

CHILD CARE COMMUNIQUE

Vol. 26 No. 5



Linking families, child care professionals and the greater San Diego community.
Uniendo a las familias, a los profesionales de cuidado infantil y a la gran comunidad de San Diego.

Special Edition 2006
Edición Especial 2006

Childcare Resource Service: A Department of the YMCA of San Diego County. Funded by California Department of Education, Child Development Division.
Childcare Resource Service: Un departamento de YMCA del condado de San Diego. Patrocinado por el Departamento de Educacion de California, Division de Desarrollo Infantil.

Making a Difference for 25 Years



Ten years ago, our vision for the future was to provide top quality customer service to families and child care providers, as well as to continue to advocate for quality child care and adequate subsidized child care funding for all low income families. This vision continues. We continue to build upon the excellent foundation given to us by Jean Brunkow, the first executive director of Childcare Resource Service (CRS). Her emphasis on quality child care and help for families continues to permeate everything we do.

The Resource and Referral Department programs include infant/toddler capacity building, quality training programs for providers, child care referrals and consumer education for parents, and the CARES stipend program for child care workers. Resources for program development and educational materials are provided through the Resource and Toy Lending libraries and site visits from the Resources in Motion mobile toy van. With new funding this year, the R&R Department will create and support child care networks to provide enhanced child care referrals for active duty Marine and Navy personnel and children with disabilities.

Our largest department is Alternative Payment. They serve low income families who are in need of subsidy for child care. CRS has been involved with our sister organizations in San Diego County to train child care

providers to work with children with special needs. In addition, our Special Needs Respite Unit, works with the Regional Center to provide respite care to families with children with special needs. Our newest program is Teens in Motion, a program for high school students with special needs who want to participate in after school activities in an inclusive environment. HealthLine staff members visit child care and development programs in order to offer consultations and trainings to child care staff and parents on behavior and health issues that occur in child care settings. As we have moved into the 21st century, CRS has become more and more reliant on information technology to assure that we are serving families and providers successfully and efficiently.

CRS staff members are also actively involved in planning for Preschool for All in San Diego County. This initiative supports developmentally appropriate preschool programs that serve the young children of San Diego and their families.

At the state level, CRS staff members continue to advocate for increased funding for low income families and for training dollars for child care providers. Staff members are also represented on many statewide organizations and planning task forces that provide information to state legislators and Child Development Division staff.

We look forward to working with all of you in the future in order to improve the services that children, families, and child care providers receive. By doing this, we will truly improve our community.

Debbie Macdonald
Executive Director



YMCA Childcare Resource Service Then and Now

YEAR 1980

Childcare Resource Service...
a department of the
YMCA Human Development Center

Agency Focus:
Enhancing the quality of child care

Project Director: Jean Brunkow

Funding:
Funded through two contracts with the State
Department of Education

Two Units:
Resource and Referral
Vendor Payment Program (AP)

12 staff members

1 office (San Diego)

\$814,553 budget

**Main Office Equipment/
Information Systems:**
1 Typewriter, 10 telephones

1 main phone number

Fiscal Year July 1980 - June 1981

Child Care Referral Calls: 12,336

Total child care facilities served: 2,276

Cost of Child Care:
\$25 - \$120 per week full-time (all age groups)



**YMCA
Childcare
Resource
Service**

YEAR 2006

YMCA Childcare Resource Service...
a department of the YMCA of San Diego County

Agency Focus:
Supporting families and those who care for them

Executive Director: Debbie Macdonald

Funding
Funded through 22 major contracts with the State Department
of Education, County of San Diego, First 5, and other sources

Five Programs:

- Resource and Referral
- Alternative Payment/Centralized Eligibility List
- Special Needs Unit
- HealthLine
- Child Development Services

115 staff members,

198 Special Needs Unit Respite Providers

3 offices (San Diego, Vista, National City)

Plus R&R Child Care Consultant service
co-located at six CalWORKs offices to provide on-site child
care referrals using lap top computers.

