
Camille Franklin
Cerathel Burnett

Delegates/Guests

Jeremy Glover – YMCA – (Alt.P)
Levory Wilder – CYC (Adm)
Jasmine Jordan – Trinity Childcare (P)
Ajoke Adesola
Angelique Sutton – Serendipity (P)
Angie Fells – Ada S (Adm)
Russel Garcia – Mary Crane (Alt.P)
Erica Miles - CYC – (P)
Taccarra Turner- YMCA (P) (NO VOTE)
Olanike Oduola – Mary Crane (P)
Feera Robinson – Ada S. (P)
Consuelo Cancino
Tracy Bates
Jeanette Luna – El Valor (Alt. P)
Phalan Holms Sr. – CYC (Alt. P)

Christopher Paragallo (Adm)
Patricia Nunez – Gad Hill Center (Alt.P)
Yomara Mata

- Action items -
 - o Approval of **February 24, 2026** - Full Council Meeting Minutes – Motion 2nd Erica Miles; Motion 1st Jeremy Glover
- Health and Safety Module – Sharay Johnson: Encourage everyone to participate. An opportunity for each person to learn the fundamental basics of health/safety. (self-paced module) Quizzes must be taken, and 80% or (100%) score is a passing. At the end, a certificate will be issued. Our goal is to ensure compliance (reaching 100%). A link and a flyer with info will be shared. Kindly participate.
- Eligibility Training for Head Start/Early Head Start – Craig Zemke Our grant requires documentation within 180 days, including definitions, enrollment, policy on violations, and training. About half of 15 agencies missed funding due to employees lying about employment and earnings. New regulations tightened eligibility to ensure only needed families qualify. All documentation remains confidential. Some standards have been relaxed due to low enrollment;

families below FPL are qualified, and documentation is kept for compliance. Eligibility record needs four items: verification efforts, age, income, and category. Data is collected via interviews or third-party statements. Homelessness is defined per the McKinney Vento Act; homeless children can attend without documents. DFSS does not determine eligibility; grantees monitor activities. Non-compliance affects allowable expenses. Training for governing bodies, policy, management, and staff is required within 180 days of new leadership, and new staff must be trained within 90 days of hire.

- DFSS Executive Updates – Cerathel Burnett:
 - o House Bill 1312 – Illinois Bivens Act – signed in December 2025, which allows residents to sue for civil rights violations by law enforcement during immigration actions. It prohibits state-licensed daycares, including DCFS-related providers, from disclosing or threatening to disclose immigration status without consent. Violations of these disclosure rules are subject to civil penalties, including injunctive relief, attorneys’ fees, and damages. It amends the Childcare Act of 1969.
 - o Licensed daycares under DCFS oversight must establish procedures requiring parental consent for releasing children’s records, develop action plans for law enforcement interaction by January 01, 2026, and prohibit unauthorized disclosure of immigration status. The policy should include non-discrimination against immigration status. Mandatory reporting of child abuse while protecting families from unlawful disclosure of citizenship information.
 - o Do not open doors for unauthorized personnel to enter the premises where children are in the classroom. All staff must lock and secure all doors. All children must be protected.
- Self-Assessment-Recruitment – Berenice Vargas: This is an opportunity for parents to voice their opinions. The self-assessment process is scheduled for discussions on April 1st and 8th at King Center (4314 South Cottage Grove) from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Different content areas will be discussed. Included in the conversations are parents, DFSS staff, stakeholders, and agencies’ staff. In this engagement, all voices/ concerns will be noted. Strengths and challenges of each content area will be discussed. Self-assessment must be completed annually.
- CPPC Updates – Martuice Brooks reminds all parents about the vacant positions. They are open until the seats are taken. The duties and responsibilities for these vacancies will be shared upon request.
 - Here are the elected CPPC members for YR: 25-26.
 - Three vacant positions will be available for the next Full council meeting: 1. Assistant Secretary. 2. Parliamentarian. 3. Community Representative
- Program Reports – Craig Zemke starts the February 2026 program reports. These reports focus on meal counts, attendance, and enrollment.
 - o Enrollment/attendance for February. This is our February enrollment report:

Head Start – 1381	EHS – 1113	EHS CCP – 688
EHS Expansion – 190	PFA – 4228	Preventive Initiative – 3730
 - o Attendance Report – February 2026

HS – 82.53%	EHS – 78.58%
EHS CCP – 81.48%	EHS Expansion – 82.03%
 - o Meals Report – February 2026 report:

