



## March News & Events!

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### Engaging Fathers in your Child Care Program

**Thursday, 15 March**  
**6:30pm - 8:30pm**  
Child Care Links Conference Room

**The first 10 people to [register](#) and attend will receive a bag of assorted educational toys for dads to nurture the father-child relationship through play.**



Fathers play a significant role in the development of their child's brain and social emotional skills. Join Child Care Links and Shawn Bryant, Founding Director & Chief Learning Officer with Teaching Excellence Center, to discover the many benefits to children, fathers, families and communities when we understand the influences of how dads father.

You will leave with a better understanding of:

- A father's role in brain development
- A father's role in guidance and social-emotional development
- Practices to welcome, support and engage fathers/males

Register

## 3x Your Donation Impact Through Amazon

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From **March 12 - 31**, Amazon is **tripling** the donation rate on your first smile.amazon.com purchase!

Click [HERE](#) and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 1.5% of the purchase price from your first eligible purchase to **Child Care Links**.

## Upcoming Events

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### **Dads Dyad Differently - [Register](#)**

Thursday, 15 March  
6:30pm - 8:30pm  
Child Care Links Conference Room

### **Directors of the Valley (DOV) Meeting**

Tuesday, 20 March  
1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Contact **Laura Reno** at [lreno@lesacc.org](mailto:lreno@lesacc.org) for location and more information about becoming a member of the DOV group.

### **Preventative Health**

Saturday, 24 March  
9:00am - 5:30pm  
Registration Fee: \$60  
Call to register 925.417.8733

### **Valley Family Child Care Association (VFCCA) Meeting**

Wednesday, 28 March

7:00pm - 9:00pm

Child Care Links Conference Room

Contact **Deborah Barker** at [dbchildcare@hotmail.com](mailto:dbchildcare@hotmail.com) for more information.

## Family Friend & Neighbor Child Care Trainings

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Child Care Links offers training opportunities for FFN (Family, Friend, and Neighbor) Child Care Providers on the second Wednesday of every month at our Oakland office.

This month, **Rachel Bolden-Kramer, Author and Child Care Provider** will be sharing ideas on how to include children in the decision making process of what they eat, bargain shopping, and

handing out easy recipes for healthy eating. Please join us, and bring a friend.

### **Child Care Links Conference Room**

80 Swan Way

Oakland, CA 94621

11:30am - 1:00pm

### **March 14th**

Cooking with Kids

[Register](#)

### **April 11th**

Diaper Time is Teaching Time

[Register](#)

### **May 9th**

Summer Adventures

[Register](#)

## Child Care and Early Education Crisis

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Limited access to quality, affordable child care and early education is taking its toll on families, educators and communities across Alameda County.

Last month, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to place a measure on the June 5th, 2018 ballot.



**The need is great.** *Thousands of Alameda County children are on waiting lists*

Voters will now have the opportunity to vote on a lasting solution to our child care crisis.

**Campaign Kickoff.** A vast coalition of parents, child care workers, union members, nonprofits, teachers, business leaders, and elected officials will rally together on **Saturday, 24 March at 10:00am** to learn about what we can do collectively and individually to win the election. This event is family friendly with lots of children's activities.

Refreshments and campaign swag will be provided! Please bring a friend or two.

## Welcome To the Team!

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Child Care Links is pleased to welcome two new volunteers to the Diaper Pantry team.

**Marie Stapleton and Claire Fahey** will be the lead volunteers to help secure donations and help facilitate diaper drives in the community. Child Care Links is very grateful for their commitment and support in helping us serve low-income families in Alameda County.

**WE**   
**VOLUNTEERS**

If you are interested in learning more about how you can volunteer, host a Diaper Drive or [make a donation](#), please email [diapers@childcarelinks.org](mailto:diapers@childcarelinks.org).

## Stories From the Heart

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How does Child Care Links change lives?

Not long ago Bridget, a young single mom came to Child Care Links looking for assistance. She was homeless and in desperate need of child care in order to secure a job.

Our Eligibility Specialists assisted Bridget through the qualification process

and she started receiving financial assistance to help pay for child care shortly

there after. Bridget worked hard to maintain a job, save money to find a stable place to live, and get her family off of financial assistance programs. Today, she is financially independent, raising two healthy children, and working at Amazon. The company paid for her to attend UC Berkeley and was recently promoted to a management position. Child Care Links is honored to provide resources that strengthen and support children and their families. You are a huge success Bridget.

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Noel, an expectant mom with her first child due any minute, came to Child Care Links to possibly receive a free car seat. With limited funds and just days until her little one would arrive, Noel did not have a car seat. When our in-house Car Seat Technician gave her a brand new one she burst into tears. A flood of relief came pouring out of her as she said, "I can't believe it, now I have a bed AND a car seat for my baby. I didn't know how I was going to be able to bring my baby home from the hospital safely."



## Resources to Help Children in the Wake of a School Shooting

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As adults struggle with their own reactions to school shootings, young eyes and ears are watching and listening. This is an important time to talk to children about what they are seeing and hearing, even when they did not directly witness the event. While



it can be difficult to know what to say, evidence from research and clinical practice can help us with these difficult conversations. We begin with a few suggestions for adults who care for children indirectly affected by a school shooting. [Read more from Child Trends.](#)

