



## *Featured Agency of the Month! Community Child Care Council (4Cs) of Alameda County- February 2017*



Community Child Care Council (4Cs) of Alameda County was founded in 1972 and exists to develop and coordinate resources to strengthen families and children. 4Cs improves access to, and availability of, high-quality early care and education for Alameda County's young learners as well as offering additional services to support families in our community. We provide resources, create learning opportunities, and knock down barriers to equity for families.

4Cs' cornerstone services include:

### For Parents

**Child Care Payment Assistance Programs:** The child care payment programs (CAPP, CalWORKs Stage One, 2, 3 and Foster Care) are designed to provide full or partial reimbursement of child care services on behalf of eligible families. The goal of these programs are to assist and promote the health, growth, care, development, and education of children in Alameda County by providing child care, while the children's parents continue their employment, education, welfare-to-work activities, or other need for services such as seeking employment, seeking permanent housing, incapacitation, or child protective services. Parent eligibility is based on income and need. The current available programs are CalWORKs Stage One, 2, and 3 and Alternative Payment. The state and Alameda County contract with 4Cs to administer these programs in our community.

**Child Care Resources and Referrals:** 4Cs is dedicated to finding a match for each family's specific needs for child care from among the more than 1,300 licensed family and center-based child care providers in southern Alameda County. Our Resource and Referral specialists are available free of charge Monday-Friday, by telephone or in person, to discuss a family's needs – from infant care to before- and after-school programs. 4Cs also offers online child care referral services.

**Parenting Classes:** Classes in Spanish and English are offered to parents in our community. Parents have the opportunity to build on their parenting strengths and discuss their concerns in a supportive environment. They also learn more about child development and topics such as self-esteem, temperament, discipline, difficult behaviors, health, and nutrition. Through group learning and discussion, parents build confidence and skills that contribute to positive parent-child relationships. Classes are offered in the evening and include free child care and family-style dinner.

### For Providers

**Referrals, Technical Assistance, and Trainings:** 4Cs' Resource and Referral department offers resources, trainings, and technical assistance for prospective and current child care providers in southern Alameda County. Our provider services specialists are available to assist providers with licensing information, opening a new child care facility, including providers in our referral database, and more.

**Trainings:** Our agency has a robust child care provider training schedule and offers workshops covering Health and Safety and CPR/First Aid to Taxes and Recordkeeping and Trauma Informed Care. Trainings are offered in English, Spanish, and Chinese by local and national experts in the field.

### Community Services

**RISE at 4Cs:** The RISE program at 4Cs provides tangible supports and referrals to community partners for families and community members. RISE physical supports include: food, diapers, wipes, clothing, shoes, toys, and baby supplies. The RISE team also hosts distributions throughout the year including monthly diaper and food distributions, backpacks and supplies for back to school, and new toys at the holidays. Additional RISE services include car seat installation checks and enrollment in Oakland's Brilliant Babies program.

**Free Tax Preparation and Filing:** In collaboration with the United Way of the Greater Bay Area, 4Cs is a Volunteer Income

Tax Assistance (VITA) Site. Our tax expert volunteers provide free tax preparation and filing for low-income Alameda County families.

**Annual Children's Faire:** For almost two decades, 4Cs has put on a Free Annual Children's Faire for the community. Complete with community resources, entertainment, arts and crafts, and an opportunity to climb inside a real fire engine, the Children's Faire in May is an event not to be missed!

You can find 4Cs of Alameda online at [www.4Calameda.org](http://www.4Calameda.org) or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).