\$30,000,000 budget

Information Systems:
CRS has over 75 servers, 150 computers and integrated
information systems in three locations.

3 main office phone numbers

4 toll free numbers:
Child Care Referral Line (800.481.2151)
Child Care HealthLine (800.908.8883)
Centralized Eligibility List (800.521.0560)
Military Child Care Project (800.441.9199)
Child Care Substitute Service (800.411.9199)

Fiscal Year July 2005- June 2006

Child Care Referral Line Calls:

22,000 plus 29,012 requests for other information and services

Total child care facilities served:

Licensed Centers: 956

Licensed Exempt Centers: 481

Licensed Family Child Care Homes: 3,868

Cost of Child Care:
\$45 - \$312 per week full-time(all age groups)

YMCA  **Childcare
Resource Service**

Note from the Editor:

YMCA Childcare Resource Service continues to strive to provide quality programs and services to the children and families of San Diego County. Throughout this Special Edition of the Child Care Communique we highlight both continuing and new programs in operation from 2005-2006. We also wish to acknowledge all of the letters of support we have received from our partners in the community, which are featured throughout the newsletter as "Making a Difference...for 25 Years."

Karen Shelby, Department Head, Resource and Referral Program

YMCA CRS Programs and Services Serving Parents

Child Care Subsidies

The Alternate Payment Program helps qualified families pay for all or part of their child care costs when funding is available. YMCA CRS administers the Centralized Eligibility List (CEL) for San Diego County. Child care subsidy programs such as Alternative Payment, CalWORKS, Head Start, State Preschools and Child Development Centers enroll families from the CEL. Families apply to CEL by calling Resource and Referral at 1.800.481.2151, CEL at 1.800.521.0560, or families can apply online at www.childcaresandiego.org.

Respite Care for Families

Through a contract with Regional Center, the Special Needs Unit (SNU) provides both In-Home and Out-Of-Home respite care for families with children with developmental disabilities. Families are referred by San Diego Regional Center. Contact SNU at 619.474.4707 ext. 1404.

Teens in Motion

Teens in Motion (TIM) is an after school hours program for teens with disabilities and other special needs. TIM is currently offered at Clairemont and Valhalla High school and supports working parents who have high school students with disabilities and other special needs. TIM enhances the development of teens and assists them with inclusion in after school activities on campus. Contact Teens in Motion at 619.474.4707 ext. 1404.

Helping Families Find Child Care

Free child care referrals are available by calling the child care referral line. Child Care Consultants will ask questions about the type of care and services needed before completing a customized search of the computerized referral database. Parents will be given a list of referrals, parent resource packet and information on how to check a provider's file with the licensing agency. Call 1.800.481.2151 or complete a referral request form online at www.ymcacr.org.

Helping Families Go from Welfare to Work

Child care consultants co-located at five regional welfare offices provide child care referrals, consultation and resource packets to help parents locate and choose quality, consistent child care so that they can successfully complete the training and education requirements for CalWORKS and move from welfare to work.

Specialized Referrals

Parents of children with disabilities and other special needs can receive enhanced referral services to locate child care programs with experience, education and training to provide care for a child with special needs in an inclusive environment. Technical assistance and support continues for both the parent and provider after the child is enrolled. Call the Inclusive Child Care Project at 619.521.3055 ext. 2325.

Military Child Care Project

Child Care in Your Neighborhood serves qualified U.S. Marine and U.S. Navy active duty personnel for a child care subsidy through military funding. Families receive enhanced child care referrals to a network of quality civilian programs that meet the high standards required of child care programs located on military installations. Referrals to subsidy programs for other branches of the military are available. Call CCYN at 1.800.441.9199.

Parent Outreach Project

The Parent Outreach project supports families on the Centralized Eligibility List (CEL) who are waiting for child care subsidies. A bilingual (English/Spanish) Parent Outreach Coordinator provides resource packets, and referrals to child care programs and community services to parents/guardians who are new to the CEL. The coordinator offers free outreach posters for community agencies and free choosing child care presentations for parents. Contact the Parent Outreach Coordinator at 619.521.3055 ext 2410.

