

## IMPORTANT STAGE 3 CHILD CARE INFORMATION

As of Monday, November 22, 2010

- **PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CASE MANAGER ASAP TO DISCUSS CONTINUING STAGE 3 CARE UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND TO DISCUSS YOUR CHILD CARE OPTIONS!!!**
- On Friday November 19, 2010 the California Department of Education (CDE) issued Management Bulletin 10-16 **instructing Stage 3 contractors to continue Stage 3 benefits until December 31, 2010. After this date Stage 3 benefits will end.** This action is a result of a settlement reached between the parties in a lawsuit handled in the Alameda County Superior Court that extends Stage 3 benefits only through December 31, 2010.
- Attendance logs and parent fee information for December is enclosed. All Attendance Logs for December must be submitted no later than the close of business on Wednesday January 5, 2011. A Notice of Action will be mailed to you by November 23, 2010 in a window envelope. Please look for that NOA this week.
- Parents and Providers should follow all normal procedures and deadlines when submitting paperwork to CCCC for reimbursement through December 31, 2010.
- Between now and **December 10<sup>th</sup>** you have a right to request a “screening” with your case manager to discuss options for child care after 12/31/10. This screening may take place in person or via the telephone / e-mail. On December 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> CCCC will hold a lottery for families by ZIP code interested in enrolling children in a state preschool program in Kern County funded by the California Department of Education’s Child Development Division. These preschools have been told to hold any open slots for Stage 3 families who have not found alternate care by December 31, 2010.
  - Families must ask to be placed in the lottery and names will be drawn randomly on December 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> for any available preschool slots. Note that parents will work directly with the preschool to enroll their children and discuss any out of pocket fees that parents will have to pay to the center. Parents may request up to two ZIP codes for the lottery and names will be drawn by ZIP code for open slots available in those ZIP codes.
- This settlement means that Stage 3 benefits WILL end on December 31, 2010 unless restored in January by Governor Brown. We see this as very unlikely given the fact that California is still in the midst of a fiscal crisis.

### **VERY IMPORTANT:**

- It is very important to note that there is NO guarantee that the state will be able to allocate any funds to implement the settlement. **As a result, please know that parents and providers who continue Stage 3 child care past October 31, 2010 (the original date Stage 3 was to have ended) do so at the risk that these funds may never be paid.** Although the State says that Stage 3 costs are now eligible for reimbursement, please note that parents and providers do run the risk that the State is unable to find funding to reimburse these costs. **CCCC will only pay these funds for any period after 10/31/10 when and if the cash comes to Kern County from the State.**
- **Please share this information with your child care provider.** Thank you for your patience. Please check our web site ([www.kernchildcare.org](http://www.kernchildcare.org)) for updated information.