

Child Development Corps News

Are you interested in joining the Child Development Corps AA Degree Program? The Corps AA Degree Program is designed to help early childhood educators earn an Associated Arts degree in Early Childhood Education. Even if you have participated in the other Corps programs, you will be able to join this program as a first time applicant.

The Eligibility Requirements are as follows:

- You currently work at least 15 hours per week with children birth to pre-kindergarten or in an eligible AB212 school-aged program in Alameda County
- You have worked with the same program for at least 9 months when you enroll in the Corps AA Degree Program
- You have at least 6 ECE units and a valid Child Development Permit. If you have less than 6 ECE units, a permit is not required.
- You do **NOT** have an AA degree or higher in ECE or a related field
- Before applying to the Corps AA Degree Program you must complete the following enrollment requirements. If you have met any of the following requirements, you do not need to repeat them

The Enrollment Requirements are as follows:

- Enroll as a current student at Chabot College, Las Positas College, Merritt College or Ohlone College (you don't have to take classes yet)

- Take the Math and English assessments at the college unless you have completed the Math and English general education requirements for your AA Degree
- Meet with an academic counselor to develop a Student Education Plan. This plan includes specific courses needed to earn an AA Degree
- Meet with a Professional Development Coordinator (PDC) to develop an ECE Professional Development Plan
- Student Education Plan and ECE Professional Development plan must have been developed or updated within the last 24 months

After you have met all eligibility and enrollment requirements, complete the Corps AA Degree Program application. You may then make an appointment with the Professional Development Coordinator at your college to join the program. You could be eligible to receive a stipend ranging from \$ 650-\$2500.

Contact information for ECD Professional Development Coordinators are as follows:

Las Positas College– Jeanne Virgilio
(925) 424-1187

Chabot College- Edna Rodriggs
(510) 723-7431 or Anna Del Aguila
510-723-7284

Merritt College- Sandra Zehaye
(510) 436-2549

Ohlone College – Janice Fonteno (510)
979-7496



Exempt Provider Outreach and Training Project

Child Care Links welcomes Nicole Roman, Provider Services Specialist, to the Community Services team. Nicole will coordinate the Exempt Provider Outreach and Training Project, with some assistance from Donnamarie Fuller, Project Specialist. Please join Child Care Links in welcoming Nicole to this new and exciting project.

Play Groups are “up and running”!

Activities are scheduled twice a month in Child Care Links' Conference room in Pleasanton. The Play Group schedule will include a story time, a movement activity, a craft or skill building activity and a healthy snack. The development of socialization, language, cognitive and motor skills will be focused on during Play Group sessions. Exempt providers will be required to stay and participate with the child(ren). Parents and licensed providers desiring to participate in a similar activity are welcome to attend Family Read Night. Registration is required to participate.

Please Help Us Spread the Word!

In order to increase the quality of care for all children in all child care settings, Child Care Links is now offering training and play group activities for individuals providing license exempt care. Who provides license exempt care? Grandparents, nannies, babysitters, neighbors and friends, to name a few. Trainings will be advertised in the community and the Child Care Links News mailed out bi-monthly. If you know someone providing license exempt care, please let them know about our program. Similar to the Child Care Initiative Project (CCIP), license exempt participants will have the opportunity to earn incentives based on their participation in the program.

For more information or to register for play group activities and/or training or Family Read Night, please contact Donnamarie Fuller at (925) 249-3923.

Child Care Initiative Project (CCIP)

May Calendar

5/4: Family Read Night/**Spanish**, 6:30–7:30 pm, Hill N Dale (CAPE, Inc.) 4150 Dorman Road, Pleasanton. Contact: Donnamarie Fuller

5/4: Family Read Night/**English**, 6-7 pm. Contact: Donnamarie Fuller

5/9: ECE for All Information Night for Child Care Center Providers presented by Angie Garling from the Local Planning Council, 6-8 pm. Registration is required. Contact: Kelly Van Raden

5/16: Directors of the Valley (DOV) Meeting, 1:00-2:30 pm. For location and information, call Laura Reno at (925) 373-0865

5/16: Provider Recognition Event, 6-8 pm, Pleasanton Senior Center. Contact: Shauna Brown

5/18: ECE for All Information Night for Family Child Care Providers presented by Angie Garling from the Local Planning Council, 6-8pm. Registration is required. Contact: Kelly Van Raden

5/20: UC Davis – Learning through Relationships with Infants and Toddlers IIT, 9am-2:30pm. Academic Credit Available. Contact: Donnamarie Fuller

5/24: Child Passenger Safety Class and Car Seat Fitting Station— **cancelled** this month!