YMCA CRS Programs and Services

Serving Child Care Providers

HealthLine

The Child Care HealthLine is a source of health and behavioral health information, resources and services for families and child care providers with children 0-5 years of age. Free services include telephone consultations, childhood nutrition, hearing assessments, behavioral intervention and assessment, and parent and provider workshops. Parents with a child enrolled in child care and child care providers within San Diego County, can call the HealthLine at 1.800.908.8883 to request services.

Health and Safety Training Grant

The Health and Safety grant provides vouchers to help pay the cost of completing the 15 hours of EMSA approved health and safety training required for child care program staff. Vouchers are issued to licensed and exempt family child care providers and child care center staff, and accepted by EMSA trainers contracted with YMCA CRS. Contact 760.726.9100 ext. 3350 for more information.

San Diego CARES

Child care providers can earn a stipend of \$750-\$2250 by continuing their education while working with young children in a licensed child care setting. Program requirements include completing 3-9 units of college coursework on the Child Development Permit Matrix to earn a permit and/or degree in Child Development. Home based child care providers can earn a \$100 stipend, home safety kit, educational toys, and other incentives for completing a training series for license exempt child care providers. Call 1.866.CARES SD/1.866.227.2772 or log on www.ymcacr.org to apply.

Child Care Initiative Project (CCIP)

CCIP is an infant toddler capacity building grant designed to recruit and train family child care providers in infant and toddler care giving. Assistance with the licensing process, training, incentives, continuous support and guidance from CCIP staff help participants prepare for and provide a quality program for infants and toddlers. CCIP also assists licensed providers increase size to a large licence or add non-traditional hour care. Contact CCIP at 619.521.3055 x2316 (English) or 619.521.3055 ext. 2318 (Spanish) for more information.

License Exempt Education Project

Providers who are exempt from licensing requirements family can receive incentives to complete valuable training. Topics include: communication, positive guidance, home safety, helping children grow and learn, and CPR/First Aid. LEEP participants include nannies, babysitters, friends and grandparents/relatives who are either paid or not paid for child care. Contact LEEP at 619.667.2995 ext. 1320 for more information.

Resource Library

Visit the resource library at any office to borrow educational books, CDs, videos or to use resource topic files. Child care programs can borrow educational toys and children's books, and schedule a site visit from the Resources in Motion mobile van. To make an appointment call 619.521.3055 ext 2304.

Publications

For a list of free CRS publications (12 copies or less), log on www.ymcacr.org or call 1.800.481.2151. Brochures include *Choosing Quality Child Care for Infants and Toddlers* and *Choosing Child Care for a Child with Special Needs*.



YMCA CRS *Serving the Community*

Live Scan Fingerprinting

Utilize the new, quick Live Scan fingerprint service located in the Mission Valley office to process fingerprints required for licensed programs and Trustline, a registry for exempt providers such as nannies and baby-sitters. Call Identix at 1.800.315.4507 for an appointment.

Trainer's Network

The Trainers Network provides a detailed directory of experienced trainers and local facilities to meet community needs for conference workshops, staff training and technical assistance. To search for a trainer or facility, apply to be listed as a trainer, or recommend a facility or trainer log on to www.ymcacrs.org or call 619.521.3055 ext. 2318.

Child Care Communique

Free bimonthly newsletter contains articles on topics related to child care and development programs, parenting, training opportunities, and CRS services, including new programs and resources. The newsletter can be downloaded at www.ymcacrs.org.

C.A.T.S Community Training Calendar

The Child Care Activity and Training Service (C.A.T.S.) calendar is a monthly publication that provides professional and personal development resources. Calendar sections include current and future training and conference events, ongoing classes for parents and providers, health and safety training and listings of child development classes at local colleges. Events approved for CARES professional development hours are flagged. To view the calendar, log on to www.ymcacrs.org. To suggest a training or event for the calendar call 619.521.3055 ext. 2304.

