

# URGENT ITEM AGENDA MATERIAL

Government Code Section 54954.2(b)  
Rules of Procedure Chapter III.C.5

**THIS ITEM IS NOT YET AGENDIZED AND MAY OR MAY NOT BE  
ACCEPTED FOR THE AGENDA AS A LATE ITEM, SUBJECT TO THE  
CITY COUNCIL'S DISCRETION  
ACCORDING TO BROWN ACT RULES**

**Meeting Date: July 27, 2021**

**Item Description: Direct the East Bay Community Foundation to disburse  
\$165,00 from the Berkeley COVID Relief Fund to a local  
non-profit, BANANAS, to distribute to Berkeley Childcare  
Providers most impacted by COVID.**

This item is submitted pursuant to the provision checked below:

**Emergency Situation** (54954.2(b)(1) - majority vote required)

*Determination by a majority vote of the legislative body that an emergency situation exists, as defined in Section 54956.5.*

**Immediate Action Required** (54954.2(b)(2) - two-thirds vote required)

*There is a need to take immediate action and the need for action came to the attention of the local agency subsequent to the agenda for this meeting being posted.*

Once the item is added to the agenda (Consent or Action) it must be passed by the standard required vote threshold (majority, two-thirds, or 7/9).

**Facts supporting the addition of the item to the agenda under Section 54954.2(b) and Chapter III.C.5 of the Rules of Procedure:**

The opportunity for BANANAS to contract with the City of Berkeley to distribute monies from the Berkeley COVID Relief Fund to childcare providers that have operated throughout the pandemic was developed after the July 27, 2021 meeting agenda was posted, and failure to approve the disbursement from East Bay Community Foundation to BANANAS will further and unnecessarily delay the distribution of critically needed funds to small, home-based childcare providers struggling to keep their doors open.

On January 19, 2021 City Council passed a Resolution "Relief for Child Care Providers" making child care providers eligible for assistance under the Berkeley Relief Fund. (Hahn, Harrison, Wengraf, Arreguin). This Emergency Resolution will authorize relief funds to be released by East Bay Community Foundation to a trusted and highly-qualified community partner, BANANAS, to disburse to Berkeley's most vulnerable childcare providers. If the Council does not enact this emergency measure, needed relief funds will be delayed until after the Council Recess, with the risk that some providers may be forced to close their doors before the new school year begins.

To: Honorable Members of the City Council  
From: Councilmember Hahn (Author) and Mayor Arreguin (Co-Sponsor)  
Subject: Authorization to East Bay Community Foundation to disburse \$165,000 from The Berkeley COVID Relief Fund to BANANAS to distribute to Berkeley Childcare Providers most impacted by COVID-19

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution directing the East Bay Community Foundation (EBCF) to disburse \$165,000 from the Berkeley Relief Fund to BANANAS for the purpose of providing grants to Berkeley childcare providers:

1. Authorize EBCF to disburse \$165,000 from the Berkeley Relief Fund to BANANAS, with \$150,000 available for grants and \$15,000 to BANANAS to cover administrative and program costs; and
2. Direct BANANAS to identify Berkeley's most vulnerable licensed in-home childcare providers according to grant criteria and provider terms approved by the City Manager, and grant up to \$10,000 to each qualified provider to be used for purposes related to the provision of childcare.

Grants in excess of \$10,000 or diverging from approved criteria and/or terms shall require written approval of the City Manager, and all grants shall be reported to the City Manager before December 31, 2021.

SUMMARY/BACKGROUND:

Immediately following the COVID-19 Stay At Home order issued on March 13, 2020, the Berkeley City Council allocated \$3M to be granted to Berkeley small businesses, arts nonprofits, and tenants, to help them survive the pandemic.

With the leadership of the Mayor's office, civic leaders also quickly established the Berkeley Relief Fund, a community-based fundraising effort with a goal of supplementing the City's \$3M allocation with community donations. To date, the Berkeley Relief Fund has raised more than \$1.5M in generous donations from the community. The Berkeley Relief Fund committee includes representatives from Berkeley Community Media, Berkeleyside, Berkeley Chamber, Berkeley Merchants United, Visit Berkeley, Downtown Berkeley Association, Telegraph Business

Improvement District, Freight and Salvage, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, The David Brower Center, Berkeley Public Schools Fund, Berkeley Property Owners Association, and UC Berkeley.

