



## *Featured Agency of the Month! Child Development Associates, Inc.*

*August 2017*



[Child Development Associates \(CDA\)](#) is a community-based, non-profit agency in San Diego that has been providing child care and development services since 1974. CDA was founded by a single mother struggling to pay for child care for her four children while working and pursuing a college degree. Her inability to get quality child care assistance inspired her to create CDA. What started as one small child care center serving 24 children, is now a multi-service agency supporting thousands of working parents with child care assistance, operating three high-quality child development centers, and a Child Care Food Program. CDA's mission is to encourage and support the success and well-being of children, families, and child care providers.

- Through California's Alternative Payment (AP) Program, CDA reimburses child care providers on behalf of parents who can't afford child care on their own, allowing parents to work or complete their education. CDA's AP Program currently serves over 3,300 families.
- Through the California State Preschool Program, CDA provides high-quality early education and supportive services that promote healthy development and school readiness to 240 children.
- Through the Child and Adult Care Food Program, CDA trains and reimburses over 1,277 family child care providers serving approximately 6 million nutritious meals to children every year, enabling them to develop nutritious eating habits and grow strong and healthy bodies.
- Through the Quality Preschool Initiative (QPI), CDA processes payments on behalf of the San Diego First 5 Commission to raise quality early education for over 13,129 preschoolers.

CDA works in collaboration with many community-based agencies that support early care and education to create positive change.