Web site

Log on www.ymcacrs.org to request child care referrals, reserve CRS library videos, register for a training, learn about agency services and programs, find a trainer or training facility, and read about job opportunities, choosing child care, parent advocacy and other information.

Child Care Data and Statistics

Information regarding the supply, demand and cost of child care in San Diego County can be requested by region or zip code. For information call 619.474.4704 ext. 1313.



YMCA CRS *Community Partnerships*

The San Diego County Family Child Care Association has been honored to collaborate with the YMCA Child Care Resource Service over the last 25 years. CRS has shown the highest level of commitment over the years to San Diego's children by providing the newest, most innovative training and resources available to families as well as Early Childhood Educators. Congratulations on 25 years of making a difference in children's lives, and we look forward to many more!

*Katy Kensure
President, SDCFCCA*

Sesame Street, Arthur and Clifford the Big Red Dog ... almost all parents and child care providers are familiar with these quality programs found on public television. Thanks to a fantastic and highly

successful partnership between KPBS and the YMCA CRS, thousands of parents and child care providers from the San Diego area have benefited from educational workshops featuring characters from these and other children's programs.

Since 1996, we have worked with YMCA CRS to bring our community workshops on literacy, anger management, effective TV viewing, domestic violence, health/ nutrition and more. Together, we have helped children become "ready to learn" through these workshops. KPBS congratulates the YMCA CRS on 25 years of service to the San Diego community and looks forward to a partnership that continues for many more years to come!

*Cathy Floyd
Senior Manager, Education & Outreach
Myriam Solis Coronel
Manager, Latino Education & Outreach*

YMCA CRS *Community Partnerships*

San Diego Association for the Education of Young Children (SDAEYC) is honored to recognize YMCA Child Care Resource Service (CRS) for 25 years of dedication to the children, families, early childhood professionals in center-based and family child care settings, and the field of early childhood education of San Diego County! Congratulations on the many accomplishments throughout the years that have ultimately brought quality care and education to so many children and families, and affirmed the importance of the early years. YMCA CRS has engaged in continued collaboration for quality child care for all children and support for all types of early child care and education programs. CRS partnered with SDAEYC for years on Children's Day in the Park, assists in marketing events sponsored by the organization, and has assigned a representative to be the CRS liaison on the General Board of Directors of SDAEYC. The organization is also appreciative of the education and leadership CRS presents to our membership, and we thank you for your excellent workshops and trainings, and especially for the Communique. May you have another 25 years of great connections!

Terri Rochambeau
President, SDAEYC

Community Care Licensing is delighted to congratulate the YMCA Childcare Resource Service for 25 years of exceptional resource information and child care assistance to children and families in San Diego. We are particularly proud of the partnership we have formed to share information and enhance the services available to child care licensees. CRS has eagerly provided information packets for Licensing Analysts to give to new applicants; collaborated with Licensing for Director's Workshops; extensive caregiver and staff training opportunities; health and safety training; public policy issues and information dissemination. CRS is our right arm and our human touch. Their sensitivity, hard working commitment, and creative interest in the needs of our licensees have made our job easier and more rewarding.

Tom Hersant
Regional Manager, Community Care Licensing

The San Diego County Child Care and Development Planning Council (SDCCDPC) would like to recognize YMCA CRS for 25 years of service connecting child care resources and referrals to families and the Early Childhood community across San Diego County. CRS has been a pivotal point in the community, helped hundreds of thousands of families who have sought child care referrals over the years while informing the families about their choices of care and what to think about when selecting a child care program for their children.

Throughout the last 25 years, CRS' leadership stands out by influencing and shaping policies that affect children, their families and the early childhood field. CRS has been actively participating in advocating and educating the community at large about issues facing the early childhood community and families who partake in child care services. We wish YMCA CRS another 25 years of service to the community! Keep up the excellent work and much success.

Sylvia Selverston
Chair, SDCCDPC

