



# Association News

## No more business as usual...

2010 has brought some new changes as we are proud to announce your new Board Members:

**President, Amber Cook**

**Vice President, Nancy Baker**

**Executive Secretary, Renaldo Sanders**

**Recording Secretary, Virginia Davis**

**Treasurer, Marsha Ahrens**

**Past President, Catherine Scott**

Much thanks to our former board members,

Karen Espinosa, LaDoris Green and Catherine Scott for their dedication and commitment over the last two years. We sincerely appreciate all of your hard work!

Your new board has some great plans for 2010.

We will kick off the year with our first meeting on January 25th at 7:00pm as we return to Fud-drucker's Restaurant. Please invite other provider friends to join us as we have much to discuss.

Our goal this year is to keep moving forward in a positive direction to accomplish big things; something we began in 2009. Our focus will be on what we want to accomplish this year which means no more business as usual!

We can accomplish some great things this year if we work together! We welcome ideas and suggestions for speakers, events and information.

There will also be some additional positions available for those interested in serving in a leadership capacity.

### What We're Working on:

- Ongoing meetings with the California Department of Education
- Upcoming ECE legislation
- Collaboration with agencies
- Local products/services
- Vendor Day
- Business development

## The Association Scores Big with the CDE!

The Association has been engaging in discussions over the last 5 months with the California Department of Education regarding the challenges many providers have been facing working with their Alterna-

tive Payment Programs. Following several long discussions, the Association in Collaboration with the Child Care workers United Union identified a list of immediate concerns to be addressed by the CDE.

After hearing our concerns along with many other providers throughout the state, the CDE has begun rewriting agency regulations to standardize how all agencies operate. Some of the regulatory packages include:

## CDE cont'd

- Set pay dates for provider reimbursement
- Communication with Providers and parents
- Standardize Attendance Sheets
- Reimbursement guidelines
- Grievance/Complaint procedures

We have also engaged in talks with the CDE specifically about the problems many providers are having with Children's Home Society:

- Late/Payment delays

- Lack of adherence to their 20 day reimbursement policy
- Unexplained payment rate changes resulting in reimbursement shortages
- Child care terminations without proper notice

As a result of our many discussions, we are pleased to report that the CDE has committed to investigate these matters with written correspondence being sent to CHS instructing them (as well as other AP Programs) to recalculate reimbursement rates to cor-

rect the recent payment shortages made to Providers since August 2009.

As we continue to work with the CDE toward improving the AP and subsidized payment process, we need your support. Please continue to inform the Association about your experiences with your local agency. We need your participation to provide necessary feedback to the CDE as they make changes to these state policies. We want to make sure that your voices are heard in this process because what we say does matter!

## Budget Updates

The Governor proposes the following major General Fund reductions for Child Care:

1) 2009-10: Cal Works Child Care Adjustments - A decrease of \$12.4 million to reflect expected savings in CalWORKs with a \$9 million adjustment for Stage 2 Child Care and a \$3.4 million CalWORKs Stage 3 adjustment based on revised caseload adjustments.

2) 2010-2011: CalWORKs Child Care Adjustments - a decrease of \$13.8 million to reflect revised estimates in the caseload-driven CalWORKs with a \$12.6 million savings in Stage 2 and a \$1.2 million savings in and Stage 3.

COLA: There is a negative COLA (instead of increasing funding to reflect higher program costs, programs are having funding reduced as though costs have decreased), child

**Overall, proposed cuts of \$232.1 million, with deeper cuts proposed if California doesn't receive a requested \$6.9 billion from the federal government.**

care is being cut by \$5.9 million.

Child Care Reimbursement Rate Reforms: The Governor proposes a decrease of \$77.1 million to reduce reimbursement rate limits in voucher-based programs from the 85th percentile of the market to the 75th percentile. This proposal will also reduce the reimbursement rate limits for licensed-exempt providers from 90 percent of the ceilings for licensed family child care homes to 70 percent. This proposal affects all voucher programs, including the Alternative Payment Program (\$12 million), and the caseload-driven CalWORKs Stage 2 (\$37 million) and Stage 3 (\$28.1 million) programs.

CalWORKs Stage 3 Child Care: In

addition, the Governor is proposing an additional cut of \$122.9 million to CalWORKs Stage 3 Child Care.