The East Bay Community Foundation serves as the fiscal agent for the City in collecting community donations and forwarding them to the City or to designated partners who disburse grants to eligible businesses and organizations based on guidelines and requirements established by the City.

On March 17, 2020, the City Council approved the disbursement of \$3 million from the Berkeley Relief Fund for emergency relief grants to the hardest-hit small businesses, nonprofit arts organizations, and residential tenants. On January 19, 2021 the City Council passed a Resolution, "Relief for Child Care Providers," explicitly making child care providers eligible for assistance under the Berkeley Relief Fund. The City Manager has now identified a highly qualified community partner, BANANAS, able to assess need and distribute grants to Berkeley's most vulnerable childcare providers on the City and Relief Fund's behalf.

This item provides the authority for the East Bay Community Foundation to disburse \$165,000 to BANANAS to fund \$150,000 in grants to vulnerable licensed in-home childcare providers and provide BANANAS with a reasonable fee to administer the grant program on behalf of the City of Berkeley. Further, this item provides a per-provider grant cap of \$10,000 and guidelines for BANANAS to develop more specific grants criteria and recipient terms to be approved by the City Manager, and allows for grants exceeding \$10,000 and/or diverging from program terms, if any, on a case by case basis, with the written approval of the City Manager.

The grants program BANANAS will administer is designed to reach Berkeley's most vulnerable and hardworking childcare providers, mostly women, who, due to language barriers, limited access to technology, over-work, technical eligibility requirements, and other factors have been unable to access the small amounts of support that have been provided to some childcare providers by the State and other agencies and organizations.

[BANANAS](#), a non-profit that has served East Bay families and childcare providers for almost 50 years, has worked closely with providers throughout the pandemic and led or participated in disbursements of special funds made available by public agencies and private donors on an applications basis, according to set criteria. Because of barriers to access for limited- or non-English speaking providers, and for providers with limited access to technology or time to apply for grants, many in-home childcare providers have been unable to access these funds.

BANANAS also provides “hands-on” technical assistance and has long standing personal relationships with Berkeley’s childcare providers. The organization keeps updated lists of providers that have closed permanently or temporarily, and of the many heroic providers that have found a way to stay open during the pandemic. BANANAS maintains records of organizations that have received special COVID funding to date, and has provided data to support Berkeley’s program to direct low-barrier grants to the most vulnerable, least supported childcare providers. Finally, BANANAS has partnered with Berkeley on a variety of initiatives over many years, and is a known and trusted partner.

For all of these reasons, and because of BANANAS’ mission to support childcare providers and families - especially low income and vulnerable providers and families - working with BANANAS provides a unique opportunity to deliver grants to some of the most worthy, vulnerable - and overlooked - childcare providers in our community.

#### CURRENT SITUATION:

Child care is critical to Berkeley’s recovery from the COVID-19 health crisis and to our children’s long-term development and success. However, the pandemic has placed severe strain on the child care system. The situation child care providers are facing is dire. Without immediate relief, it is likely that many programs will be forced to close in the coming months, leaving children without access to high-quality care, and limiting the ability of low-income and frontline worker-parents to work. To make ends meet, many childcare providers have been charging supplies to their personal credit cards, struggling to hang on through the pandemic.

Most childcare providers are women, and often women of color, who under normal circumstances receive very low wages and are themselves eligible for public benefits. Small amounts of support at this critical juncture could mean the difference between hanging on through the final months of shelter-in-place, or shutting down for good. As of last summer, approximately 130 child care programs were operating in Berkeley. Due to the COVID-19 health crisis, a number of these providers have had to close temporarily or permanently due to increased costs, stress, and health concerns. Those providers who have remained open have done so at great risk to their health and the health of their families. They have served the children of frontline workers who themselves continued to work throughout the pandemic, providing the means for the rest of the community to access food, medications, transit, home-delivered goods, and other essential services.

Due to language barriers, limited access to technology, and over-work, many of Berkeley's smaller in-home childcare providers have been unable to access the limited grants and other support made available to childcare providers by the State and other agencies and organizations. The grant program BANANAS will administer on behalf of the City and the Berkeley Relief Fund is designed to meet the needs of these particularly hardworking, vulnerable providers whose needs have not been met by other programs.

UC Berkeley's Center for the Study of Childcare Employment, working with the City's Economic Development Department, did a survey of childcare providers in Berkeley. When asked what it would take to reopen or maintain current services safely and sustainably throughout the duration of the pandemic, Berkeley providers consistently request funds to cover expenses such as payroll for staff, rent, utilities, and other expenses related to their operations, and survival.

