



Escondido Community Child Development Center Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 3

Spring 2011



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“Thank You” From The Executive Director

Greetings!

ECCDC’s educational programs are expanding thanks to the ongoing support of the community. Longtime supporters Bob and Marion Wilson recently gave ECCDC \$50,000 to enhance the educational needs of the staff by providing the “Bob and Marion Wilson Hall” at the Betsy Jones Child Development Center. Staff trainings, certification classes, and educational meetings are regularly taking place to increase the knowledge and skills of ECCDC teachers. Keeping up on current early childhood research and teaching methods is what ECCDC strives to do in order to provide young children the necessary tools it takes to be not only successful in Kindergarten, but throughout children’s lives.

The Bravo Foundation awarded ECCDC \$15,000 this year to increase ECCDC’s Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH) services. With over 400 children total enrolled in our centers, this funding will provide additional support to

ensure every child has access to developmental and bilingual counseling services. ECCDC has also expanded services to include the families living in the Mission Park area through offering parent training and support, family counseling, and individual counseling services. Michael J. Lopez, Bravo Foundation President, visited ECCDC this February to tour the sites and meet the children and staff.

The Boys and Girls Club Foundation has recently awarded ECCDC’s ECMH program \$5,000. This money will be used for needed materials and supplies for parent classes and staff trainings.

Rotary Club of Escondido presented a check for \$2000 to ECCDC this year for development of our website.

WWW.ECCDC.COM is up and fully running!

ECCDC thanks each of our supporters listed here and also all who have regularly given to provide support to children and families living in our community. It is because of your support that ECCDC continues to assist families achieve economic stability and to provide our young children the academic skills needed to be “Kindergarten” ready.

Great things are happening at ECCDC because of you!

I thank you and want you to know that the ECCDC children and families appreciate your generosity and continued giving.

Sincerely,

Patricia Cavanaugh, M. Ed



Dr. William Boyce, ECCDC Chair Lorraine H. Boyce, Executive Director Patricia Cavanaugh, Marion Wilson, and Bob Wilson at the Betsy Jones CDC

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Did You Know?

- In March 2011, ECCDC provided developmental screenings for all 400 children enrolled
- ECCDC has a fully functioning website at WWW.ECCDC.COM and we also invite you to “LIKE” us at Facebook.com at Escondido Community Child Development Center
- ECCDC welcomes all children from all abilities. 60 children currently attend ECCDC who have special needs and receive outside services through community programs

ECCDC Program Wide Developmental Screenings March 2011

ASQ Screenings at the Escondido Community Child Development Center

Throughout the entire month of March 2011, ECCDC will be hosting multiple ASQ screenings events in our three different sites. All our children 4 months of age and up will participate.

Our first screening event took place at the Boyce site, March 02, 2011. From 5:30pm to 7:30pm. As usual it was a great success!

Parents were actively involved completing the questionnaires which included 30 questions in 5 develop-

mental areas. Parents and children were having a great time working together, completing fun and simple activities in order to answer the questions.



Lorraine H. Boyce Child Development Center's Screening Night

We were very pleased to see that our parents understand the importance of the role they play in their children's learning and development. And by completing the ASQ questionnaires they are making sure their child is off to the best possible start.

We believe that early detection and intervention have a positive impact on health and educational outcomes. In most cases these screenings can identify infants or young

children who are in need of further evaluations to determine whether they are eligible for early intervention services.

Special thanks to Brenda Williamson, Manager of our Early Childhood Mental Health Program, Elizabeth Diaz, developmental specialist. And to all the representatives of the YMCA, Infant HOPE Project, and Healthy Developmental Services, who worked very hard in collaboration with us to make this possible. We also want to thank all the ECCDC staff that were present at this event helping our parents in completing these questionnaires and covering different positions. And to our kitchen staff who took time to prepare coffee, fresh lemonade and delicious cookies to treat all our families that attended this

Spotlight on ECCDC Staff

Meet Lourdes Marzan-Smith ECCDC PFA Master Teacher

My name is Lourdes Marzan-Smith, I was born on the island of Puerto Rico. My family migrated to New York City in the late 1960's, searching for the "American Dream."

I lived in the City of New York for forty-two years, and in 2009, I moved to Escondido, California with my husband Eugene and my youngest son, Christian who is twenty-two. My oldest son, Stephan, who is twenty-five, lives in New York with his wife and children.



