

Smalltalk

Serving Providers & Families in Yolo County

Volume XXVIII, Number 2

Dear friends,

Fall is almost upon us. It is hard to believe! As always it promises to be busy and full of activities. We are excited to announce our program has received two new grants this year. The first one is a result of the passage of Senate Bill 1703 several years ago by the State Legislature. This bill was designed to evaluate and improve the child care system for children with special needs. The Resource and Referral has many ideas for utilizing these funds but we also want to hear from you! We will be holding a series of focus groups this fall in order to talk with parents about their needs, successes and challenges. At the same time, we will ask providers those same questions. We will use the information gathered to formulate a formal plan for improving access for children with special needs in Yolo County. We will also purchase special equipment and toys that will be available for long term loans to providers caring for children with special needs. Stay tuned for further developments.

The second grant is the Child Care Initiative Program (CCIP). This money is earmarked for recruitment, training and retention of providers for infants and toddlers. We have contracted with Lynn Arner-Cross to oversee and coordinate this program for us. Lynn is a well-known local early childhood instructor who brings much experience and wisdom to this project. We will offer special training opportunities and incentives for providers to participate in this exciting program. There will be several tracks to meet the needs of each provider's development and knowledge base. We hope to offer the trainings in English, Spanish and Russian. The first classes will begin in October. We will be contacting all providers very soon with information on dates and locations.

Finally, we are thrilled with the overwhelmingly positive response to the free provider kits we handed out in July. Providers were very appreciative and excited to receive the free puppets, musical instruments and books. We have delivered approximately 160 kits so far! If you are a licensed provider and have not yet received one, please call our office and ask for Tamiko. She will be more than happy to personally deliver a kit to you.

If you have any questions, ideas or concerns, please do not hesitate to call and talk with me.

Regards,

Robbie Townsley
Resource and Referral Supervisor
Child Care Services

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Job Opportunity

Child Care Services Resource and Referral is currently looking for a part time person to help co-facilitate our Morning Out program. Morning Out is a provider support program offered to licensed family child care providers in Yolo County. Providers bring the children in their care to a preschool setting and participate with them in various activities coordinated by Child Care Services staff. The locations rotate between Woodland, Davis and West Sacramento. Are you looking for something fun to do but not ready for a full time job? This position is perfect for a parent with little ones in school or a college student!

The hours for the position are from 9-12 on Tuesday Wednesday and Friday mornings every other week. The last Friday of the month is used for planning activities for the following month. This position will average approximately 22-25 hours per month. It is temporary-part time and does not carry any benefits. The starting pay is approximately \$10.00 per hour. Requirements: Experience working in a pre-school or child care setting. Education or training related to child development strongly preferred.

Interested? Call Robbie Townsley at (530)757-5695 for further inquiry.

Meetings/Support Groups

FAMILY CHILD CARE LICENSING ORIENTATIONS

Tues., Sept. 17 & Oct. 15, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
VMC Game Room, 203 E. 14th Street, Davis
Call to register (530) 757-5695 or (800) 723-3001.

WOODLAND PARKS, RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

4th Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers, City Hall, Woodland
Public welcome. Youth and children's issues discussed.

YOLO CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL

September 11 & October 9 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Yolo County Office of Education, 1240 Harter Avenue,
Woodland. Call (530) 668-3773 for information.

GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
Davis Senior Center Genealogy Library, 646 A Street
Call (530) 757-5696 for information.

LA LECHE LEAGUE

2nd Thursday of month, 10:00 a.m., 345 L Street, Davis;
For location, phone support/meeting topics call: Christina
(530) 758-8270, Mary (530) 753-2932, Lonna at (530)
756-3551 or Angela (530) 757-7105.

PARENTS TOGETHER

This group is for all parents and babies under 1 year. The
group meets in Davis, Woodland and West Sacramento.
For information call Carrie Shepard at (530) 753-8602.

Davis: Thursdays 1:00-2:30 p.m.; VMC Game Room.

Woodland: Every other Wednesday, Sept. 11 & 25 and
Oct. 9 & 23 10:30-12:00 p.m. at Greengate School, 285
W. Beamer Room A

GROUP FOR TWINS & PARENTS

Monthly parent support meetings for parents of twins.
Meetings are for parents only, but the group organizes
events and activities for everyone to enjoy. For meeting
dates or more information contact Christine Easton at
(530) 756-1047. You can also visit the group's website at
www.dcn.davis.ca.us/~yptoc.

WEST SACRAMENTO SIBLING GROUP (ages 6 to 12)

Meets 3rd Tuesday of month, 3:00-5:00 p.m.
at Bryte School, room 17 in West Sacramento.
For more information call Jan at (530) 758-5888.

YOLO COUNTY PARENTS ANONYMOUS®

A support group for parents. Family Resource Center, 409
Lincoln Ave. Woodland, Thursdays 6:30-8:00 p.m. free
child care provided on site. For further information call
Kathy Dreyer at (530) 662-9463.

BRIDGES

Support for parents of children in K-12 special education.
Learning Center, Davis High School. Call Suzanne at
(530) 756-5411 for information.

DADS GROUP

The Family Resource Center and Yolo Family Service
Agency are sponsoring a DADS group. The goal of the
program is to encourage lifelong relationships between
DADS and kids, and to foster social support among fa-
thers to help them enjoy their parenting role to the fullest.
The group is for fathers of children 0-5 years of age, and
meets weekly for 6 consecutive weeks. For more infor-
mation and registration call (530) 662-2211, ext # 20.

PARENT SUPPORT

For parents and caregivers of emotionally disturbed chil-
dren. For information on any of the meetings call Joan
McChesney, Family Partnership Program Coordinator,
(530) 666-8632 ext. 9183

Woodland:

2nd Tuesday of month, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Horizon School,
16 N. Cottonwood St. Supervised play for children at this
meeting only.

West Sacramento:

3rd Tuesday of month, 10:30 a.m.-noon,
County Services Center, 500-B Jefferson Blvd., Ste 150

Davis:

4th Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.-noon
Mental Health Offices, 600 A Street.

PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF TRANSITION-AGE YOUTH (16-25) WITH PSYCHIATRIC DISABILITIES

Group meetings held 4th Tuesday of every month
6:30-8:00 p.m., 600 A St., Davis
For more information call Joan, (530) 666-8632, ext.
9183.

WOODLAND SPECIAL EDUCATION LINKS

Support for parents of children in K-12 special ed.
Woodland Joint Unified School District
626 Cottonwood Street, Woodland
For meeting dates and more information call Sue Owens
at (530) 666-0246.

YOLO CO. CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION

2nd Wednesday of the month, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
403 Court Street in Woodland
For more information call (530) 669-2475.

Location Index

VMC = Veterans' Memorial Center
203 E. 14th Street, (14th & B), Davis
YCSS = Yolo County Social Services
120 West Main Street, Woodland

Community News

Calendar

Sept. 2	Labor Day (City Offices closed)
11	UCD Grant Application due
17	Family Child Care Orientation
19	Mary Sheedy Kurcinka Presentation
21	Family Child Care At Its Best series begins
Oct. 5	Winters Children's Fair
11	Davis Playgroup Orientation
15	Family Child Care Orientation
16	Woodland Playgroup Orientation
20	Esparto Health Fair
31	Halloween

For more information about events listed in the calendar, check out the rest of Small Talk!