Research shows that children are more successful in life if they are given a strong foundation when they are young. Infancy and toddlerhood are times of intense intellectual engagement. During this time, the brain undergoes its most dramatic development, as children acquire the ability to think, speak, learn, and reason. Babies and toddlers need positive early learning experiences to foster their intellectual, social and emotional development and to lay the foundation for later success. In the long run, the benefits stemming from greater investments in children lead to an increasingly productive workforce that will boost economic growth, save public dollars, and reduce involvement with the criminal justice system.

Providing access to high-quality early care and education not only promotes healthy child development, but it also allows parents to participate in the labor force.<sup>6</sup> Without reliable and affordable child care, parents often must choose between spending a large percentage of their budget on child care or cutting back work hours. Many parents -- often women -- are forced to leave the workforce altogether because of struggles to provide child care.

#### REVIEW OF EXISTING PLANS, PROGRAMS, POLICIES, AND LAWS

On March 17, 2020, the Berkeley City Council approved \$3 million for emergency relief grants to small businesses, nonprofit arts organizations, and residential tenants that are hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. On January 19, 2021 City Council passed a Resolution, "Relief for Child Care Providers" explicitly making child care providers eligible for assistance under the Berkeley Relief Fund. Now, staff has identified a highly qualified community partner, BANANAS, able to assess need and distribute subgrants to some of our most impacted childcare providers.

General criteria for grants and terms for recipients are provided in an Attachment 2. BANANAS will develop more specific criteria to be shared and approved by the City Manager prior to program launch.

#### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The City Council has already made an explicit commitment to providing support through the Berkeley Relief Fund to the childcare sector. As described above, BANANAS is uniquely trusted and qualified to administer a low-barrier, culturally appropriate grants program to support some of Berkeley's most hardworking, vulnerable, and overlooked childcare providers, many of whom are struggling to continue operations. The City does not have the staffing, deep relationships and fine-grained data to administer the grant program in-house, and has identified BANANAS as an ideal partner to undertake the grants program on behalf of the City and the Relief Fund, for a reasonable fee. BANANAS is willing and able to take on and administer Berkeley's childcare provider grant program in the spirit, and according to criteria and terms, approved by the City.

#### FISCAL & STAFF IMPACTS

\$165,000 will be disbursed from the COVID Relief Fund. Staff time is a bare minimum and consists of formally engaging BANANAS and reviewing and approving final criteria for grants and terms for grantees, based on the general criteria and terms provided herein. For a fee of 10% of the amount disbursed to providers (\$150,000 to providers and \$15,000 to BANANAS = \$165,000), BANANAS will carry out the work of identifying qualified providers, assessing needs, considering grants or other assistance already received (if any), determining Berkeley COVID Relief Fund grant amounts, disbursing funds to grantees, and reporting back to the City Manager.

#### CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Sophie Hahn, [shahn@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:shahn@cityofberkeley.info); 510-682-5905

#### Attachments

1. Resolution
2. Outline of Grants Criteria and Recipient Terms
3. BANANAS Background and Proposal
4. Council action on Childcare Relief

RESOLUTION NO. #####

FUNDING FOR CITY OF BERKELEY CHILDCARE PROVIDERS  
IMPACTED BY COVID-19

WHEREAS, Berkeley's childcare providers have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, experiencing reductions of revenue, increased costs, and increased risk to their and their families' health; and

WHEREAS, home-based childcare providers, many of which have stayed open throughout the pandemic to care for the children of essential workers, are largely operated by immigrants and women of color, with limited English language skills and access to technology; and

WHEREAS, compounding these challenges, in-home childcare providers have often worked more than twelve hours per day to provide safe childcare during the pandemic, devoting additional hours to sanitize areas of their homes where childcare has been provided; and

WHEREAS, despite these heroic efforts, in-home childcare providers have often been ineligible for or unable to access the limited relief funds provided by the State and other agencies and organizations to the childcare sector; and

WHEREAS, many in-home childcare providers have used personal funds and gone into debt to maintain childcare operations and are facing housing and food insecurity that threatens their own families as well as the families who depend on the childcare they provide; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the City of Berkeley helped to launch the Berkeley Relief Fund by allocating \$3 million to grant programs for businesses, nonprofits, arts organizations and renters impacted by the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on January 19, 2021 the City Council, in recognition of the extreme stress experienced by childcare providers during the COVID-19 pandemic, passed a resolution making City of Berkeley childcare providers eligible for Berkeley Relief Fund assistance; and