If California doesn't receive \$6.9 billion from the federal government by July 15, additional cuts would include:

- Eliminating CalWORKs (\$1 billion)
- Eliminating Healthy Families (\$126 million)
- Reducing First 5 Commission funding by 50% for next 5 years and taking all of the funds in reserves for use in General Fund (\$550 million)

## News You Can Use

### Local Trainings/Events:

#### Children's Home Society (562-256-7490)

- Wednesday, January 27th - 5 Helpful Tips to Going Back to School for Child Care Providers 6:30pm - 8:30pm
- Saturday, January 30th - Partnering with Parents 8:30am - 2:00pm
- Wednesday, February 10th - Emergency Preparedness for Family Child Care Homes 6:00pm - 8:00pm
- Wednesday, March 10th—Fun & Easy Bulletin Boards 6:30pm - 8:30pm
- Wednesday, March 17th - Asthma 6:00pm - 8:00pm

#### Center For Community and Family Services (CCFS) (310) 217-2935

- Monday, January 25, 2010  
The Environment
- Monday, February 8, 2010  
From Trash to Treasures
- Tuesday, February 22, 2010  
Cooking with Literacy

## Resources



### Winter Book List

The Mitten by Jan Brett  
The Hat by Jan Brett  
The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats

The Biggest, Best Snowman by Margery Cuyler

Froggy Gets Dressed by Jonathan London

All emphasize multi-cultural awareness and positive self-esteem.

Held 6:30pm-8:30pm

### CPR & 1<sup>st</sup> Aide Classes

Ernestine Blanchard-Tucker  
Red Cross Instructor CPR and First Aid (310) 715-1751

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Infant & Child CPR Renewal

5:30pm. - 9:30pm

\$20 co-payment

Wednesday, February 17, 2010

Pediatric First Aid Renewal

5:30pm. - 9:30pm

\$20 co-payment

Saturday, February 20, 2010

Infant & Child CPR and First Aid

8:00am - 5:00am

\$40 co-payment

### Location:

CCFS

649 E. Albertoni Street

Carson, CA 90746

\*Must register in person!

Saturday, February 27, 2010

8am - 5pm

Cal State University Dominguez Hills

Extended Education Building,  
1000 E. Victoria Street

(Ask for a map at registration)

Parking: \$4.00

Paramount Public Safety and the American Red Cross

Offering Adult CPR Training

Saturday, March 13, 2010

8:00am to 12:00pm

Progress Park Plaza

15500 Downey Avenue

FEE only \$10.00

*You do not need to be a resident of Paramount to participate!*

Registration for this training at the Paramount Sheriff's Station only

(562) 220-2170 for more information

### 5 Little Snow Men

5 little Snowmen standing in a row,  
Each had a hat and a big red bow.  
Out came the sun and it shined all day,  
1 Little snowman melted away.  
4 Little Snowmen standing in a row,  
Each had a hat and a big red bow.  
Out Came the sun and it shined all day,  
1 Little snowman melted away. Etc....

Can be done using felts or drawn on chalk/white boards. Great for teaching math concepts!

### Snowflakes and Cupcakes

(Tune: Raindrops and Lemon Drops)

If all the snowflakes were chocolate covered cupcakes

Oh, what a snow it would be!

I'd go outside with my mouth open wide  
(open mouth and stick out tongue)

Ah ah ah ah ah ah ah

If all of the snowflakes were chocolate covered cupcakes

Oh, what a snow it would be!

**Greater Long Beach/Lakewood Family Child Care**

6009 Graywood Avenue  
Lakewood, Ca 90712

Phone: 562-804-7474  
Fax: 562-428-1228

► Network, Support and Advocacy

We're on the web!  
[www.lblakewoodchildcare.org/index.htm](http://www.lblakewoodchildcare.org/index.htm)

**The Greater Long Beach/Lakewood Family Child Care Association**

is a nonprofit organization created by and for family child care providers. The purpose of the Association is to promote professionalism, support quality family child care and serve as advocates for the welfare of children.

**2010 Meeting Dates:**

January 25<sup>th</sup>

March 15<sup>th</sup>

May 17<sup>th</sup>

July 19<sup>th</sup>

September 20<sup>th</sup>

November 15<sup>th</sup>

All meetings held at 7:00pm @ Fuddrucker's:  
5229 Clark Avenue, Lakewood 90712

**Presidential Tidbits**



Happy New Year! I would like to begin by thanking all of our faith-

ful members that continued to participate in the Association throughout 2009. Though it was a difficult year for many providers, your loyalty is invaluable and greatly appreciated!

I am honored to be taking the helm of our great Association. I recall entering the child care business just 5 short years ago and what an im-

pact the leaders and members of the Association made on me as a new provider. Were it not for the Association I know for a fact that I would not have been as successful in this business so I am forever indebted to all of you - Thank you!

We are looking forward to a great 2010 as we begin networking and growing our association for the benefit of all members.

As many of you know, the child care industry has seen some significant changes and collectively we as providers must ensure that we have a voice in the decisions being made at the local, state and federal level about our profession.

I would like to ask our current members to partner with me in rebuilding our association - and former members to consider coming back to join our efforts.

There is much work to be done and we all play a critical role in making sure that providers within our community and state are able to maintain their businesses as they provide a fundamental need for children and families in Long Beach, Lakewood, Compton, Paramount, Carson and our surrounding cities.

Will you join us?

- Amber Cook