

Child Development Corps News

First 5 Welcomes Elizabeth Ford

First 5 Alameda County is happy to announce that on July 24, 2006, Elizabeth Ford joined its team as the Director of Early Care and Education (ECE). Elizabeth comes to us from the East Coast and most recently worked for Zero to Three. She is an experienced child development professional with a background in teaching, directing, mentoring, and program development. Elizabeth will oversee all aspects of First 5 ECE and is already getting acquainted in our early childhood community. Rory Darrah, the past Director, is working on special assignments for First 5 until her retirement on December 31, 2006. Please join us in welcoming Elizabeth.

Need Reimbursement for Foreign Language Translations?

If you have a transcript from a foreign county, you can use it to show eligibility for the Child Development Permit levels as well as for the Child Development Corps. The first step is to have it translated into English and into the American educational system. The foreign transcript must be evaluated by an approved agency and there is a large fee for this service. However, Child Care Links with funding from Every Child Counts

Save the Date: October 2, 2006 Child Care Links will be starting a bi-monthly support group for child care providers.

Ronald Mah, MA will be facilitating the groups and discussing social emotional needs of children. The group will be held at Child Care Links from 6:30-8pm. Call Kelly Van Raden, Career Advocate for more information 925-249-3920.



First 5 of Alameda County can reimburse you for the full cost of the translation.

For more information regarding how to get your foreign transcripts translated, evaluated and reimbursed please call Kelly Van Raden, Career Advocate at 925-249-3920.



Save the Date:

A Conference For Early Childhood Professionals:
Mind, Body, & Soul
Saturday, November 4, 2006
Las Positas College
"Taking Care of the Care-giver"

Series of workshops offered on a variety of topics which are current and relevant to early childhood professionals

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 Rupe Singh at (925) 249-3921.



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

September Calendar

9/5: Pre licensing orientation, Pleasanton conference room from 9:30am to noon. \$25 registration fee, no pre registration required. For more information contact Sara Gonzalez.

9/6: Growing, Learning and Caring Orientation for licensed exempt providers, Pleasanton Conference Room from 10-12 pm.

9/8: Play Groups for licensed exempt providers, Pleasanton Conference Room from 10-11:15 am.

9/9: Infants and Toddlers in Family Child Care Training Series. "The Big 5" Sensory Motor Development. 9 am-Noon at Child Care Links Conference Room. For more information about CCIP or to register to attend, please call Donnamarie Fuller at (925) 249-3923.

9/22: Play Groups for licensed exempt providers, Pleasanton Conference Room from 10-11:15 am.

9/29: Ooey Goey Lady will be at Child Care Links from 6:30pm - 9 pm, in the Conference Room. Please contact Kim Marshall at (925) 249-3940 to register.



Save the Date!

Child Care Links 30th Anniversary Celebration

Val Vista Park,
Pleasanton
October 14, 2006
10am-3pm

Now that summer is coming to an end, it may be a good time to reflect on your business. How is it going? Are you making a profit? Check out, Dollars and Sense: Planning for Profit in Your Child Care Business, by Janet Bush.

- Sharing Unpleasant Information with Parents
- Marketing Strategies
- Responsibilities of an Assertive Child Care Provider
- Your Child Care Business Plan

Topics covered include:

- A Child Care Provider Bill of Rights
- Contracts and Policies
- Eliminate Guilt
- Rates, Fees and Collections
- Communication Styles: Passive, Aggressive and Assertive
- An Effective Record-Keeping System
- Listening Skills
- Cash In, Cash Out – Where Do You Stand

Items available in the Fran Caulkins Memorial Resource Library may be borrowed for a period of up to 30 days at a time. Members may come into the library to borrow items or call (925) 249-3923 to arrange for delivery.



Family Read Night

Family Read Night will return this Fall thanks to funding from the cities of Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton. Sites in all 3 cities are being confirmed. Families who attended last year will receive a phone call informing them of the location, date and time of the first session being offered in their area. If you are interested in attending but did not participate last year, or have changed contact information since you last attended, kindly contact Donnamarie Fuller for session information at (925) 249-3923.

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).