WHEREAS, staff has identified BANANAS as a trusted and highly qualified non-profit partner to identify and direct grant funding to Berkeley's most vulnerable childcare providers;



NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Council directs the East Bay Community Foundation to disburse \$165,000 from the Berkeley Relief Fund to BANANAS and that the City of Berkeley shall engage BANANAS to administer a grant program for qualified childcare providers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that \$150,000 of the funds disbursed be regranted by BANANAS to licensed home-based Berkeley Child Care providers impacted by COVID-19, in grants of up to \$10,000 per provider, according to grant criteria and grantee terms reviewed and approved by the City Manager, unless an exception to the per-provider cap or approved criteria and terms is granted by the City Manager, on a case-by-case basis, upon written request of BANANAS; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that \$15,000 of the \$165,000 disbursed shall be retained by BANANAS as a fee for administering Berkeley Relief Fund in-home childcare-provider grants and reporting back to the City Manager on implementation of the grants program by December 31, 2021.

## **Berkeley Relief Fund Childcare Provider Grants Program Outline of Criteria for Grants and Terms for Grantees**

### **Grant Purposes and Criteria:**

The purpose of the Berkeley Relief Fund Childcare Provider Grant Program is to make grants to vulnerable licensed in-home/family childcare providers that have provided critically important childcare during the pandemic, have received little or no special COVID-19 relief funds from other sources, and plan to continue providing childcare during the 2021-2022 school year.

### **Criteria for the Grants Program should include:**

- Grants to be provided to both small (up to 8 children served) and large (up to 14 children served) licensed “Family” (in-home) childcare providers in Berkeley
- Preference for providers planning and/or likely to continue serving families and children in Berkeley during the 2021-2022 school year (no “proof” required, and no penalty for not being able to continue, despite plans/likelihood)
- Assessments of eligibility to be undertaken by BANANAS in lieu of an applications process, to reduce barriers
- Objective criteria for baseline grant amounts to be developed, based on licensing category (Small or Large), number of children served, or other similar criteria
- Amounts received from other grant/support programs to be taken into consideration in determining grant amounts
- Other criteria, if any, to be determined for increasing or decreasing grant amounts in an equitable manner

### **Terms for Grantees should be simple, and include:**

- Written acknowledgement by grantees that funds may only be used for purposes related to the childcare business, including but not limited to paying down debt already incurred for childcare business purposes and/or paying rent or mortgage on the home where childcare services are provided.

**SOPHIE HAHN**

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CONSENT CALENDAR  
 January 19, 2021

To: Honorable Members of the City Council  
 From: Councilmember Sophie Hahn (Author), Councilmember Kate Harrison (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember Susan Wengraf (Co-Sponsor), Mayor Jesse Arreguin (Co-Sponsor)  
 Subject: Relief for Child Care Providers

**RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt a resolution making child care providers, including all forms of early childhood education, eligible for grants and other assistance under the Berkeley Relief Fund.

**BACKGROUND****Berkeley Relief Fund**

On March 17, 2020, the City Council allocated \$3 million to launch the Berkeley Relief Fund to assist businesses, arts organizations, and renters in Berkeley that have experienced financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>1</sup> Berkeley's residents, business community, and philanthropists have made generous contributions.<sup>2</sup>

On March 30, the City announced the first phase of the Berkeley Relief Fund program: the Berkeley Business Continuity Grants, an allocation of \$1 million to help mitigate COVID-19 related financial losses suffered by small businesses. Through this program, grants of up to \$10,000 were made available to Berkeley-based small businesses and nonprofits to enable continuity through and/or beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Office of Economic Development (OED) received over 1000 applications to the Business Continuity Grant Program, testimony to the great number of needs in Berkeley. In the first phase of the grant program, the City issued 353 grants totaling \$968,499 to businesses and nonprofits.

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<sup>1</sup> ["Berkeley COVID-19 Relief Fund and Expanding Flexible Housing Pool." Berkeley City Council, March 17, 2020 meeting, item 3](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Berkeley Relief Fund](#)

While the Fund continues to raise philanthropic donations, demonstrating the generous support of our community, and has provided vital assistance to hundreds of small businesses, it is clear that many local businesses impacted by COVID-19 have not received needed assistance.