5/23: Valley Family Child Care Association Meeting (VFCCA), 6:30-9:00 pm. For meeting location and information, please call Meg Bell, (925) 449-5667

CCIP participants licensed in the 2005-2006 fiscal year can look forward to technical assistance and support, free training and support materials and post licensing reimbursement of specific licensing related fees. Licensing related fees include the cost of the Community Care Licensing orientation and licensing application, fingerprinting, T.B. test, First Aid/CPR/Infectious disease training for the participant and any other adult residents in the home. Currently, requests from newly licensed participants for reimbursement of licensing related fees are being processed at 100% of the requested amount. As the year comes closer to an end (June 30, 2006) reimbursements may only be made for partial costs as these reimbursements are processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

It is not too late to join. Currently, there are only 8 slots left for new provider participants so registration for these last slots will be conducted on a first-come, first-served basis. To register to participate, kindly contact Donnamarie Fuller at (925) 249-3923.

Several trainings are in the process of being scheduled/rescheduled including, “Now What, Developmentally Appropriate Practices”, “Earthquake Preparedness”, “Biting”, file folder activities, basic training in Spanish and mentor training. Flyers will be mailed out as soon as training dates are confirmed.

As with all CCIP sponsored trainings, all family home day care providers are invited to attend, however, CCIP participants will have priority when registering. Parents are also welcome to attend these additional trainings. Please share flyers with the families you serve when you receive them.

IMPORTANT CALENDAR INFORMATION

Please note:

All training is held at Child Care Links (CCL) Conference Room, 1020 Serpentine Lane, Suite 104 in Pleasanton, **unless otherwise noted**. Registration is **required** for all CCL training & workshops.

Calendar contacts:

East County Office
(925) 417-8733

E-mail

events@childcarelinks.org (please write contact name in subject line).

Pru Bartlett, R & R Specialist, (925) 249-3935

Shauna Brown, Community Specialist, (925) 249-3925

Donnamarie Fuller, Project Specialist, (925) 249-3923

Kim Marshall, Inclusion Project Coordinator, (925) 249-3940

Kelly Van Raden, Career Advocate, (925) 249-3920

Save the Dates!

**Provider Recognition
Event**

May 16, 2006

Health & Safety Fair
June 24, 2006

Family Read Night

Family Read Night is a great opportunity to set aside the hectic over-scheduling of life and spend some time together as a family— no matter what age you are.

Child Care Links' Family Read Night program is offered in English and Spanish at the following sites.

In English:

May 4, 2006, 6-7 pm, Child Care Links' Conference Room, 1020 Serpentine Lane, #104, Pleasanton

June 1, 2006, 6-7 pm

Please call for location in Livermore

In Spanish:

Mayo (May) 4, 2006, 6:30 – 7:30 pm, Hill N Dale (CAPE, Inc.) 4150 Dorman Road, Pleasanton

Junio (June) 1, 2006, 6:30 – 7:30 pm, Leahy (CAPE, Inc. & LHA) Preschool Room, 3203 Leahy Way, Livermore

Please contact Donnamarie Fuller at (925) 249-3923 for more information. Registration for Family Read Night will be required as space and parking are limited.

From the Shelf... at the Fran Caulkins Memorial Resource Library

Simple Steps – Developmental Activities for Infants, Toddlers and Two-Year-Olds, by Karen Miller. A collection of age appropriate activities grouped by developmental stage supported, i.e., social, language, cognitive and physical. Instructions for each activity include materials, what to do, what to observe, how to extend the activity and emerging skills. Materials for most activities can be found at home or purchased at a dollar store.

Association Information

Valley Family Child Care Association

Mission: To provide education opportunities, support, networking, and fellowship for fellow licensed family child care providers. Informed and educated members provide a higher quality of child care.

President: Renee Luce, (925) 606-8298

Membership: Meg Bell, (925) 449-5667

Hospitality: Judy D'India, (925) 245-1816

Directors of the Valley (DOV)

Goals: Directors of the Valley or "DOV" meet to offer each other encouragement, to share concerns of interest with the group and to advocate for children, families, and the child care profession.