Master Teacher Lourdes (Center), "Preschool For All" Classroom Staff and Children at the Betsy Jones CDC

I have been working for ECCDC for almost two years. Prior to my employment at ECCDC, I worked in the education field for seventeen years. I have held many positions, from family worker to assistant teacher and then Lead Teacher. I currently hold the position of Master Teacher at the Betsy Jones Site.

I have a B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts from the City University of the City of New York, with over 24 credits in education. I enjoy reading, walking and listening to Christian Music and spending time with my family and my two cats, Tabbi and Smokey.

ECCDC New Betsy Jones CDC Update

Another quarter has gone by; how time flies when one is immersed in the daily conduct of caring for this stunning facility and such a delightful group of children, parents and staff!! The Betsy Jones Child Development Center continues its forward path to building strong relationships with children, parents, families and community members alike.

Our Facebook page is growing by leaps and bounds, search "Escondido Community Child Development Center;" stop by to "Like" our page and get caught up on activities within Betsy Jones Center and agency wide

as well. In the same respect, our newly designed website is chalk-full of valuable information regarding our agency and the positive direction we are moving.

We have been privileged to host several intern students over these past few months, from our neighboring CSUSM to Martin Luther College across the nation; they are all a delight to work with. BJC, and ECCDC agency wide, is dedicated to helping students gain the skills needed for a successful academic career.

Our current focus is on developing the Children's Community Garden. We have a special place set aside for

this ambitious project, envisioning an area where each classroom can choose which vegetables and plants to grow, tend to their space and then harvest the products when they are ripe; the children will then be able to prepare some delicious treats from their hard work.

As I come to a close, I must not forget to thank Patty Cavanaugh, Kathryn McMahon, Debbie Marandino, Marcela Johnston, Lynette Hallbick and Chris McGhee for mentoring me along this humble journey.

Regards,

Traci Estabrook, Site Supervisor

ECCDC Parent Testimony

In each quarterly newsletter, we're sharing what parents are saying about the benefits of ECCDC and how it has impacted their child and family. Here is another testimony from an appreciative parent.

"To Whom It May Concern;

My name is Erica Peterson and my daughter, Marina Carbajal-Peterson attends the Lincoln site school M-F 8-5 pm.

The daycare my daughter attends is great. I am very comfortable leaving her there everyday while I work. I am currently a single Mom with two



children and if I did not have the daycare assistance, I would not be able to work everyday. I am able to communicate freely with the Site Supervisor and my daughter's

teachers. My daughter has a bond with a few of the teachers there like Denisse and Lizette which is very comforting. They understand my situation and work well with me. If there is ever anything I am not comfortable with, the staff meets my needs to accommodate my daughter and me, in a timely manner.

The Escondido Community Child Development Center also helped me with childcare for my son Marcos before he entered grade school. Without the daycare assistance program, I could not afford to work and pay for childcare simultaneously.

Thank you, Erica Peterson"

ECCDC Staff Attend PITC Trainings

Beginning December 2011 seventeen staff members at ECCDC, Lincoln Site, began attending regular monthly trainings provided by West Ed's Program for Infant/Toddler Care (PITC) or PITC In Practice. These trainings are held two days per month after working hours. PITC in Practice training occurs over a 10 to 18 month period. Each section includes 32 hours of classroom training and 40 hours of on-site mentoring. Many participants have enrolled in the training to gain Infant Toddler Units, required by Community Care Licensing for teachers who are working with Infants and Toddlers. Teachers who retain California Department of Education Permits are required to attend workshops and classes equal to 105 hours over five years, so teachers are using the PITC Training to meet this requirement.

PITC In Practice is divided into four Modules – Responsive Caregiving, Discoveries of Infancy, Routines as Curriculum, Environments, Understanding Children's Behavior, Facilitating Early Learning, Responding to Families in Culturally Sensitive Ways and Protective Urges. Every two months the teachers gather and reflect on what they have learned in the trainings and how they can implement those techniques in their own classrooms. Teachers enrolled for infant and toddler units also have written assignments and a final project due at the end of the first training segment.