New Adoptive Parent Group

Families First in collaboration with Yolo County Department of Employment & Social Services and the Foster & Kinship Care Education Program will host an Adoptive Parent group. The group is designed to facilitate successful adoptions and is open to adults who are thinking about adopting, those who are in the process of adopting and those who have already adopted children. The group will

meet on Friday, September 27 from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. at Woodland Community College, Bldg. 100. For more information about the group and future meeting dates call Holly Lien at (530) 753-0220 or Cherie Schroeder at (530) 661-5772.

Yolo County Health Department Online

Now you may access useful information from the Yolo County Health Department online. You can get the latest information on a variety of topics including health bulletins, childhood immunization information, household mold risks and more. Applications for birth certificates and other forms will also be available as well as information on the GET READY Child Nutrition and Reading Program. Visit the website at www.yolocounty.org/org/health or call the health department at (530) 666-8645 or (916) 375-6380.

The Woodland Toy Library

Borrow toys instead of buying them! Find out which toys are hits with your kids before you spend money at the toy store. Woodland Toy Library is a lending library for toys, founded and run by volunteers. Check out 3 toys for a 3 week period and return them. Save money, reduce household clutter, and educate your children all at the same time.



All toys promote mental and physical development, stimulate imagination, and nurture age-appropriate learning. Toys are routinely cleaned, repaired or replaced to ensure quality and a wide selection.

The Library depends on the participation and enthusiasm of its volunteers to staff the Library for 1-1/2 hours a month and receive many benefits. There is an annual membership fee of \$15.00 which can be waived for members who volunteer their time.

Hours of Operation:

Mondays 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Fridays 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Saturdays 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The Woodland Toy Library is Located at 1017 Main Street in Woodland, (behind the United Way building, Freeman Park). For more information, please call (530) 666-2918.

Writers Wanted

The City of Davis Child Care Services Resource & Referral continues to seek for articles on topics directed towards parents and child care providers. The articles will be used as parenting handouts or newsletter articles. They will be distributed in paper form and via the Internet and may be translated into a number of languages used in Yolo County.

Articles can cover topics such as nutrition, development and health. They should be 1000-1500 words in length and be written in a simple and concise manner. We are especially interested in articles focusing on working with children with special needs and articles focusing on brain development. Payment will be in the range of \$50.00 - \$70.00 per article. Articles will be accepted on an ongoing basis.

Send articles to: Robbie Townsley, Child Care Services, 600 A Street, Davis, CA 95616.

For more information call Child Care Services at (530) 757-5695 or (800) 723-3001.

Community Events

Playgroup Orientation



Are you looking for new playmates for your young children? Would you like to meet weekly with other parents for support and companionship? If so, then come to a playgroup orientation! Child Care Services will be hosting playgroup orientations in Davis and Woodland. Learn how to set up a playgroup that will best meet your needs and join

other parents in forming a playgroup. While parents are talking, children can play with toys provided from the Toy Closet. No fee or pre-registration is required. For more information on playgroup orientations or if you would like to receive a list of current playgroups in Yolo County, please call (530) 757-5695.

In Davis

October 11, 10:00 am to 11:30 am
Chestnut Park Round House
1020 Chestnut Lane

In Woodland

October 16, 10:00 am to 11:00 am
Woodland Public Library Branch
Leake Conference Room
250 First Street

In West Sacramento

Date to be announced

A Stroll Through History in Woodland

The Woodland Stroll Through History will be held on Saturday, September 7th and includes many fun activities for the whole family. This is an annual event sponsored by the Woodland Neighbors for Historic Preservation and the Woodland Downtown Improvement Association. The event includes open tours of local vintage estates, guided walking tours of historic residential and commercial neighborhoods, free musical entertainment, an antique market, crafts and home improvement fair, a pancake breakfast, antique auto display, horse and carriages, period costumes and train rides. Bring the whole family for a fun filled look back through history. For information, log on to the Stroll Through History website at www.stroll.org.

Winters Children's Festival

The Annual Winters Children's Festival will be held on Saturday, October 5 from 10 am to 2 pm at Winters City Park (corner of 4th & Main). This event is sponsored by the Winters Parent Nursery School. The event will include games, magic shows, arts & crafts, a bounce house and many great prizes. For more information on cost, or to purchase raffle tickets contact Carolyn at (530) 795-4659.

Esparto/Capay Valley Health Fair

Rise Incorporated and Yolo County Children & Families Commission are sponsoring the third annual Health and Safety Fair on Sunday, October 20, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. at the Esparto Community Park.

The focus of the fair is to provide free health screenings and preventative information. Some highlights of the event will include: Dental and vision screenings, diabetes and blood pressure checks along with child car seat installation checks. Agencies participating will be the American Red Cross, and Child Care Services among others.

The whole family will enjoy this event which will also include free raffles, face painting, fun bounce house and booths with free community and local information. For more information contact Rise Incorporated at (530) 787-4110.

Harvest Festival

The City of Davis Parks & Community Services has the event to bring the entire family together for some fun. Join the Parks and Community Services Staff for the 5th Annual Harvest Festival on Sunday, October 20 from 4:00 – 6:30 p.m. at the Veterans' Memorial Center. Children and adults can come in costume. Festivities include: carnival games, pumpkin decorating, costume parade and contest, clowns and much more! Tickets will be available in advance at the Parks & Community Services office. For more information call (530) 757-5626.



Community Events

Fall Programs at the Library

During the fall Yolo County Branch Libraries will host a number of storytime and other events including story-telling. Programs are age appropriate and can accommodate children as young as 18 months. To access information on programs your library offers log on to Yolo County's website at www.yolocounty.org/org/library/branches.



Davis Branch

Toddler Story Time

Come and help your child explore the magic worlds to be discovered in books! Toddler Story Time is an interactive program of stories and games for parents and their children, ages 18 months to 3 years.

Parent participation is required.

Tuesdays at 10:15 and 11:00 a.m.:

September 17 - October 29 (no class on 10/15)

November 12 - December 17

Preschool Story Time

For kids aged 3 to 5

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. September 18 - October 23

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.: September 19 - October 24

Saturday, October 5th at 10:30 a.m.

For Ages 5 & Up

Saturday October 20 at 10:30 am

My Old Rag Doll

Story & Craft Agnes Johnson, Instructor

Your local library has reading programs and fun-filled activities for your children available at no cost. Some of the programs include Preschool Storytime, a program for school-age children and even a toddler program. Contact your local library branch for more information on any of these events.

Esparto: (530) 787-3426

West Sacramento: (916) 375-6465

Winters: (530) 795-4955

Woodland: (530) 662-2363

In Preparation for Halloween

Many cities will have Halloween events and activities for young children in Yolo County. As tradition has it, children will also go door to door to "trick or treat" in the evening hours. The American Academy of Pediatrics has a list of 13 Halloween safety tips for parents and children. You may access this information at www.aap.org.



13 Halloween Safety Tips for Little Ghosts & Goblins

"All Dressed Up..."

