



December News!



From the Child Care Links team to your family, we hope the moments in between the hustle and bustle of December finds you enjoying the holiday season and creating treasured memories with loved ones.

Besides [gingerbread bars](#) and [eggnog frosting](#), December offers many exciting things to do and see. It's a great time to [create new holiday traditions](#) or make [fun holiday breakfasts](#) with the family.

As a reminder, Child Care Links will be **closed** from **25 December - 1 January** for the holidays. We hope you have a healthy, happy, and enjoyable season.

Cheers!

Thank You from the Bottom of Our Hearts!

Toy Drive Success!

Because of **your** generosity, the Child Care Links Toy Drive was a huge success!

It also means that since we hit our goal **180** children from our programs will receive a wrapped holiday surprise in December.



Thank you to the many individuals and organizations who made this toy drive such a success. We are very grateful for contributing your time and money to support these families during the holidays.

Child Care Links Now Accepts Online Payments

Child Care Links now accepts payments online via PayPal using major credit/debit cards. Take advantage of this convenient option to pay your Family Fee online.



If you have any billing questions, please contact your Eligibility Specialist.

Holiday Hours



Child Care Links will be **closed** from **Monday, 25 December 2017 through Monday, 1 January 2018**.

We will reopen on **Tuesday, 2 January**.

We wish you a very safe and happy holiday season.

Upcoming Trainings at Child Care Links

Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scales (ECERS-R)

Saturday, 2 December
9:00am - 12:00pm

ASQ-3

Saturday, 20 January
9:00am - 1:00pm

ASQ: SE-2

Saturday, 27, January
9:00am - 12:30pm

Child Care & Early Education Initiative Meeting

The Alameda County Child Care and Early Education Initiative being driven by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors is tentatively slated for the June 2018 ballot. This initiative has the potential to bring in an estimated \$140 million a year in additional funding to expand access to quality child care and early learning opportunities for children and their families.



There have been five family-friendly community input sessions held in November throughout Alameda County with **one more in December**. These sessions are to provide key information about the child care and early education crisis across our county, and the ways it's impacting children, families, providers, and the broader community. It is also to provide information about the work done to date, and the draft program recommendations and cost allocation plan. There will be opportunities to provide feedback and participate in this important conversation.

Pleasanton: December 12th, 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Pleasanton Senior Center
5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton, CA 94566

For more information contact, Sonya Mehta, M.Ed. | Program Specialist, Alameda County Early Care and Education Program at 510-208-9698.

2017 Child Care and Early Education Survey



CHILD CARE LAW CENTER™

California Child Care Resource & Referral



Northern Director's Group



California Alternative Payment Program Association, California Child Development Administrators Association, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, Child Care Law Center, Northern Directors Group, and Parent Voices is asking for your help in completing the [2017 Child Care and Early Education Survey](#).

Data collected from the Child Care and Early Education Survey conducted in 2016, helped actualize; 12-month eligibility for families, an increase in the State Median Income (SMI), and an increase in funding for Child Care and Early Education enacted in the 2017-18 budget.

Your experience and input from the Child Care and Early Education field is crucial to the data collection process as it will allow these organizations to collectively be strategic in their "asks" for the 2018-2019 budget.

[Start Survey](#)

Child Care Providers Still Needed

There is a high demand for Licensed Child Care Providers who are able to provide before and after school transportation to the following Elementary Schools:

John Green Elementary School

3300 Antone Way, Dublin

Junction Avenue K-8

298 Junction Ave, Livermore

Marylin Avenue Elementary School

800 Marylin Ave., Livermore

Vineyard Elementary School

1401 Almond Ave., Livermore

Lawrence Elementary School

2451 Portola Ave. Livermore

If you currently offer transportation to any of the above mentioned schools, or are interested in providing transportation, please contact **Gayel Machado, Resource and Referral Specialist**, for more details at **925.249.3906**,

\$100,000 Community Gift Program Winners

Child Care Links was 1 of 37 selected to receive the 2017 Lawrence Livermore National Security Community Gift

Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC (LLNS) received 71 applications totaling more than \$555,000. for their 2017 Community Gift Program. **Child Care Links** is honored to have been selected as one of only thirty-seven awards, totaling \$100,000.



Pat Falcone, Deputy Director for Science and Technology (featured on left with Child Care Links staff members Laura Page and Allison Andersen), presented the awards on behalf of Bill Goldstein, LLNS President and LLNL Director, during a reception at the LLNS office in downtown Livermore on Thursday, 19 October.

Child Care Links will use this gift to purchase early STEM resources for our Diaper Pantry. Families receive a one month supply of diapers, books and educational materials with information on how to maximize diaper time to nurture brain development in early STEM and literacy concepts through stories, pictures, songs, and counting toes. Child Care Links believes providing low-income infants/toddlers with quality educational resources will give our youngest learners a better chance of developing the school-readiness skills they need to start kindergarten.

Congratulations to all of the 2017 Community Gift Program Winners. To see a complete list of this year's recipients visit the [Lawrence Livermore National Security News and Media page](#).

Legislative Victories for California Families

Updates from the Child Care Law Center



CHILD CARE LAW CENTER.

California blazed new trails this year, creating better prospects for families and a brighter future for children. Among these legislative wins are:

- Parental leave for three million more new parents
- Child care for parents taking ESL (English as a Second Language) and GED (coursework to obtain a high school diploma or general educational

development certificate)

- More diapers for low-income families

[Read the full summary here.](#)

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