Region 9 Director’s Exchange

March 17, 2021 – 2:00 p.m. PST

Featured Presenter:
Jerry Yang, Executive Director – Kai Ming
CAMP Series – In Summary

The Collaborating Actively in Meaningful Planning (CAMP) webinar series was divided into six sessions focused on practical matters to support Head Start program planning and decision-making during the COVID-19 pandemic. Session 1 provided information on group sizes, ratios, staffing, locally-designed options, and eligibility, recruitment, selection, enrollment, and attendance.

SESSION 1

• Programs’ current funding levels will not be reduced if they are unable to meet full enrollment during the 2020-2021 program year.

• As many programs may not be able to serve their funded enrollment while responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, programs' current funding levels will not be reduced.

• Programs are encouraged to revisit their selection criteria to ensure it is relevant to the current health crisis. As always, programs must ensure they are serving the most vulnerable children.

• The only cases in which adjustments could be made to a program's funding or funded enrollment because of underenrollment would be if there is authority to designate a grantee as chronically underenrolled based on enrollment data reported prior to COVID-19 program closures.

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CAMP Series – Session 1 (cont.)

• Programs should serve all currently enrolled children and attempt to pair families with a program option that meets their individual needs.

• If the program itself is closed due to COVID-19, programs should continue to provide services to enrolled children and families using technology and other creative means, to the extent possible. Even if the program has not been able to engage a family during an extended absence, programs are expected to consider that slot enrolled, unless the family has told the program the child will not return.

• Programs will not be penalized for low attendance or variation during the 2020-2021 program year. However, it is critically important that programs track and analyze the cause of absences for all children regardless of what type of services they are receiving.

• Current requirements for attendance and attendance tracking in the HSPPS will remain the same. A program’s monthly average daily attendance rate might fall below 85 percent due to COVID-19 related concerns. Programs are encouraged to use attendance data to inform what services they are providing during the pandemic and whether those services are meeting the needs of families.
Enroll & Keep Families During Pandemic

- Bring them in
- Support & improve our team
- Make them stay
1. Bring them in

- Assure the flexibility: in-class ↔ distance-learning
- Clearly explain distance-learning model
- Prepare learning materials to bring home
- Word of mouth
2. Make them stay

- A process of parent education
- Understand & respect families needs
- Engage families through projects / studies
Support & improve our hard-working team

- A process of team development
- Support your team
  - Stipend system
Break Out Room Discussion (20 min)

💡 What are your most successful enrollment strategies to date?

💡 How has your organization revised its selection criteria to ensure your organization is serving the most vulnerable children during the pandemic?

💡 What are your most successful strategies for keeping families engaged and children enrolled?
Resources

ERSEA FAQs – CAMP Session 1 and 6

ERSEA: Strategies During a Pandemic

OHS COVID-19 Updates