- Masks are not recommended because they can obstruct a child's vision. If a child wears makeup, parents should look for non-toxic, hypoallergenic kits.
- Costumes should be flame-retardant and fit properly. Avoid oversized shoes, high heels and long skirts or pants that could cause a child to fall.
- Children who will be trick-or-treating after dusk should have reflective tape on their costumes and carry flashlights.

"Carving a Niche..."

- Small children should never carve pumpkins. Children can draw a face with markers, then parents can do the cutting. Under parents' supervision, children ages 5 to 10 can carve with pumpkin cutters equipped with safety bars.
- Votive candles are safest for candlelit pumpkins.
- Lighted pumpkins should be placed on a sturdy table, away from curtains and other flammable objects and should never be left unattended.

"Sweet Treats..."

- Children shouldn't snack while they're trick-or-treating. Parents should check treats at home.
- Watch for signs of tampering, such as small pinholes in wrappers and torn or loose packages.
- Parents of young children should get rid of choking hazards such as gum, peanuts, hard candies or small toys.

"Home Safe Home..."

- To keep their home safe for visiting trick-or-treaters, parents should remove anything a child could trip over such as garden hoses, toys, bikes and lawn decorations.
- Parents should check outdoor lights and replace burned-out bulbs.
- Wet leaves should be swept from sidewalks and steps.
- Remember that Halloween is for children of all ages... so get involved with your little ghost or goblin!



Community Events



In Remembrance of September 11

Fire Stations

Ceremonies will take place at all three Davis fire stations beginning at 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 11. Fire departments all across the country will simultaneously salute fallen firefighters, law enforcement officers and citizens.

The events will be coordinated to occur at the exact moment the World Trade Center events occurred. Ceremonies will be marked by two series of bell chimes, one for each of the towers whose collapse took so many lives at 10:05 a.m. EDT (7:05 a.m. our time) and 10:28 a.m. EDT (7:28 a.m. our time) respectively. The names of the 343 New York fire fighters who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 will be acknowledged.

Fire station locations:

- Fire Station 31 (Downtown Headquarters)
530 Fifth Street (corner of Fifth & E Sts.)
- Fire Station 32 (West Davis)
1350 Arlington Boulevard
(Arlington Blvd. just east of Lake Blvd.)
- Fire Station 33 (South Davis)
425 Mace Boulevard
(Mace Blvd. just south of Chiles Rd.)

The public is invited to attend. For more information about the fire station ceremonies, please call the City of Davis Fire Department at 757-5684.

Davis Senior Center

Day of Remembrance activities are scheduled as part of the AARP monthly potluck. The program begins at 11:30 a.m. and will include a talk by Reverend Jim Kitchens and a special flag ceremony presented by members of the Tierra del Oro Girl Scout Council. Members of the Davis Police Department will be recognized as guests of honor. The potluck is open to anyone who brings a dish or makes a \$5.00 donation to AARP. Participants are encouraged to wear red, white & blue.

The Davis Senior Center is located at 646 A Street, at the corner of 7th and A Streets. Call 757-5696 for more information.

Central Park

Day of Remembrance activities will take place in the evening at Central Park, Fourth and C Streets in downtown Davis. A portion of the steel structure from the World Trade Center will also be on display for the public from 5:00 until 8:30 p.m. The schedule of activities includes:

- 5:30 p.m.** *City Council members plant a peace rose in the rose garden.*
- 6:00 p.m.** *Remarks by the Mayor on behalf of community leaders*
- 6:20 p.m.** *Music*
- 6:59 p.m.** *Moment of silence*
- 7:00 p.m.** *Tolling of bells*
- 7:00 p.m.** *Music*
- 8:00 p.m.** *Candlelight vigil.*
The public is encouraged to bring their own candles. A limited number of candles will be available to the public for free at Central Park.
- 8:30 p.m.** *End of activities in Central Park.*

The Davis Farmers Market

The Davis Farmers Market will be open from 4:30 until 8:30 p.m. in Central Park on September 11.

Davis Community Church

Davis Community Church will conduct an interfaith service at 7:10 p.m. entitled "Service of Remembrance and Prayers for Peace". The church is located directly across from Central Park at 4th and C Streets,

The Davis City Council

The Davis City Council will postpone the start of its meeting that evening until 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Community Chambers at 23 Russell Boulevard.

For more information about city activities on September 11, call Randii MacNear at 756-1695 or Bob Bowen at 757-5691.

Agency Spotlight

Alta California Regional Center Yolo County Branch

Mission

It is the mission of Alta California Regional Center to assist persons with developmental disabilities, including infants at risk and their families by providing and securing those services and supports necessary to maximize opportunities and choices. The principal test of the success of the Alta California Regional Center is the extent to which it enhances the quality of individual and family life and improves the consumer's and the family's satisfaction with the services received from or through the Regional Center.

History

The regional center system was established to provide coordinated planning for lifetime community care for people with developmental disabilities as a viable alternative to Developmental Center placement. The goal of regional center services is to enhance and maximize the functioning of each person with a developmental disability to avoid the development of secondary disabilities, and to reduce the incidence of developmental disabilities through a vigorous program of identification, education, and prevention.

The Alta California Regional Center utilizes the philosophy of "supported life" to accomplish these goals. Regional centers were established through state legislation sponsored primarily by Assemblyman Frank Lanterman.

In 1969, AB 225 (Lanterman Mental Retardation Services Act) established a statewide system of regional centers based upon the pilot projects. In 1974, the additional legislation (AB 846-Lanterman) went into effect which expanded the clientele served by the regional centers to include persons with cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, and other significantly handicapping conditions found to be closely related to mental retardation. It has been estimated that 5% of the population in California has a significant developmental disability. Regional Centers currently serve approximately 140,000 people. Alta California Regional Center currently serves the residents of Alpine, Colusa, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties.

Services

The twenty-one regional centers within the State of California provide a coordinated system for diagnosing individuals suspected of or having a developmental disability and helping people with these disabilities to make use of all essential public and private services to meet their special needs (medical and dental, educational, recreational, vocational, social and emotional). Alta California Regional Center also known as ACRC provides lifelong case management services for persons with disabilities and their families. Services Coordinators assist clients with services that may include: diagnostic evaluation with staff physician or psychologist, information, counseling for families

es related to having a child with a developmental disability, advocate for and assist family or client in obtaining community services and quality programs, referral to other agencies to meet family or individual needs (e.g., seek financial assistance, locate caregiver), arrange for some services to be purchased for client (e.g., respite care, nutritional supplements, adult day programs, training to live independently)

What support does Alta provide?

- Education about developmental disabilities
- Community resource development
- Consultation to agencies serving individuals with developmental disabilities
- Continuous 24-hour out-of-home care, planning, placement, and follow-up
- Counseling support/referral
- Early intervention services for at risk infants and their families
- Expert testimony for regional center consumers appearing before the courts
- Genetic counseling referral
- Individual Program Planning (IPP)
- Information and referral
- Early Autism Treatment
- Prenatal diagnosis
- Purchasing necessary services
- Service Coordination (case management)

Eligibility

Developmental disability: A substantially handicapping disability which originates before age 18, and which is attributed to mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or conditions requiring treatment similar to mental retardation.

