

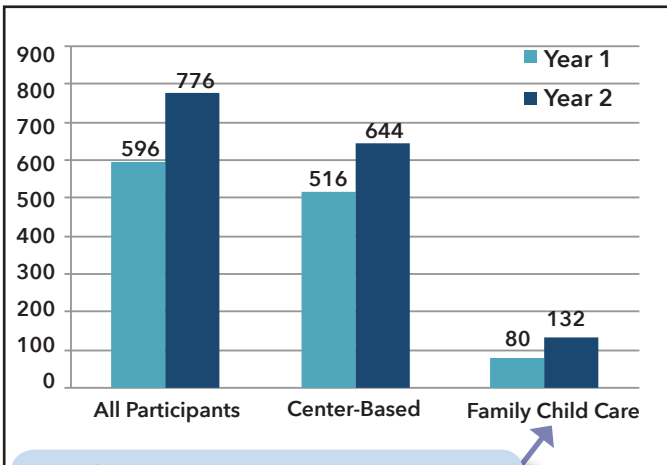
Santa Clara CARES Plus Year 2 Highlights

July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013

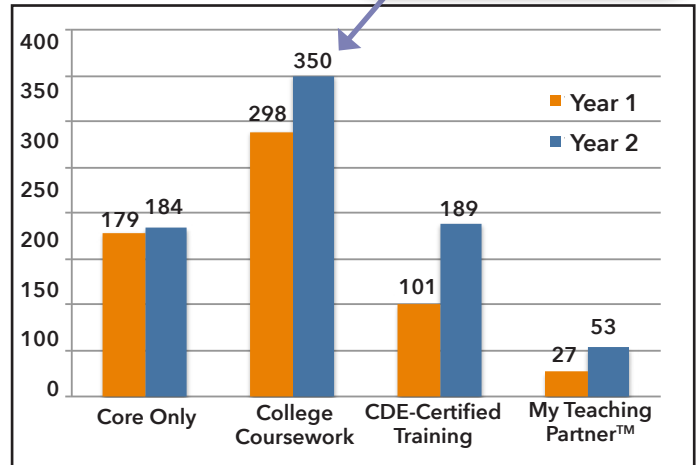
A total of 776 participants—including 413 new participants—received a stipend in the second year of CARES Plus program implementation. Overall, there were no major shifts in the demographics of the participants except there was an increase in the Family Child Care providers from 12% to 17%. In addition, 75% of the Family Child Care Providers returned for the second year.

The tables below show a comparison of CARES Plus Year 1 and CARES Plus Year 2 participation listed by program types and program components. Note the increase in participants from 596 in Year 1 to 776 in Year 2.

College coursework remained the most popular option in both years.



Note the 61% jump in FCC participation.



Year 1 Path	Number of Participants Returned	Percentage Returned	Year 2 Path	Number of Participants	Percentage
Core*	86	60%	College Coursework	27	35%
			MTP™	11	13%
			Training	48	56%
College Coursework	184	62%	College Coursework	162	88%
			MTP™	6	3%
			Training	12	7%
			Core Only (I/T)**	4	2%
Training	76	75%	College Coursework	7	9%
			MTP™	11	15%
			Training	58	76%
MTP™***	17	63%	College Coursework	5	29%
			Training	12	71%

There were 363 returning participants from Year 1. The table to the left shows their path selections from Year 1 to Year 2.

Most participants remained in their selected path in Year 2. The coursework path had the highest retention rate of 88%.

* Returning participants could not repeat the Core online trainings and were required to select another path.
 ** Only Infant and toddler teachers had the option to complete the Core only path in CARES Plus Year 2.
 *** My Teaching Partner (MTP™) participants were not allowed to repeat the MTP™ program.



Reflections on Year 2 by Component

Each CARES year is a little different from the last and brings with it a new set of challenges and lessons. Below are noteworthy facts about each of the components in Year 2.

Core Online Trainings

- Based on the experiences during Year 1, E3 staff were able to improve infrastructure to provide additional resources to build the field's capacity to utilize technology.
- The number of new participants in Year 2 who indicated they have never taken an online course was lower at 26.6% vs. 50.5% in Year 1.
- The CLASS™ online trainings provided a foundational knowledge of the CLASS™ instrument, which is also utilized in the Race to the Top (RTT) Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS).

College Coursework

- This option remains the most popular. The majority of College Coursework participants completed more than the required 6 units.
- The percentage of ECE/CD courses taken decreased from 60% to 54% while the percentage of General Education taken increased from 22% to 28%.
- The percentage of participants attending a 4-year college increased by 6%.

Training/Professional Development

- The addition of an online training allowed participants to completed up to 10 hours of the required hours without attending in-person trainings.
- California Preschool Instructional Network (CPIN) enhanced its training capacity to better track CARES Plus participants and to provide additional trainings throughout the year.
- The option to complete training hours online caused many unused spaces in CPIN trainings when participants neglected to cancel spaces they had previously reserved but did not attend.
- The training offered through CARES Plus is aligned with the Race to the Top professional development pathways developed by the state RTT consortium.

My Teaching Partner (MTP™)

- The MTP™ pilot was very successful and because there was a better understanding of MTP™, earlier and targeted recruitment was conducted. This resulted in the increase of MTP™ participants from 27 to 53.
- More than half (56.6%) of the MTP™ participants held a BA degree or higher.

Looking Ahead to CARES Plus Year 3

First 5 California reauthorized the CARES Plus program for three more years beginning July 1, 2013. CARES Plus will continue to include all the existing paths. First 5 California will pilot in-person CLASS™ observations to take place during the pre- and post-observations in lieu of using video cameras. Teachstone is currently developing CLASS™ for Infants.