Co-Chair: Laura Reno (925) 373-0865

Co-Chair: Joan Hottinger, (925) 846-5455

June Calendar

6/1: Family Read Night/**Spanish**, 6:30–7:30 pm, Leahy (CAPE, Inc. & LHA) Preschool Room, 3203 Leahy Way, Livermore. Contact: Donnamarie Fuller

6/1: Family Read Night/**English**, 6-7 pm Please call for Livermore location. Contact: Donnamarie Fuller

6/13: UC Davis – Learning through Relationships with Infants and Toddlers **IIT**, 9 am-2:30 pm. Academic credit available. Contact: Donnamarie Fuller

6/10: ECC/First 5 Alameda County Family Child Care Fair, San Leandro. Contact: Shauna Brown

6/15: Information Night for Family Child Care Providers- National Accreditation, 6-8 pm. Registration required. Contact: Kelly Van Raden

6/20: Directors of the Valley (DOV) Meeting, 1-2:30 pm. For location and information, call Laura Reno at (925) 373-0865

6/24: Health & Safety Fair, 11-2 pm, Amador Park & Recreation Center, Pleasanton. Contact: Shauna Brown

6/27: Valley Family Child Care Association Meeting (VFCCA), 6-9 pm. For meeting location and information, please call Meg Bell, (925) 449-5667

Are you considering expanding to a Large Family Child Care?

The cities of Livermore, Dublin and Pleasanton require a conditional use permit (CUP) be obtained through your city Planning Department. There are fees and an approval process associated with this permit. For more information, technical assistance and guidance through the application process, please contact Shauna Brown at (925) 249-3925

Inclusion Project News

The 2005 Annual Report & Child Care Provider Rate Survey

R&R staff has been fielding many inquiries regarding our 2005 Annual Report and the rate survey of local child care providers. Child Care Links has changed the publication cycle of their annual report to the fiscal year, rather than the calendar year. The main reason for this change is to coincide with the publication of the county and state reports included in the California Child Care Portfolio. This change will allow Child Care Links to make available current data from the state down to the city and neighborhood level. The next annual report will be for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 and will be published and distributed in the Fall of 2006.

The rate survey will be published and distributed by early May. Due to technical problems with the Child Care Links database, the report was not able to be published in March. However, these issues have been resolved and the survey will be completed very soon.

Health & Safety Training Reimbursements

Reimbursement of health & safety training costs is available for family home providers, family home provider aides, license exempt providers and center based staff in the cities of Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol. Training must have occurred between July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006. Each eligible participant may receive up to \$65.00 for the completion of health and safety training (CPR, first aid, prevention of infectious disease, preventative health practices, and injury prevention). The recipient must pay at least \$5.00 of the cost of the training. Contact: Pru Bartlett.

March and April were busy months for the Inclusion Project with workshops, trainings and presentations happening. The most exciting part for me was my trip to San Diego for the Kids Included Together Second Annual National Conference on Inclusion. Kids Included Together (KIT) is a non-profit organization that was founded in San Diego in 1997. The goal of KIT is to enrich the lives of all who participate and to increase understanding and acceptance of disabilities as a natural part of life.

I attended this conference with an expectation to learn of new resources and ideas to share with the providers in the Tri Valley area. The conference exceeded my expectations. I plan to share the information that I received at the conference with family child care and center based providers in the near future as it is valuable and interesting. In the meantime, here are some quick tips I brought back from the conference.

Quick Tips

KIT recommends the following when working with people who have disabilities and special needs. These tips can help us be more "people friendly" and appreciate every individual that we have contact with on a daily basis, whether we are individuals with a disability or not.

1. Appreciate differences
2. Manage transitions
3. Make accommodations not exceptions
4. Build a relationship with families
5. Use person-first language
6. Respect confidentiality
7. Facilitate friendships
8. Be a good role model
9. Embrace structure
10. Contact your Inclusion Project Coordinator

With the knowledge that I have gained at the conference and that which I discover on a daily basis, I hope to assist you in building upon your own knowledge and skills in order to make your program more inclusive. As KIT suggests, let's all work to recognize the ABILITY in every child!

You may contact me, Kim Marshall, Inclusion Services Coordinator, at (925) 249-3940 for resources, technical assistance and support at your site.