Fees

No fee with one exception: A parental fee for children under 18 to be placed in a care home--sliding scale.

Alta Regional Contact Information

(530)666-3391 or (916)978-6400 for emergencies
Located at 250 West Main Street, #100 in Woodland.

State Budget Crisis Affects Agency's Services

For information on Alta California Regional Center and the effects of California's budget crisis on their services log on to www.altaregional.org/data/budget%20impasse/budget%20impasse.htm

You may also want to read the Sacramento Bee article titled "Disabled Kids May Feel Budget Pinch" by John Hill

Article Excerpt

"California's 21 regional centers, overseeing care for 170,000 people with developmental disabilities such as mental retardation, could run out of money by mid-September in the absence of a state budget"

www.sacbee.com/content/politics/story/4055133p-5080516c.html

Resource Library News

New Library Materials Available

Child Care Services' Resource Library has grown. We have added books and videos that are can be checked out for your convenience. In this issue of Small Talk we will list the new videos our library has available for your use. The Resource Library is located at 600 A Street in Davis. For more information on membership and book/video availability contact Letti Hardin at (530) 757-5695 or (800) 723-3001.

New Videos

Breast Feeding

- 14 Steps to Better Breastfeeding

Child Birth

- Giving Birth: Challenges & Choices
- Hospital to Home
- Special Delivery

Child Development

- Baby to Be (English)
- Baby to Be (Spanish)
- Newborn Basics
- The First Years Last Forever
- The Parenting Puzzle: The Middle Years # 1
- The Parenting Puzzle: The Middle Years # 2
- The Parenting Puzzle: The Middle Years # 3

Communication

- How to Talk to Your Kids About Really Important Things

Discipline

- 123 Magic
- Discipline

Divorce

- Divorce: A Survival Guide for Kids

Gender Specific Parenting

- Exercise With Daddy & Me
- New Fathers, New Lives

Health & Safety

- CA Poison Control System: Making the Right Call
- Childproof: Home Safety Checklist
- Healthy Habits - Healthy Children
- Your Healthy Baby
- Safe From the Start

Loss

- Healing Through Loss

Nutrition

- What's Eating You? A Guide to Sensible Dieting

Parent Resource

- The Reliable Babysitter
- Active Parenting Now
- Ready to Learn
- How Children Learn--And Why some don't

Video's in Spanish

- Cuidado Infantil De Calidad
- Empieza Ya! Start Now!
- CA Poison Control System: A Quien Llamar
- La Disciplina
- Listos Para Aprender
- Los Primeros Años Duran Por Vida
- Seguridad Desde El Principio
- Un Bebé Saludable



Toy Closet

Borrow toys instead of buying them! City of Davis Child Care Services also has a Toy Closet. Parents and child care providers are encouraged to visit and borrow toys. The Toy Closet is located at 600 A Street in Davis. An annual membership fee of \$10 covers membership to both the Toy Closet and the resource library. For more information call Letti at (530) 757-5695 or (916) 723-3001.



Especially for Parents

In this and the next few issues of *Small Talk*, we will briefly summarize several of the well-known philosophies in the early childhood field such as: Montessori, Reggio, Piaget and Waldorf. We begin with Maria Montessori's Approach to child care.

History

The Montessori Approach was developed by Dr. Maria Montessori (1870-1952), the first woman to practice medicine in Italy. She became interested in children's development as a result of working with children and came to realize children construct their personalities as they interact with their environment. Her background in the fields of biology, psychiatry and anthropology assisted in her development of the Montessori Approach. She studied various cultures throughout the world and became aware of the universality of human development. She opened the first Casa dei Bambini (Children's House) in 1907 for children between the ages of 3 and 6 years old.

The Montessori Approach is known and practiced worldwide. There are two branches to this approach, the Association of Montessori Internationale (AMI) founded by Maria Montessori and the American Montessori Society (AMS) founded by Nancy Rambush. Currently, both branches of the Montessori approach are practiced successfully in the United States. Both, AMI and AMS support the use of Montessori materials which are "self correcting," and can only be used by a child in one way which avoids the possibility of the child learning the wrong way to use them. The aim of Montessori education is to foster competent, responsible, adaptive citizens who are lifelong learners and problem solvers.

Main Components

- **Social**
The link between family and school is important.
- **Multi-age Classroom**
Most Montessori classrooms have multiple age groups and are intended to give children more opportunity to learn from each other.
- **Children best learn by doing**
Montessori advocated that children learn best by doing. Teachers demonstrate the use of learning materials to children. Children are then allowed practice independently on the materials they had a lesson about (usually on a mat that designates their space).

Curriculum

- **Sensory learning**
Children learn more by the use of their senses; touch, smell, sight, taste and exploring versus listening alone.
- **Child's work is highly valued**
- **Instructive classroom materials**
Materials are self-correcting and involve sensory experience. They were designed by Maria Montessori to help children develop organization. They are aesthetically pleasing, yet sturdy.

Environment

"Montessori classrooms provide a prepared environment where children are free to respond to their natural tendency to work. The children's innate passion for learning is encouraged by giving them opportunities to engage in spontaneous, purposeful activities with the guidance of a trained adult. Through their work, the children develop concentration and joyful self-discipline. Within a framework of order, the children progress at their own pace and rhythm, according to their individual capabilities."

(AMI)

- Environment should be prepared to match the child to learning material.
- Homelike environment to teach practical life issues and self-helping skills (i.e. handwashing) and be comfortable for children (i.e. child-sized chairs & accessible materials.)
- Children are provided with their own workspace as well as a place to keep their belongings.
- Montessori classrooms are designed for a three year age mix which is believed to enhance both, individual and social development.

Montessori from birth to adulthood

Maria Montessori believed that the transformation of children from birth to adulthood occurs through a series of developmental planes. Montessori practice adapts to embrace the child's changing characteristics and interests.

- **Ages 0 – 6** At this stage, children are sensorial explorers, constructing their intellects by absorbing every aspect of their environment, their language and their culture.
- **Ages 6 – 12** Children become conceptual explorers and develop their powers of abstraction and imagination. They also apply their knowledge to discover and expand their worlds.
- **Ages 12 – 18** At this stage they become specialized explorers, seeking a niche from which to contribute to universal dialogue.

Program Uniqueness

The Montessori environment has been prepared with "self-correcting" materials for work not play. It is intended to support the child in an environment where errors are controlled by self-correcting materials, versus having an adult correct the child.

Finding A Montessori Program

To assist in determining whether a program is a true Montessori program, you can begin by asking whether the teachers are AMI or AMS credentialed.

Resources

International Montessori Association at www.montessori-ami.org
American Montessori Society at www.amshq.org.
Reading: *Montessori Today*, *Montessori: A Modern Approach from Birth to Adulthood* and *Montessori in the Classroom* all written by Paula Polk Lillard.

Health & Safety News

Community Resources

FEDERAL FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

Eligibility is based on income.

Last Wednesday of the month, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Senior Center, 646 A Street, Davis, (530) 757-5696

Last Friday of month:

Winters Community Center, 12:00 noon-1:30 p.m.