The Infant/Toddler Specialist leading the trainings, Sandy Tucker, will work with ECCDC's Program Director, Site Supervisor and teaching staff to fully implement PITC Practices in the Infant and Toddler

Classrooms. ECCDC Management and staff will work with Sandy to develop a program action plan which includes specific goals and objectives to increase the quality of care provided to infants and toddlers at the Lincoln Site.

PITC training is subsidized by the California Department of Education. Each on-site training is taught by experienced PITC certified infant/toddler specialists. "Trainers mentor and coach program staff on implementing the PITC Philosophy and essential policies to promote high quality responsive, relationship-based infant and toddler care." <http://www.pitc.org> Teachers enrolled in PITC are, Master Teachers Lucia Gomez and Ruthie Hewitt, Associate Teachers Trini Perez, Araceli Ayon, Lizbeth Ortiz, Roya Davody, Blanca Garcia, Teacher Aides Elena Sanchez, Joana Valadez, Sasha Felix, Maria Velador, Olalla Sanchez, Marianita Saldivar, Wendy Mena, Maria Pina, Susana Velasco and Margaret Zalejko. Ladies thank you for your commitment to the children of ECCDC.

ECCDC Disaster Preparedness

Escondido Community Child Development Center wants to ensure the safety and well being of all our children and one of our many ways is with Health and Safety.

We all know what the country of Japan is experiencing due to an earthquake disaster. ECCDC has always had plans at each school and holds regular earthquake and fire drills monthly. Being prepared at all times is our goal to ensure children are SAFE.

That is why we are asking all ECCDC parents to help us with Emergency Preparedness by checking and helping families become familiar with our emergency disaster procedures located in each classroom and the office.



ECCDC and families are working together to prepare in the event of any emergency

We also request each parent to provide ECCDC with a bottle of water, 2 granola bars, and a large Ziploc bag filled with an extra pair of socks, book or stuffed animal, a comforting letter from the parent or family photo, and any medical information needed for that child. ECCDC and families are working together to prepare in the event of any emergency.

ECCDC

“Investing in the Community.... One Child at a Time”

Boyce CDC
819 9th Ave
760-745-9215

Lincoln CDC
619 Lincoln Ave
760-839-9330

Betsy Jones CDC
2269 E. Valley Pkwy
760-737-8880

Central Office
819 9th Ave
760-839-9361

The contents of this newsletter is the sole opinion of the writers. ECCDC is not responsible for the content and contributions of each article



Children at ECCDC receive two balanced meals and snacks provided through the State of California and ECCDC. Our goal is to ensure that our children’s adequate daily nutritional standards are met.

ECCDC participates in the USDA Child and Adult food program. To ensure access to the program by children within our community, we are required to notify the public through media in our service areas of our participation in the program.

About Our Donors: **BRAVO and Boys and Girls Club Foundations**

THE BRAVO FOUNDATION is a private, nonprofit organization whose mission is to support social justice for the working poor, primarily in the San Diego community. The Foundation carries out its mission by providing grants to grassroots or emerging organizations that serve this demographic. Michael Lopez Sr. created the Bravo Foundation with \$14 million he received from the EverHealth Foundation in 1998.

The Bravo Foundation’s relationship with the Escondido Community Child Development Center began in 1995 when they donated \$5000 to the agency. Since 2002 the Bravo Foundation has helped to support the Escondido Commu-

nity Child Development Center’s Early Childhood Mental Health Program with a \$15,000 donation. In 2004, ECCDC received \$10,000, with an additional \$10,000 in 2009, and \$15,000 in Jan 2011 Over the last 11 years, the Bravo Foundation has donated a total of \$55,000 to ECCDC to help support the children and families of Escondido.

The mission of the Boys and Girls Foundation is to identify, support or create programs, which provide preventive services or direct care to abused, neglected and at-risk youth in San Diego County. Since formed, the Boys and Girls Foundation has provided grants in excess of \$1,000,000. These funds have gone to very diverse projects such as those associated with juvenile court system, county probation, the county domestic court system, educational and athletic pro-

grams.

In 2011, the Boys and Girls Foundation donated \$5000 to the Escondido Community Child Development Center for the purchase of materials to enhance the Early Childhood Mental Health Program.

The Escondido Community Child Development Center hopes to continue our relationship with these organizations in the future and continues to strive to improve the lives of families and children in the North Inland San Diego area.

