

## **Remarks at the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of R&R/AP**

**Cindy Mall contacted me two and half weeks ago and asked me to do a short history of R&R/AP and then lead into a remembrance of Patty Siegel. Patty passed right after Christmas last year. So I thought I would focus on AB 3059 which was passed in 1976 and created the initial funding for both R&R and AP. Patty was one of the key players in the adoption of AB 3059 and none of us would be here today without it.**

**First I must tell everyone that I wasn't there at the beginning. I moved to CA in 1981 to go to graduate school at UCLA and in 1982 I received a fellowship in child and family policy from the Bush Foundation. Our orientation began with a trip to Sacramento where I met Patty Siegel, Arlyce Currie and several others child care advocates who were responsible for the passage of AB 3059. So like when my children asked me whether dinosaurs roamed the earth when I was a kid, I answered no but your grandpa was around then. I wasn't there at the beginning but I knew many of the people who were there.**

**So in the last 2 weeks I've been able to speak with Arlyce Currie one of the founders of Bananas, Lynn Patton from Child Action, Donita Stromgren who was at the City of Davis before she joined the Network, Jack Hailey Exec Secretary of the Governor's Advisory Committee, Janet Poole, Administrator at CDE Child Development Division and Catherine Camp who staffed the Assembly Human Services Committee chaired by Bill Lockyer.**

**Public support for child care begins with the Lanham Act of 1943. All the men were off fighting in WWII while Rosie the Riveter was building all the munitions, supplies, and machinery for the war. Rosie's children had to be somewhere so 24/7 child care system was created across the US. These were comprehensive programs and they were center based. When the war ended only two states continued their Lanham act programs – New York and California. The CA programs were attached to schools and they were very expensive programs to run.**

**Once the war ended women returned home and were expected to care for their children. However, by the early 70's more women were entering the workforce**

**and needed child care in order to work. However, they were having a hard time finding child care. There were plenty of preschool programs but family child care was underground and center based care was only available for low income welfare recipients. In several different locations around the state the United Way, some other local entity or a Foundation would fund information and referral program or a group of volunteers would start one. Sonoma began in 1970; 4C's of Alameda, Child Care Coordinating Council in San Mateo, Community Coordinating Child Care Development of Santa Clara all started in 1972. Bananas, CCIS-Pasadena, Children's Council in SF and City of Davis Child Care Services in 1973; Riverside County Office of Education in 1974; In 1975 2 events created an environment that lead to the passage of AB 3059.**

**1) Doe vs Obledo was filed to force the state to reduce the difficulty that community based child care especially family child care to get licensed. At the time you had to speak English and be married if you wanted to be a licensed family child care home.**

**2) Governor Brown vetoed a \$10 million dollar bill to augment center based school district programs with a promise to come up with an alternative that would serve more children and set aside \$10 million in the 1976 budget.**

**When the lawsuit was filed there was meeting in the Bay Area with Arlyce Currie and Patty Siegel and Brown's Chief of staff asked "What do you want?" Patty and Arlyce asked for I&R system for California so that it would easier for parents to find child care. The I&R system was going to document the need and availability of child care. The Governor saw this as part of a vehicle to create a voucher program. Bill Lockyer was the chair of the Human Services Committee in the assembly and he became the author of the bill. Governor Brown signed a \$10 million bill which allocated \$900,000 for I&R and \$3 million for the alternative payment program. The rest of the funds went for administration, establishing Title 22 child care centers, broadening services in urban, suburban and rural areas. There were provisions to test cost reducing features including the local coordination of resources, modification of child care staff ratios and using**

**volunteers. \$100,000 was set aside to pay for an evaluation.**

**So AB 3059 was signed into law in 1976 with three years of funding. Another 18 agencies were incorporated in 1976.**

**The evaluation identified two areas as resounding successes: Voucher payments were the most successful model for keeping costs down. R&R brought in other resources to augment the state funds.**