Yolo Housing Community Center, 10:45-11:30 a.m.

Call (530) 758-6821 for information.

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

Immunizations given by Yolo County Health Dept.

Winters, Public Library, 1st Wednesdays, 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Woodland, 10 Cottonwood, Mondays, 2:00-4:00 p.m. & Fridays, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

West Sacramento, 500 B Jefferson Blvd., Ste. 170, Tuesdays, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Call (530) 666-8645 (Woodland, Winters) or

(916) 375-6380 (West Sacramento) for information.

WELL AND SICK CARE CLINICS

For Women's Care & general medical information call:

Davis Community Clinic, 2040 Sutter Place, Call (530) 758-2060.

Peterson Clinic, 8 N. Cottonwood, Woodland, Call (530) 666-8960.

Salud Clinic, 500B Jefferson Blvd. #180, West Sacramento, call (916) 375-6400.

YOLO COUNTY CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES

Child Health & Disability Prevention Program

Call for information on how to receive free health check-ups for children 0 to 20 years of age on MediCal and for low-to-medium income children through 19 years of age. You may also call for referrals to local physicians and dentists. For more information about this services or to learn more about health coverage programs for children, Call (530) 666-8249.

CALIFORNIA CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Case management and financial assistance for children through 20 years of age with serious or chronic medical conditions. Call (530) 402-2800 for information.

YOLO COUNTY WIC PROGRAM

Nutrition program for women, infants & children.

Clinics in Davis, West Sacramento, Winters & Woodland.

Phone hours 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.,

M-F: (530) 666-8445 (Woodland),

(916) 375-6390 (West Sacramento)

Back to School Safety

Compiled from the American Academy of Pediatrics website, www.aap.org



LEARNING AND HOMEWORK TIPS

- Children learn better when they are not distracted by hunger. Encourage your child to eat a nutritious breakfast.
- Provide a positive homework atmosphere for your child that is free of clutter and distractions, including television.
- Show your child you are interested in her work. Re-explain assignments if necessary, and check to see that homework is completed.
- Having trouble fitting homework into your child's schedule? You may need to cut back on his activities, or see that after-school care includes supervised homework time.

If your child is struggling with a particular subject, and you aren't able to help her yourself, a tutor can be a good solution. Talk it over with your child's teacher first.

BACKPACKS

- Remind children to carry the minimum load, and pack heavier items first, so they are closest to the back.
- When picking up a pack, bend with both knees and lift with the legs.
- Select smaller packs for smaller children.
- Look for packs with wide, heavily padded shoulder straps. The shoulder straps should be fastened so the pack hugs the center of the back. Waist and side straps may help keep the pack close up against the back.
- Always wear both straps so the weight is evenly divided.
- Use a wheeled backpack when possible.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

- Review the basic bus safety rules with your youngster:
Wait for the bus to stop before approaching it from the curb. Do not move around on the bus. Check to see that no other traffic is coming before crossing.

Tell your child not to bend down in front of the bus to tie shoes, pick up objects, etc., as the driver may not see him before starting to move.

Health & Safety News

Get Ready for the Coming Flu Season

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has published their recommendations for the Prevention and Control of Influenza for the 2002-03 flu season. These recommendations include the optimal timing for high risk groups and for those who are not at risk of complications from the flu. The special needs of young children for the flu vaccine have also been addressed. For information ask your health care provider or visit the Center for Disease Control website at www.cdc.gov/nip/flu.

When should you get your flu shot?

WHO?	WHEN?
<p>People at high risk of severe illness</p> <p>65 years old or older <i>*Even if you're in great health!</i></p> <p>Children 6 - 23 months old Children younger than 2 years old have one of the highest rates of hospitalizations from influenza.</p> <p>Adults and children with a chronic health condition Such as heart disease, diabetes, kidney disease, asthma, cancer, and HIV/AIDS</p> <p>Women who are more than 3 months pregnant during flu season (Typically Nov. to March)</p> <p>People who can give the flu to those at high risk</p> <p>Household contact or care-giver of a child under 2 years old (Infants younger than 6 months old can't take a flu shot, but they can get the flu.)</p> <p>Household contact or care-giver of someone at high risk</p> <p>Health care workers</p> <p>Your child's very first flu shot (Children 6 mo. - 8 yrs old getting the very first flu shot need a booster shot one month after the first dose.)</p>	<p>Oct. – Nov. <i>*December is not too late.</i></p>
<p>Healthy people 50 - 64 years old</p>	<p>November <i>*December is not too late.</i></p>
<p>Anyone who wants to prevent the flu</p>	<p>November <i>*December is not too late.</i></p>



SIDS Awareness Month

October is SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) Awareness Month. During the past few years, Yolo County's Fetal Infant Mortality Review Team (FIMR) has distributed information to the community and parents about reducing the risk of SIDS. Parents of newborns in Yolo County continue to receive a newborn T-shirt with the messages "This Side Up" (front) and "Blow Me A Kiss Not Smoke" (back), along with a packet of information about safe sleeping and smoke-free environments for babies.

According to Donna Nevraumont, Yolo County Public Health Nurse, "There has not been a SIDS death in Yolo County in the past few years." Mary Koopin-Williams, Yolo County's Coroner stated "During the last 2 years, the Coroner has not investigated any cases resulting in a SIDS death classification." Both, Nevraumont and Koopin-Williams attribute this to be a direct result of the continuous education efforts of the "Back to Sleep Campaign", and encourage parents to continue to follow the SIDS Campaign recommendations.

Reduce the Risk of SIDS

- **Babies sleep safest on their backs**
**Put baby to sleep on his/her back*
- **Create a smoke-free environment**
** Babies exposed to smoke have an increase risk of SIDS.*
- **Use safe bedding practices**
** Put baby to sleep on a firm mattress or surface.*
** Remove stuffed toys, bumper pads and pillows from the crib while baby sleeps.*
** Use blanket sleepers instead of blankets.*
- **Dress baby appropriately**
** Babies should be kept warm, not hot.*
** Dress baby with the same amount of clothing you are wearing.*

For more information on SIDS call the SIDS Campaign hotline at 1-800-505-CRIB or visit their website at www.nichd.nih.gov/sids/. You may also contact Public Health Nurse Donna Nevraumont at (916) 376-0226 for more information about Yolo County SIDS education.

Especially for Providers

Infant Walkers Banned from Child Care Setting Use

Community Care Licensing states that infant walkers, bouncers, jumpers and similar items cannot be used for children in care and should be kept inaccessible. Health & Safety Code Sections 1596.846(b) and (c) state:

- (b) A babywalker shall not be kept or used on the premises of a child care facility.
- (c) A "babywalker" means any article described in paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 1500.86 of Part 1500 of Title 16 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

In 1999 an estimated 8,800 children 15 months and younger were treated in hospital emergency rooms around the country from injuries related to infant walkers. Community Care Licensing has banned walkers in child care settings, however, there are still high occurrences of injuries and deaths. Most of the injuries resulted from falls, many involving stairs. Other injuries were from burns or head injuries related to tipping over. Although some believe that walkers keep infants happy and help them become mobile, there is no evidence that babies who use walkers learn to walk earlier. Also, if babies do not have the incentive to crawl or walk on their own, it may delay the onset of walking. For more information, contact the Health Line at (800) 333-3212 and/or Community Care Licensing at (916) 229-4530.

