



**STAFF REPORT
February 2, 2006**

ACTION: X

DISCUSSION: _____

PROJECT TITLE: Early Childhood Education Family Child Care Association Grants

A. BACKGROUND

As part of the Early Childhood Education Strategy, the Commission released \$48,000 for Family Child Care Associations to create and implement 2-year outreach and support plans for Family Child Care Providers (FCC) and Family Friend and Neighbor caregivers (FFN). Each Association could receive up to \$8,000 over an 18-month period (February 2006 through June 2007).

Family Child Care Association outreach and support is just one component of Contra Costa County's Professional Development Program (PDP). The PDP supports early educators in their movement toward, and attainment of, higher levels of education through community based outreach and support and stronger linkages with the three Community Colleges.

Specifically, the goals of the 18 month outreach and support plans are to:

- Assist Family Friend and Neighbor (FFN)/ license-exempt providers with information about conferences, in-home activities, and other professional development opportunities that will enable FFN/exempt providers to accumulate professional development hours, obtain stipends, and apply for licensing.
- Provide information to Family Child Care Providers about the Professional Development Program requirements, support programs and scholarships, encourage FCC provider participation in educational advancement, and assist FCC providers in filling out scholarship applications, permit applications and stipend applications.

Each Family Child Care Association (6) was assisted by the Family Child Care CARES Advisor to create a plan that uniquely meets the cultural and linguistic needs as well as participation targets for that association's region.

By December 16, 2005 the Early Childhood Education Specialist received applications from all 6 Family Child Care Associations. A letter was sent to each requesting additional information by January 30, 2006 and every Association complied.

B. RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends:

- The Commission's approval of up to \$48,000 in funding for the attached list of six (6) Family Child Care Associations (up to \$8000 per Association) for the period of February 2006 through June 2007.

ATTACHMENTS: YES

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- Description of Family Child Care Provider Association Grant Applications

Description of Family Child Care Provider Association Grant Applications

Association name and description of project	Feb 06 – June 06 request	July 06 – June 07 request
EAST COUNTY		
East County Providers' Network <i>appreciation luncheon, stipends for FCC mentors, incentives for association meeting attendance, membership discounts</i>	\$2,500	\$5,500
Hispanas Unidas <i>Coordination with Los Medanos College to offer ESL/ECE course for non-English speaking FCC providers and encouragement and support for FCC providers to participate, recruitment mailings, incentives for meeting attendance and course enrollment, workshops for educational advising, provider appreciation dinner.</i>	\$2,510	\$5,490
SOUTH/CENTRAL COUNTY		
Diablo Valley Family Child Care Providers' Association <i>Paid conference registration fees, targeted mailings, providers' fair, creation of professional brochure, stipends for continuing education.</i>	\$2,000	\$6,000
San Ramon Valley Family Child Care Providers Association <i>fees for conference registration/travel, providers' recognition luncheon, additional mailings, incentives for association meeting attendance</i>	\$3,325	\$4,675
WEST COUNTY		
Asociacion Hispanade Proveedoras de Contra Costa <i>Coordination with Contra Costa College to offer ESL/ECE course for non-English speaking FCC providers and encouragement and support for FCC providers to participate, targeted mailings, new newsletter, workshops for FCC provider course advising, incentives for meeting attendance.</i>	\$2,375	\$5,625
West Contra Costa Family Child Care Association <i>Providers' brunch, incentives for association meeting attendance, paid memberships, guest speaker(s) at association meetings, targeted mailings, collaboration with CC College Education Advisor for information and technical assistance in permit process.</i>	\$4,765	\$3,235
TOTALS	\$17,475	\$30,525
GRAND TOTAL	\$48,000	