Rupe Singh, Community Specialist,
(925) 249-3921

Sara Gonzalez, R & R Specialist,
(925) 249-3935

Megan Alsdorf, Training
Coordinator (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

Nicole Roman, Provider Services
Specialist (925) 249-3942

The Look Again: Infants and Toddlers in Family Child Care is a new training series focusing on children from birth through 3 years. Training in the series include:

Saturday, September 9th
"The Big 5" - Sensory Motor Development
9:00 a.m.—Noon
Child Care Links Conference Room

Saturday, October 28th
"Is it That Time Again?" - Daily Routines
9:00 a.m.—Noon
Child Care Links Conference Room

Saturday, November 18th
"Getting to Know Me" - Social/Emotional Development
9:00 a.m.—Noon
Child Care Links Conference Room

Saturday, December 9th
"Do It Again!" - Play and Learning
9:00 a.m.—Noon
Child Care Links Conference Room

The first training in the series is The "Big 5": Sensory Motor Development.

"Big 5" training topics will include:
"The Brain Gets Connected" Early Brain Development
"Learning About My World" Sensory Motor Development
"Work It" Movement Exploration

Be one of the first to experience this group-oriented, hands-on training. Participants will receive a Certification of Participation. One lucky participant will take home a new water table. Space is limited. Register now!

Tip Of The Month: Respect Their Choices

You don't have to like their mismatched shirt and shorts or love how a child has placed pictures in his room. However, it is important to respect those choices. Children reach out for independence at a young age, and parents can help to foster those decision-making skills by being supportive and even looking the other way on occasion. After all, it really is okay if a child goes to day-care with a striped green shirt and pink shorts.

By: Robin McClure for About.com

October Calendar

10/02: Social-Emotional Support Group for Child Care Providers.
6:30 –8 pm. Facilitator is Ronald Mah, MA, MFT. Please join us to learn more about social-emotional development of children and network with other providers regarding your professional experiences in early childhood education. Please call Kelly Van Raden to register to attend at 925-249-3920.

10/03: Pre licensing orientation, Pleasanton conference room from 9:30am to noon. \$25 registration fee, no pre registration required. For more information contact Sara Gonzalez. At (925) 417-8733

10/13: Play Groups for licensed exempt providers, Pleasanton Conference Room from 10-11:15 am.

10/14: Child Care Links 30th Anniversary Celebration Val Vista Park in Pleasanton 10am –3 pm

10/16 Child Development Permit Workshop will be held at Child Care Links from 6:30-8pm. This workshop will be an informational workshop on how to obtain your Child Development Permit. Registration Required. Please contact Kelly Van Raden, Career Advocate to register at 925-249-3920.

10/25: Growing, Learning and Career Orientation for licensed exempt providers, Pleasanton Conference Room from 10-12 pm.

10/28: Infants and Toddlers in Family Child Care Training Series. "Is It That Time Again?" Daily Routines. 9 am-Noon at Child Care Links Conference Room. For more information about CCIP or to register to attend, please call Donnamarie Fuller at (925) 249-3923.

10/28: Linda Brault-Children with Challenging Behaviors Workshop at the Hayward Senior Center. There will be no onsite registration. Please contact Kim Marshall at (925) 249-3940 to register or with any questions.

Building Trusting Relationships with Parents

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 the 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 is published and available. To download a copy, please visit our website at www.childcarelinks.org or contact Child Care Links at (925) 417-8733.

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, 2006 and June 30, 2007. 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: Rupe Singh at (925) 249-3921.

When working with children of all abilities and their families, it is important to keep that line of communication open and to establish their trust. This is particularly important when you are working with a child with a special need and their family. All parents are apprehensive when it comes to leaving their child alone with someone they have just met. That fear is heightened when their child has a special need. The parent is hoping that their child will be safe and nurtured like the other children and most importantly accepted. By building a trusting relationship with the family, you are alleviating some of the anxiety that a parent of a special needchild may have. Some strategies in building trusting relationships were developed by the University of Wisconsin-Extension are:

- Listen to the parent and/or the child
- Share some things you may have in common with the family
- Appreciate the strengths of each parent in your program
- Be genuine with your feelings
- Suspend judgment and maintain confidentiality
- Establish some rituals
- Acknowledge and respect differences
- Be honest
- Work on something together

- Make decisions collaboratively
- Carry through with what you say you are going to do
- Accomplish something together

Building a relationship with parents is important in running a successful child care program. When you welcome parents into your program and allow them to linger, work on projects together or share information pertinent to caring for their child, then you start to build that trust and that friendship. When the families are happy, the children are happy and it reflects of the type of program you run.

If you are interested in learning more strategies and tips on working well with families and developing trusting relationships, there is a great resource available. It is a book called Parent-FRIENDLY Early Learning Tips and Strategies for Working Well with Families, by Julie Powers. You may also feel free to contact Kim Marshall, Inclusion Services Coordinator either via phone at (925) 249-3940 or email at kimmarshall@childcarelinks.org.