Sources: *Community Care Licensing*, www.cclid.ca.gov/
Academy of Pediatrics, www.medem.com
Consumer Product Safety Commission, www.cpsc.com

LIVESCAN INFORMATION

Community Care Licensing continues to encourage applicants and licensees to submit their fingerprint and Child Abuse Central Index check requests through Live Scan to prevent delays in processing background checks. Licensees must include their facility number on the "Request for Live Scan Service form" (LIC 9163). This number should be entered in the section that asks for "Your Number." You can find more information on Live Scan and the Request for Live Scan Service form (LIC9163) on our website at <http://www.cclid.ca.gov>. You can also order the LIC 9163 from the Department Warehouse, by mail or fax. You must include your name, phone number, delivery address, and the name and number of the form (in this case, Request for Live Scan Services, LIC 9163). Our Warehouse address is: CDSS Warehouse, P.O. Box 980788, West Sacramento, CA 95798-0788. The fax number is (916) 371-3518. If you have any questions regarding Live Scan, please contact Kelly Kramer, Caregiver Background Check Bureau, at (916) 274-6213.

New Notification of Parents Rights for Child Care Providers

There is a new "Notification of Parents Rights" form for family child care homes. Community Care Licensing has mailed the forms to all licensed providers. The new form is LIC 995A(ENG/SP) (8/02). Community Care Licensing requires providers to give parents a copy of this form and to post the form in a place that is visible to parents when they come to your home. Providers also need to make sure they collect and file a signed "Acknowledgement of Notification of Parents Rights" from parents. If you haven't received this form, you may call Community Care Licensing at (916) 229-4530 or visit www.cclid.ca.gov/ You may also call Child Care Services at (530) 757-5695 or (800) 723-3001 to request one.

"Family Child Care At Its Best" Begins

The series Family Child Care At Its Best will begin in September. This is a series of free workshops for family child care providers in Yolo County. The workshops give providers an insight into child development and assists them in finding practical solutions to problems that may arise in the field of child care. Providers also have an opportunity to meet other family child care providers. Please refer to the Classes, Workshops and Conferences section for a schedule of classes. Space is limited and you must register to attend. For more information or to register call Rossana at (530) 757-5695 or (800) 723-3001.

Health & Safety Reimbursements

Child Care Services will once again be able to reimburse providers for part of their health and safety training costs. These funds will be available to licensed family child care home and center staff members in early October. Funds will be available on a first come first served basis. If you are a licensed family child care provider or child care center staff member, you will receive an application by mail. If you have any questions please call Rossana Vigil at Child Care Services (530) 757-5695 or (800) 723-3001.

Free Family Child Care Provider Kits

If you have not called for your free provider kit, you may still do so. The kit has an assortment of toys, books and resources for licensed family child care providers. A Resource and Referral staff person can bring the kit to your home for your convenience. For more information or to ask for your kit contact Tamiko Eslick at (530) 757-5695 or (800) 723-3001 ext. 7356.

Campus Talk

CampusTalk—September/October 2002

Submitted by Barbara Ashby, Program Manager
UC Davis Child Care & Family Services
(530) 752-5415, www.hr.ucdavis.edu/childcare

Welcome!

Orientations & Resource Faires

The new academic year brings many opportunities to learn about the variety of programs and services available to assist campus families balance school, work and home.

Veterinary Medicine

Wednesday, September 4
Surge III lawn, 1-4pm

Graduate Students

Tuesday, September 17
location tba, 12-3:30pm

Reentry Students

Tuesday, September 24
TB 3, 9-11:30am

Transfer Students

Wednesday, September 25
The Quad, 12-2pm

Student Family Housing

Saturday, October 5
The Parks, 9am-12pm

Playgroup Orientations

Parents interested in meeting other campus families for the purpose of forming playgroups are invited to gather at Child Care & Family Services, TB 122, on Thursday October 10th. at 12 noon. Get connected, make new friends, and arrange a network for emergency/backup care among families with similar schedules and demands.

Subsidy Application Deadline Nears

Applications for the Child Care Subsidy Program for student parents are due on Wednesday, September 11 by 5:00 pm. Applications are available at City of Davis Child Care Services, 600 A Street between the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm or by calling (530) 757-5695. You must submit applications on time to be entered into the lottery for fall quarter enrollment. This program provides partial subsidies to full-time students to defray expenses at licensed child care programs in Davis and neighboring communities. Students' spouses must either be attending school or employed full-time. Students enrolled part time, and those with spouses who are either in school or employed part time, are encouraged to apply and may be served if funding allows. Eligibility is based on income and student status. Gross monthly family income must be at or below State guidelines. Those who submit applications late or do not receive a subsidy through the lottery are put on a waiting list for funds that may become available during the academic year.

Chancellor's Child Care Administrative Advisory Committee

Fall quarter meetings are scheduled for Thursday September 19, October 17, and November 21 at Engineering Unit II, Room 1003, 12-1pm. The committee, comprised of UC Davis students, staff, and faculty and representatives of the City of Davis Child Care Services, advises the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor (through the Associate Vice Chancellor—Human Resources) on programs and policies to meet the child care needs of campus affiliates; assesses and articulates child care concerns, services, and funding, including the review and evaluation of campus child care activities; and provides a campus forum for child care issues. Meetings are open and input welcome. For more information, contact Chair Monica Steinhart, mdsteinhart@ucdavis.edu.

Expert Sources on Children and the Arts

Members of the UC Davis faculty are available to speak on topics related to children and music, dance, art and literature. A listing of the faculty and their expertise is available from UC Davis News and Information website at www.news.ucdavis.edu/ Examples include "nurturing creativity through dance", "poetry for and by children", and "learning though hands-on art". If you need information on a topic not listed, please contact Susanne Rockwell at the UC Davis News Service, (530) 752-9841, sgrockwell@ucdavis.edu.

Campus Community Book Project

UC Davis is embarking on a pilot Campus Community Book Project for Fall 2002. This project seeks to promote a greater sense of community among students, staff, and faculty by creating a common experience (that of reading the same book) among campus members. The book, "The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down," by Anne Fadiman, explores the conflict between medical professionals in Merced, California and a Hmong family over the care of their daughter, Lia Lee. Lia is diagnosed with severe epilepsy and both her parents and her doctors wanted the best for Lia, but the lack of understanding between them resulted in tragedy.

May Ying Ly, interpreter of book and president of the Hmong Women's Heritage Association in Sacramento.

October 16, 2002

Time: 5-7 pm., Main Theater

Warren Roberts: "Medicinal Uses of Plants"

October 22, 2002

Time: 4pm., MU Room 164

Video: "Split Horn"

October 29, 2002

Time: Noon - 2pm., MU II

Classes, Workshops & Conferences

Yolo Connection's Parent Empowering Series

Yolo Connections offers free parenting classes for Yolo County Residents. Registration is required to attend classes. For more information and to register for a class contact Jada Chapman, Parent Education Coordinator at (530) 669-3285, or visit Yolo Connection's office located at 327 College Street, Suite 100 in Woodland.