### **Child Care Provider Need**

Child care is critical to Berkeley's recovery from the COVID-19 health crisis and to our children's long-term development and success. However, the pandemic has placed severe strain on the child care system.

The situation child care providers are facing is dire. Without immediate relief, it is likely that many programs will be forced to close in the coming months, leaving children without access to high-quality care, and limiting the ability of low-income and frontline-worker parents to work.

To make ends meet, many childcare providers have been charging supplies to their personal credit cards, struggling to hang on through the pandemic. Most childcare providers are women, and often women of color, who under normal circumstances receive very low wages and are themselves eligible for public benefits. *Small amounts of support at this critical juncture could mean the difference between hanging on through the final months of shelter-in-place, or shutting down for good.*

As of last summer, approximately 130 child care programs were operating in Berkeley. Due to the COVID-19 health crisis, many of these providers have had to close temporarily or permanently due to increased costs, stress, and health concerns.

UC Berkeley's Center for the Study of Childcare Employment, working with the City's Economic Development Department, did a survey of childcare providers in Berkeley. When asked what it would take to reopen or maintain current services safely and sustainably throughout the duration of the pandemic, Berkeley providers consistently request funds to cover expenses such as payroll for staff, rent, utilities, and other expenses related to their operations, and survival.

Research shows that children are more successful in life if they are given a strong foundation when they are young. Infancy and toddlerhood are times of intense intellectual engagement.<sup>3</sup> During this time, the brain undergoes its most dramatic development, as children acquire the ability to think, speak, learn, and reason. Babies and toddlers need positive early learning experiences to foster their intellectual, social,

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<sup>3</sup> Shonkoff, Jack and Phillips, Deborah. 2000. *From neurons to neighborhoods: The science of early childhood development*. Washington, DC: National Academy Press.

and emotional development and to lay the foundation for later success.<sup>4</sup> In the long run, the benefits stemming from greater investments in children lead to an increasingly productive workforce that will boost economic growth, save public dollars, and reduce involvement with the criminal justice system.<sup>5</sup>

Providing access to high-quality early care and education not only promotes healthy child development, but it also allows parents to participate in the labor force.<sup>6</sup> Without reliable and affordable child care, parents often must choose between spending a large percentage of their budget on child care or cutting back work hours.<sup>7</sup> Many parents -- often women -- are forced to leave the workforce altogether because of struggles to provide child care.<sup>8</sup>

This resolution makes child care providers, including those providing all forms of early childhood education, eligible for assistance under the Berkeley Relief Fund. It will help provide vital financial help to those in our community who care for our children and cannot pay for supplies and operating expenses through no fault of their own.

#### FISCAL IMPACTS

Allocations to be determined by the City Manager based on available funds in the Berkeley Relief Fund.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Will support the economic sustainability and child care needs of the Berkeley community as it recovers from the COVID19 pandemic.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Vice Mayor Sophie Hahn, Council District 5, 510-682-5905 (cell)

#### ATTACHMENT

1. Resolution

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/477-early-head-start-works>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.epi.org/publication/its-time-for-an-ambitious-national-investment-in-americas-children>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/early-childhood/reports/2018/12/06/461643/americas-child-care-deserts-2018>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/early-childhood/reports/2020/08/04/488642/costly-unavailable-america-lacks-sufficient-child-care-supply-infants-toddlers>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/early-childhood/reports/2016/06/21/139731/calculating-the-hidden-cost-of-interrupting-a-career-for-child-care>

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

MAKING CHILD CARE PROVIDERS ELIGIBLE FOR  
ASSISTANCE FROM THE BERKELEY RELIEF FUND

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the City Council allocated \$3 million to launch the Berkeley Relief Fund to assist businesses, arts organizations, and renters in Berkeley that have experienced financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the generous support of Berkeley's residents, business community, and philanthropists, the community was able to raise \$1.3 million for the Berkeley Relief Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Economic Development (OED) received over 1000 applications to the Business Continuity Grant Program and issued 353 grants totaling \$968,499 to businesses and nonprofits in the first phase of the grant program; and

WHEREAS, further support is needed to help those financially impacted, as COVID-19 continues to worsen and restrictions tighten this winter; and

WHEREAS, many local businesses and organizations impacted by COVID-19, including child care providers and after-school enrichment programs, have not received needed assistance; and