**CDE had a hard time implementing AB 3059 because they were not used to funding anything that was not school district based. Funding was based on what you asked for and was not tied to community need. The original Funding terms and conditions consisted of 12 pages. Janet Poole who was responsible for implementing the vendor voucher program at CDE at the time said that she met often with the agencies to figure out how to make the Alternative Payment program work. She called the development of the FTC for AP the Wild, Wild West.**

**CAPPA was incorporated in 1977 but didn't name an executive director until the end of 2002. Back when**

**AP started the AP agencies in the north would meet together to figure out how to implement. The agencies in the south did the same. But it was the president of the CAPPa who was responsible for representing CAPPa statewide. For the R&R network, the R&R's would convene monthly and people would travel to the various locations. It wasn't until 1980 at a campground called Fish Camp that a decision was made to establish the R&R Network and incorporate. Patty was elected the Executive Director.**

**SB 863 passed in 1980 which made R&R and AP permanent and added additional funds to both the R&R and APPs.**

**If you compare where we were with where we are: Costs have increased by 4.26 times over the last 40 years. 40 years ago we had \$900,000 in R&R. R&R would be worth \$3,834,000. Today we have \$18,878,000. 40 years ago there were 18 R&Rs in the state. Now there is at least one in every county. 40 years ago there were \$3 million in Alternative Payment. That \$3 million would be worth \$12,780,000. Today we have \$266,870,000 in AP. And we also have \$445,298,000 in Stage 2 and**

**\$287,273,000 in Stage 3. That's a total of \$999,441,000. So what started as a small experiment has grown into an industry.**

**Back in 1976 when I started in the ECE field the choices for a career working with young children had limited number of paths. Either you became a direct provider or a program administrator. Or you became an academic. We have Patty Siegel and other pioneers to thank for the jobs we have today.**

**So now let me talk about Patty Siegel a bit. I was Patty's last Board Chair and lead the team that worked through the Network's transition when she retired.**

**Patty would carry colored pencils and would make notes in a note pad when hearings were going on. I never could figure out what her system was but she clearly had one.**

**In our Board meetings we would always have a schedule for the director's report and it was always at the end of the agenda. During the course of our meeting Patty would always get her report items included in other discussions so that by the time we**

**got to the Directors' report she had already given her report. So we always ended on time.**

**Arlyce told me a story about her and Patty driving to a meeting. Patty was doing her usual rambling about various topics. As they were driving Patty fell asleep in midsentence. She woke up later and started talking from the same point where she had stopped.**

**During the Stage 3 elimination, Parent Voices went to the capitol shortly after Governor Brown was sworn in. Patty was there wearing a Parent Voices tee shirt when she saw Governor Brown walking from the front of the building back to his office. Patty grabbed a baby from one of the parents and went running after the Governor yelling Jerry Jerry It's me Patty.**

**Patty was also famous for what I called her begats, when she told you a story about a legislator's position on a bill she didn't just tell you the position. She also told every place that the legislator had worked previously and any additional history about that person she might know – who they were married to, how many children they had, who their parents were any siblings and what they did.**



**All of the informants said she was difficult to work with but was a brilliant strategist. She knew how to bring a policy issue to the local level. Let me tell you Senator what this means for your district. She used marketing strategy to highlight the issues. There were the dolls that were distributed to legislative offices and laid out at the state capitol and US Capitol. Years later they were still in windows at the Hart Building in Washington DC. There was the Green Light Vigil where all the names of children on the waiting list were read. This was when the Women's caucus first took child care on a major issue. And of course Parent Voices.**

**So lessons learned from Patty.**

**You never know what you advocate for will lead to over time. You never know what opportunities will arise that you can use.**

**Always know what motivates legislators. Be able to tell a story that relates to their personal situation.**

**Think of ways to make your pitch interesting.**

**Patty had a passion for helping children and families no matter their race color or creed. We always need**

**to remember that what we do is about helping people. It's not just a job!**

**So in the spirit of Patty I invite you to log on to [Childcareworks.org](http://Childcareworks.org) and join the national movement to encourage whoever becomes president to make good in the child care promises they made during their campaigns.**