



CCCC E-Newsletter November, 2004 Issue

Greetings from Community Connection for Child Care! Community Connection for Child Care (CCCC) is a child development and family services agency dedicated to providing options, education and support to children, families, child development professionals and the community. We are launching a new way to keep Kern County child care providers up to date on the latest information regarding child care, early childhood education and CCCC services to help you provide quality care to the children in your program.

Our current list of e-mail addresses comes from our CareFinder Provider database and CCCC Provider Surveys. Your e-mail address is safe with CCCC. It is our firm policy never to rent, loan, or sell our child care provider list to any other organizations, groups, or individuals. To stop ALL email from CCCC, reply via email with "remove" in the subject line to: kisilva@kern.org.

Until next time, our best to you and yours --
The staff of Community Connection for Child Care

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^**THIS MONTH'S FEATURES**^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

CCCC PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

The Child Care Food Program The Child Care Food Program is a nationwide program funded by the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and provides cash reimbursement for meals served to children in licensed family day care homes. You are reimbursed for meals and snacks served to children ages 12 years and younger. The food must meet USDA guidelines for good nutrition. The amount (rate) you receive for each meal or snack, may change annually and your Community Connection for Child Care Food Representative will tell you the current rate.

The great thing is that you receive a check for each month that you send us an approved set of menus - meeting USDA guidelines. Your check amount will vary, based on the number of meals and children served. The first month is a learning experience, and may require extra time for planning and record keeping. Once you are familiar with forms, a few minutes each day is all that is needed!

It's a Great Program because: *You receive money to help you purchase food for children in your care *You will learn more about good nutrition *You will get new "kid friendly" recipe ideas *You will be able to serve nutritious meals and snacks in spite of food costs *You will receive a CCCC newsletter *You will have the chance to meet and share ideas with other Family Child Care providers

*The children get delicious, nutritious meals and snacks *The children will develop good eating habits *The children will have the chance to try and enjoy new food *The children will develop strong bodies, good teeth and alert minds

For more information about the program and enrolling, check out the CCCC Food Program website at <http://kcsos.kern.org/cccc/food>

MONTHLY PLANNER

The week of November 15th is "National Children's Book Week." Click here for a list of websites for recommendations of children's books for even the most reluctant readers. <http://pbsmail.org/ct/Epz9RPd1XjZA/>

The Week of November 21-27, 2004 is "Game and Puzzle Week." Click here for a list of web sites that have games, puzzles and brain teasers for children of all ages. <http://pbsmail.org/ct/Upz9RPd1XjZw/>

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^**CHECK THIS OUT**^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

TV for People who Care for Kids KCET's A Place of Our Own (and Los Niños en Su Casa in Spanish) is a daily television series, a website, and an extensive outreach program devoted to the unique needs of people who care for children. Family, friends and neighbors - everyone who takes care of young children - are child care providers. Every interaction and every activity of these adults with their charges provide valuable opportunities to help children learn and grow. A Place of Our Own shares ways for us all to help children acquire cognitive, social, emotional and physical skills, as well as nurture language and literacy development. Current topics include conflict resolution, positive discipline, identifying children with special needs and making low-cost crafts. CCCC's Exempt Provider Training and Support Services (EPTSS) program provides curriculum consulting for the program. EPTSS connects license-exempt providers participating in the CalWORKs and APP subsidized child care programs with resources, training and support services to improve the quality, safety and consistency of care. On Valley Public Television, A Place of Our Own airs weekdays at 2:00 p.m. and Los Niños en Su Casa airs weekdays at 5:30 a.m.

For more information, check out A Place of Our Own website at <http://www.placeofourown.net/index.php>.

FEATURED QUOTE

"Children are likely to live up to what you believe in them." Lady Bird Johnson