

San Francisco Citywide Initiatives

Child Care Facilities Fund

In response to an acute shortage of care for infants, toddlers and preschoolers in San Francisco, the Low Income Investment Fund launched the Child Care Facilities Fund (CCFF), a strategic public/private partnership that works to increase, improve and preserve quality child care spaces for every child in the city.

CCFF offers child care providers in San Francisco timely and affordable financing for:

- o Planning, pre-development, and construction of new and expanding facilities
- o Child care facility improvements and renovations
- o Start-up operating costs for new and recently expanded licensed spaces
- o Resolution of urgent health, safety and accessibility issues at child care sites

CCFF provides child care operators with training, classes and one-on-one consultation with experts in:

- o Facility development
- o Facility maintenance
- o Accounting and fiscal management
- o Operations
- o Fundraising and board development

Child Care Health Program

The CCHP serves to promote the health and safety of children birth to five years, in citywide San Francisco child care settings. The goals of the program are to:

- 1) promote healthy and safe child care through a comprehensive, collaborative and integrative approach
- 2) provide health and safety consultation for child care providers and families and 3) coordinate health resource linkages between child care providers, families and community support services.

A team of health advocates and child care nurse consultants deliver these services. Services include: education and consultation on health and safety promotion and available resources, health and environmental safety screenings and referrals to health resources. The team will work individually with sites and with groups or networks of family child care providers. Eligibility: Licensed child care sites, School Readiness Family Resource Centers sites and residential treatment/shelter sites as targeted by program funders

Child Care Inclusion Challenge Project

The Child Care Inclusion Challenge Project (CCICP) is a collaborative effort between Children's Council of San Francisco (lead agency) and Support for Families of Children with Disabilities. The Child Care Inclusion Challenge Project supports efforts to provide quality, inclusive child care for children who have special needs, helping their families find information and resources and child care arrangements. The Project offers free technical assistance, on-site consultation and training to providers in child care centers and FCCs. The CCICP participates in city-wide planning and coordinating councils, offers training on Inclusion, ADA, parent partnerships, and provides disability specific information to providers and parents. The CCICP is jointly funded by HSA and DCYF.

First 5 San Francisco Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Initiative

The San Francisco Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Initiative is grounded in the work of mental health professionals who provide support to children, parents and staff in ECE/child care settings and homeless shelters throughout San Francisco. The Initiative is a partnership between DCYF, the San Francisco Human Services Agency, the Department of Public Health-Community Behavioral Health Services, First 5 San Francisco, and the ECE/child care and homeless community.

Mental health consultants typically spend 8 to 10 hours per week at ECE programs (child care centers and family child care providers) and homeless shelters. Consultation services may include case consultation, direct psychotherapeutic intervention with children and families, program consultation, therapeutic play groups, referrals for specialized services (e.g., developmental and learning assessments, occupational therapy, help with Individualized Education Plans, psychotherapy), crisis intervention, parent education and support groups, advocacy for families, training and support for teachers, child care providers, shelter program staff, and other activities.

Preschool for All

Every child should bring a love of learning to the first day of kindergarten PRESCHOOL FOR ALL is a city-funded initiative that provides a high quality preschool experience to all families in San Francisco. Preschool for All (PFA) programs offer:

- High quality curricula, and environments that have been evaluated for quality
- Well-trained and skilled early childhood teachers
- Enhanced learning activities in creative arts and science
- Tuition-free part-day enrollments; or, discounted full-day enrollments

Preschool For All (PFA) is a city-funded initiative to provide universal access to a high quality, free part-day preschool program to all San Francisco 4-year-olds, regardless of household income. If you are a parent with a child who ages 4-years by December 2nd, and live in San Francisco, you are eligible to enroll at a PFA site with discounted or no-cost tuition, where space is available. While PFA funds a only a 5-day-per-week, part-day program, connections to full-day services are available for parents at many participating preschools, and may require that families meet additional eligibility criteria (such as low-income for subsidized full-day care).