	Head Start	EHS	EHS-CCP	EHS-Expansion
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Breakfast	17371	12063	7897	1992
Lunch	18751	12627	8177	2031
Snacks	17333	11839	7761	1940

- Sharron Davis shares with the council members the fiscal report for February 2026

	HS	EHS	EHSCCP	EHSexpansion	ECBG		Childcare
Expenditure	384,463	862,748	341,032	138,008	47,208,462		3,891,775
Balance	14,436,394	18,749,510	10,837,107	4,083,815	53,915,983		6,924,225
% Utilization	2.59%	4.40%	3.05%	3.27%	46.68%		35.98%

- An overview of the Content Area Reports – Presenters are present for the February 2026 report.
 - a. *ERSEA* – Craig Zemke: To improve attendance and enrollment, we have updated the eligibility requirements for those whose income falls between 101% and 130% of the poverty line. Continue to accept applications from families interested in enrolling their children (ages 0-5). The CEL application for YR 2025-2026 was launched on April 8, 2025. If anyone has any issues with the application, call (312) 229-1690. 83% was the monthly enrollment average for February. An initiative supporting homelessness across the city of Chicago is underway. Through collaboration between children's services and the homeless division, recruitment opportunities have been created for children (0-5). Also, CBO supports recruitment efforts.
 - b. *Health/Nutrition/Mental health/Disabilities*: continue meeting with CPS and HS - Start Early's RFP. Mental Health Office hours: April 3, 2026 (1 p.m.- 2 p.m.) and the 2nd Friday of each month thereafter. Back-to-Sleep infant sleep safety to reduce SIDS and SUID. See the CDPH website and the AAP website. Claridigm: Health/Safety module for February. 2904 users. 2033 users have completed 100% of the module, and 2088 have completed 50%. DFSS requires the funded staff to participate in the health/safety module. The 25-26 module is open for registration. We will do parent interviews continuously. The CPPC Full Council meeting (in person) occurs on the 4th of each month in April.
 - c. *Education and training*: Teaching strategies (Intro to creative curriculum for preschool, IT2 part 1, supporting high quality interaction), Erikson (creating a language for rich classroom, strategies to support social emotional development birth – 3), UIC (case and time management, part 1 & 2)
 - d. *PFCE*: UIC provides training to support FSW in connecting families to community resources such as FAST Literacy. Ongoing participation in Parent Policy meetings. We want to hear from parents about your experiences while participating in CPPC meetings. CELWS Scholarships – supports financial and academic assistance for anyone who pursues credentials, degrees, or licensure to work.
 - e. *Fiscal*: the practice session convenes on the 3rd Friday of each month (1-3:30 pm) to discuss best practices, approaches, and challenges around fiscal matters.
 - f. *CPPC updates*: 3 vacant positions are available. One parent from each funding source must be represented at the CPPC meeting. CPPC training is scheduled once topics are chosen. Self-assessment training is the chosen topic. Self-assessment is due on April 15th.
 - g. Schedule of the CPPC meeting Calendar:

Executive Council Meeting		Full Council Meeting	
Date	Time	Date	Time
04/07/2026	11:00a–12:00P	04/28	10:30a-12:30P

05/05/2026	11:00a-12:00P	05/26	10:30a-12:30P
06/02/2026	11:00a-12:00P	06/23	10:30a-12:30P
07/07/2026	11:00a-12:00P	07/28	10:30a- 12:30P

- h. Deputy Commissioner's Corner: OHS officials are working on these items.
 1. Federal Grant Application – have received award notices for all applications in December. For HS/EHSCCP, when necessary, can move a family to home visiting (approval through June 30, 2026). Still waiting on “change of scope for EHSCCP– reduce slots. And HS is adding Calumet Heights as a community service area for slots.
 2. Upcoming Federal Review – for EJS CCP program and Expansion (include: ERSEA file checks, classroom observations, and governance discussions.)
 3. Enrollment and eligibility – family must be between 101% and 130% of FPL or be categorically eligible. Chicago's minimum rate is \$16.60.
 4. State – ECBG update – received a draft list of agencies that remain with DFSS. Waiting for a final decision. Closing out is coming soon.
 5. CCUO/CPPC – Collaboration: work with CPPC. Want to have members of CPPC participating in CCUO meetings.
- Open Discussion – The floor is open during this time, but no discussion occurs.
- Adjournment – Jasmine Jordan adjourns the meeting at 12:12 P.M. Motion 1st – Ajoke Adesola. Motion 2nd – Jeremy Glover