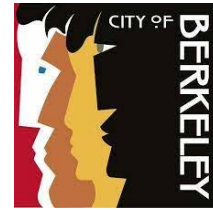
WHEREAS, child care is critical to Berkeley's recovery from the COVID-19 health crisis and to our children's long-term development and success; and

WHEREAS, providing access to high-quality early care and education promotes healthy child development and allows parents to participate in the labor force; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic has placed severe strain on the child care system, causing many providers to close temporarily or permanently due to increased costs, stress, and health concerns; and

WHEREAS, without immediate relief, it is likely that additional child care programs will be forced to close in the coming months, leaving children without access to high-quality care, and limiting the ability of low-income and frontline-worker parents to work;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that child care providers, including all forms of early childhood education, are hereby made eligible for grants and other assistance under the Berkeley Relief Fund.



## **BANANAS - Grants for Family Child Care Providers in the City of Berkeley**

The pandemic has had a devastating impact on the child care industry and the families they serve. When the Executive Order to shutdown was issued, only essential workers were permitted to work and only home-based Family Child Care Providers (FCCs) remained open to care for their children. Despite their fears for the safety of themselves and their families, interacting with families on the frontline, and having no support from any government agency or safety net, these FCCs soldiered on, working 14 hour days, sometimes every day of the week. Essential Workers pleaded with FCCs to remain open and care for their children. Without them, where would we have been as a community?

In the early care and education sector, state funded settings closed but staff continued to be funded and staff paid. Private centers and FCCs lost all or most of their revenue. Those that remained open often were not operating at full capacity so they had less revenue and higher costs associated with the COVID-related health and safety protocols.

Help from the State of California, the County and philanthropy started to trickle in 3-10 months into the shutdown, first with PPE, then with automatic disbursement of cash stipends to providers that served subsidized children and cash grants from First 5 Alameda, Alameda County and LIIF for which providers had to apply. Some centers were able to access PPP loans from the SBA. However, most FCCs could not access PPP loans and they did not qualify for EDD as sole proprietors. When the EDD opened up eligibility for sole proprietors, access was still very difficult, especially for smaller operators, those for whom English is not their first language or who have limited or no access to technology. Therefore, many FCCs are struggling and many of them have taken on debt and maxed out credit cards in order to sustain services.

Our goal with this funding is to provide cash grants to FCCs who are open and have not had access to or been able to receive other funding opportunities. The profile of these targeted FCCs is likely to be:

- Open and providing care
- Limited English speakers and non-English, monolingual speakers
- Limited access to technology
- Not a recipient of previous grants or received a very minimal cash stipend.

## **City of Berkeley Cash Grant for Family Child Care Providers Program**

### **Administration of the Grants**

BANANAS will administer and disperse the proceeds to eligible and selected FCC providers. BANANAS is an Oakland-based nonprofit that has supported the families of Northern Alameda County in their parenting journey for 47 years. The organization does this by providing families referrals for child care from their database of licensed providers in Northern Alameda County. For low and moderate income families, BANANAS enrolls them into state-funded child care subsidy programs and distributes over \$1.2 million every month to over 1,000 Alameda County providers.

BANANAS is a highly regarded organization, not only for their many services for families with young children, but as the resource for child care providers to engage in professional development and receive coaching, support and technical assistance. During the pandemic, BANANAS was instrumental in getting concrete aid for qualified providers including PPE and diapers, and co-hosted Zoom webinars to keep providers abreast of ever-changing guidelines and legislation.

### **Selection and Invitation of Eligible Berkeley FCC Providers**

As the intermediary or consulting partner in the distribution of COVID relief grants to providers in Alameda County over the past 17 months, BANANAS can identify Berkeley based FCC providers who have yet to receive grants. With our existing coaching relationships, we know the providers that are operating, their level of need, and those that have had challenges accessing, or were ineligible to receive, other grant opportunities. It is our recommendation that a formal application process be waived and that BANANAS select and award the grants according to agreed upon criteria. BANANAS already has a process to capture and report on a provider's attestation of need and eligible uses of the grant. BANANAS will report on the grant recipients (name, language, street name, number of children served) and amount granted.

### **Backbone Support**

BANANAS will perform all aspects of this grant program for 10% of the total grants issued.

### **Links to BANANAS website and most recent Annual Impact Report**

<https://bananasbunch.org>

<https://www.flipsnack.com/bananasbunch/bananas-impact-report-19-20/full-view.html>