In Woodland

Bonding & Rebuilding (0 to 5 yrs.)
Tuesdays, Sept. 24 to Nov. 19
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Active Parenting (5 to 12 yrs.)
Wednesdays, Sept. 25 to Nov. 20
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Active Parenting for Teens (12 to 18 yrs.)
Thursdays, Sept. 26 to Nov. 21
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Bonding & Rebuilding in Spanish (0 to 5 yrs.)
Wednesdays, Sept. 25 to Nov. 20
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

In West Sacramento

Bonding & Rebuilding (0 to 5 yrs.)
Wednesdays, Sept. 25 to Nov. 20
1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Bonding & Rebuilding (0 to 5 yrs.)
Wednesdays, Sept. 25 to Nov. 20
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

In Knights Landing

Active Parenting for Teens (12 to 18 yrs.)
Thursdays, Sept. 12 to Nov. 14
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

In Davis

Active Parenting for Teens (12 to 18 yrs.) will be offered. Please call Yolo Connections for more information.

Foster & Kinship Care Education Classes

Sponsored by Foster and Kinship Care Education Program (530) 661-5772. All classes are held at Woodland Community College in Bldg. 100 Conference Room unless otherwise noted.

The Love & Logic Parenting Approach

Mondays 9:00 am to Noon
September 9, 16, 23, & 30

Yolo County's Family Court Process

Friday 6:30 – 9:30 pm
September 13

High Risk Infant Care & Development

Thursdays, 6:30 – 9:30 pm
September 12, 19 & 26

Orientation Series for Prospective Yolo County Foster Parents

Defensive Parenting
6:30 – 9:30 pm
September 16, 18, 23 & 25

Parenting & Attachment Issues (SPANISH)

Thursdays, 6:30 – 9:30 pm
September 12, 19 & 26

Drugs & Their Impact on Families

Thursdays, 6:30 – 9:30 pm
October 3, 17 & 24

Facilitating Bonding & Attachment

Mondays 9:00 to Noon
October 7, 14, 21 & 28

Parenting the Hurt Adopted Child

All Day Friday & Saturday
October 11 & 12 (Elks Lodge, Sac.)

Guardianship & Relative Adoption

Friday 6:30 – 9:30 pm
October 25

Special Education Advocacy Training Seminar

Saturday, September 21, 9:00 to 4:00 pm

This Seminar is particularly designed for adoptive and foster parents, along with professionals who live and work with special needs children. Topics covered will include an overview of agencies. Programs and available services, the Alta Regional Center system, the Lanterman Act, Special Education and advocacy and negotiation skills for adoptive and foster parents. Registration is required. For more information call (530) 661-5772.

Classes, Workshops & Conferences

For Providers or Providers in Process

Child Care Services in conjunction with UCD Center for Human Services are sponsoring the Family Child Care At Its Best Series in both English and Spanish. All licensed family child care providers are invited to attend the classes. The classes are free of cost and give providers practical solutions to issues that arise in family child care. This series also allows you to meet and network with other child care providers. For more information or to register for the classes call Rossana at Child Care Services (530) 757-5695 or (800) 723-3001.

In English

Veteran's Memorial Center, 203 E. 14th Street in Davis

Making the Connection w/ Infants & Toddlers

September 21

8:30am – 12:30pm

Club Room

Managing Difficult Behavior

October 12

8:30am – 12:30pm

Club Room

Serving Children w/ Special Needs

November 2

8:30am – 4:00 pm

MPR

Partnering w/ Parents

November 23

8:30am – 4:00 pm

Club Room

Clases en Español

Davis Senior Center, 646 A Street en Davis

Conectándose con Bebés e Infantes

Septiembre 14

8:30am – 12:30pm

MPR

Manejando un Comportamiento Difícil

Octubre 5

8:30am – 12:30pm

Activity Room

Sirviendo Niños con Necesidades Especiales

Noviembre 16

8:30am – 4:00 pm

Activity Room

Trabajando en Colaboración con Padres

Diciembre 7

8:30am – 4:00 pm

Activity Room

***Providers in process must have attended a licensing orientation in order to attend these training opportunities.**

Continue the Path of Early Childhood Education

Starting in October, the Resource and Referral will offer a series of child development classes aimed at **experienced** providers. Providers must have already completed Family Child Care At Its Best in order to attend. These classes are a part of our brand new CCIP training program. Participants will be eligible to obtain some college credit from Sacramento City College for attending classes. Participants will also receive financial help with: purchasing supplies and toys for their programs, attending workshops or conferences and much more! This series will be taught by Lynn Arner-Cross. For more information, contact Rossana or Tamiko at Child Care Services at (530) 757-5695 or (800) 723-3001.

What are babies thinking? “How Babies Learn and Develop”

Saturday, October 19, 9am to 12pm

Discussion Session

Tuesday, October 22, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Gaa gaa, goo goo, what does it mean?

“Communicating with Infants and Toddlers”

Saturday, November 2, 9am to 12pm

Discussion Session

Tuesday, November 5, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

How to work with children who march to a different beat! “Different Is Normal: Valuing Diversity In Children”

Saturday, November 16, 9am to 12pm

Discussion Session

Tuesday, November 19, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

NO! I WANT IT!! IT'S MINE!!! “Dealing with Difficult Behaviors”

Saturday, December 7, 9am to 12pm

Discussion Session

Tuesday, December 10, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Please Note: These classes will also have a voluntary discussion session on the Tuesday following the class, dates, times and locations TBA.



Legislative Update

The following are excerpts from *On The Capitol Doorstep*, a monthly report on public policy issues affecting California's young children. For more information on legislative updates call (916) 442-5431.

New Legislation

SB 543 Scott Child Care Accountability

This bill would separate the family support costs from administrative costs for alternative payment programs. It would require the Dept. of Soc. Services to study the extent of the misuse of funds under the alternative payment program system in consultation with the Dept. of Education. A stakeholder group including the California Alternative Payment Program Association, the County Welfare Directors Association, the Child Care Law Center, and representatives of recipients and providers would advise the study. (Replaces SB 1596) Sponsor: California Alternative Payment Program Association (916) 843-8775 Last Amended: 8/15/02 Consultant: Arwen Chenery (916) 445-5976 Status: Assembly Human Services 8/19

SB 1724 Speier Child Care Tax Credit

This bill would conform the state child care tax credit to the federal credit (which was amended last year). Because the federal credit was increased, the bill would make the state credit a smaller percentage of the federal credit in order to maintain the current cost of the credit to the state. Depending on families' income and expenses, they may receive smaller or larger credits than they had previously. Last amended 7/2/02. Consultant: Robert Herrell (916) 445-0503. Status: Assembly Floor

Active Legislation

AB 444 Budget Committee Omnibus Human Services Trailer Bill

This bill would require site visits to licensed school-age child care centers once every 3 years (instead of annually) and as often as necessary to ensure compliance with licensing regulations. It would require CalWORKs applicants and recipients to be given a written notice of the availability of subsidized child care. The bill would prohibit the payment of CalWORKs Stage 1 child care more than 30 days prior to the initial request of the parent. Contains other provisions. Urgency Measure. Last amended: 6/29/02 Consultant: Christian Griffith (916) 319-2099 Status: Assembly Concurrence

