



Featured Agency of the Month! Child Care Links- April 2017



Child Care Links is a Resource and Referral agency located in Alameda County, established in 1976 in **response to the State of California's interest in creating innovative systems to deliver quality child care services to low-income families.** The agency's dedication to its mission statement of providing support and resources to the Tri-Valley community is consistently seen in its growing efforts to provide innovative services to a diverse population. The agency has built a strong foundation to serve children and families in the community through the following programs:

- **Subsidized (financial assistance) child care programs:** such as CalWORKS Stage 1, California Department of Education (CDE), Stages 2 and 3, California Alternative Payment Program (CAPP) and federal Block Grants in the Tri-Valley, Tri-Cities, Sunol, and Oakland areas of Alameda County (services vary by location). Child care subsidies are provided to families for services under terms of agreement with the CDE and the Alameda County Social Services Agency. Child Care Links determines program eligibility, provides support services, collects parent fees, and processes payments to Child Care Providers.
- **Resource and Referral Services:** including assistance choosing quality child care and free child care referrals for families, regardless of income, seeking child care in the Tri-Valley.
- **Inclusion Services:** including ASQ implementation assistance, parent and Child Care Provider support services for children with special needs.
- **Coaching and Consultation:** for Child Care Providers through the Child Care Initiative Project (CIPP) and Quality Counts Program.
- **Health and Safety Trainings:** for parents, Child Care Providers, and the greater community. Financial reimbursement for Child Care Providers is also available.
- **Free Trainings and Workshops:** for parents, Licensed and Licensed-Exempt Child Care Providers, and Early Childhood Professionals.
- **Child Safety Seat Instruction:** Inspection and Installation assistance, and free car or booster seat replacement/disbursement.
- **Diaper Pantry:** distributes a month supply of free diapers, books and literacy activities to low-income families.

Child Care Links uses a comprehensive approach in assessing and developing new opportunities for growth aligned with evidence-based practices, and current needs assessment data. The agency regularly tracks and evaluates client engagement and community outreach strategies, to ensure agency services match the current needs of target populations.

Child Care Links provides resources that strengthen and improve the health, safety and well-being of all children and their families, as part of a larger effort to empower individuals to move from reliance to self-sufficiency.