AB 634 Wesson Mandatory Kindergarten

This bill would lower the age of compulsory school attendance from 6 to 5 years, beginning July 1, 2003, requiring children to attend kindergarten. The bill would require school districts to grant waivers to 5 year olds upon request. Sponsor: Dept. of Education (916) 657 -2280. Last amended: 8/7/02: Consultant: Greg Campbell (916) 319-2047 Status: Senate Appropriations Suspense

AB 1818 Education Committee Omnibus Education Bill

This bill would make references to children with exceptional needs in the Child Care and Development Act consistent. It would eliminate reference to center-based Alternative Child Care programs. The bill would delete language requiring geographic equity in the distribution of funds for extended day programs. It would define an expectant parent for the purposes of the Cal-SAFE program as a pregnant female or a male who voluntarily identifies himself as the parent of an unborn child. Contains other provisions. Urgency Measure. Sponsor: Dept. of Education (916) 657-2280. Last amended: 8/12/02. This amendment would delete provisions related to child care and development (contained in AB2311). It would continue to define an expectant parent for the Cal-SAGE program as a pregnant female or a voluntarily identified male parent. Consultant: Mavonne Garrity (916) 319-2087. Hearing: Senate Appropriations 8/19

AB 1867 Vargas Smoking Near Tot Lots

This bill would prohibit smoking or disposing of tobacco-related waste within 25 feet of a playground or tot lot sandbox area. It would increase the fine for violation of these provisions from \$100 to \$250. Last Amended: 6/11/02 Consultant: Ermelinda Ruiz (916) 319-2079 Status: Senate Health & Human Services

AB 2024 Nakano After School: Nutrition Education

This bill would allow Before and After School Learning and Safe Neighborhood Partnership programs to include nutrition education and physical education as part of the educational enrichment component. Last Amended: 8/5/02. Consultant: Lawrence Cooper (916) 319-2053. Status: Assembly Concurrence

AB 2311 Chu Local Planning Council Revisions

This bill would require the needs assessment by local child care planning councils to include information as specified by the Department of Education. subject to funding, It would require Local Planning Councils to design centralized eligibility lists. The bill would make references to children with exceptional needs in the Child Care and Development Act consistent. It would eliminate reference to center-based Alternative Child Care Programs. The bill would delete language requiring geographic equity in the distributions of funds for extended day programs. Sponsor: Department of Education (916) 651-6998 Amended 8/14/02: This amendment would require local child care planning councils to design a system to consolidate local child care waiting lists if a centralized eligibility list is not already in existence. Consultant: Angela Pan (916) 319-2049 Status: Senate Floor

Legislative Update

AB 2324 Diaz After School: Hours of Operation

This bill would change the requirement for before and after School Learning and Safe Neighborhood Partnership Programs to operate at least 3 hours a day until 6:00 pm. Instead, it would require that programs at elementary schools operate for at least 15 hours a week and programs at middle or junior high schools for at least 12 hours a week. Amended 8/12/02: This amendment would delete provisions changing the hours of operation and instead allow the Department of Education to grant exceptions to the requirement to operate until 6:00 p.m. based upon the unique needs of that community or school. Consultant: Lizelda Lopez (916) 319-2023 Status: Assembly Concurrence

AB 2470 Jackson Children's Hearsay Evidence

This bill would allow out-of-court statements by a minor under the age of 12 in an administrative hearing to suspend, revoke or deny a license for a child care facility unless a valid objection is made to the evidence. An objection would be required to show that the statement is unreliable due to fraud, deceit or undue influence.. Sponsor: Dept. of Social Services (916) 657-2623. Amended: 8/13/02 *This amendment would not allow out-of court statements to the sole basis for a finding of fact unless the adjudicator finds that the circumstances of the statement indicate sufficient reliability.* Consultant: Janice Rocco (916) 319-2035. Hearing: Senate Floor

AB 2741 Chan School Readiness and Health Council

This bill would establish, until June 30, 2004, the children's School Readiness and Health Council within the Health and Human Services Agency. It would require the council to promote coordination of the programs that address children's school readiness and health. The bill would require the council to study the coordination of these programs. It would require the council to establish an advisory committee on school readiness to examine how better to assess health barriers to student achievement. Last amended 8/5/02 Consultant: Nancy Hatamiya (916) 319-2016. Status: Senate Appropriations Suspense.

AB 2874 Flores Unlicensed Family Child Care

This bill would limit an unlicensed family child care provider to caring for no more than 6 state-subsidized children (from one family other than their own), while continuing to allow any number of unsubsidized children to be served. Last Amended: 6/28/02 Consultant: Mercedes Flores (916) 319-2030 Status: Senate Floor

SJR 42 Escutia

Child Care & Development Block Grant

This bill would urge the United States Congress to reauthorize and increase funding for the Child Care & Development Block Grant. Introduced: 4/11/02 Consultant: Carrie Marovich (916) 445-3090 Status: Chapter R-109.

AB 2954 Simitian General Plans: Child Care Facilities

This bill would, beginning January 1, 2004, require cities and counties to include planning for the distribution of child care centers upon the adoption or revision of a general plan. Last Amended: 6/25/02 Consultant: Kristina Loquist (916) 319-2021 Status: Senate Appropriations Suspense

AB 3049 Health Committee

Drop-in Centers: Immunizations

This bill would exempt child care centers that do not provide regular care for any child from the requirement to obtain proof of immunizations. Contains other provision. Last amended: 6/12/02. Consultant: Scott Bain (916) 319-2097. Status: Senate Floor

SB 390 Escutia

Child Care and Development Master Plan

This bill would require the Department of Education to develop a California Child Care and Development Master Plan by January 1, 2003 and update it every 5 years. It would require public input as part of the process. **Sponsors:** California Child Care Resource and Referral Network (415) 882-0234, Child Care Law Center (415) 495-5498 Last Amended: 7/16/01 Consultant: Carrie Marovich (916) 445-3090 Status: Senate Appropriations Suspense

SB 1335 Dunn

Criminal Record Exemptions: Disclosure

This bill would no longer require a criminal background check exemption for child care workers or providers if their misdemeanor conviction occurred 5 years ago or more. It would allow the Department of Social Services to require applicants with 3 or more misdemeanor convictions to apply for an exemption. It will require applicants with certain misdemeanor convictions to apply for an exemption. It would require a prospective child care workers or providers obtaining a criminal background check to agree to disclosure of criminal convictions for which they were granted an exemption and summaries of the underlying incidents to a parent or guardian of a child. It would require the Department of Social Services to disclose that information upon the request of a parent or guardian of a child that is or may be served in the child care facility. Licensees could not be required to disclose information about an exempted individual. Urgency Measure. Sponsor: Governor Gray Davis (916) 445-5831 Amended: 8/5/02: This amendment would allow an exempted worker or provider to have a summary of evidence of rehabilitation to be disclosed along with information on their criminal conviction. Consultant: Elena Lopez Guzman (916) 445-5831 Status: Senate Appropriations Suspense