



# California Essentials for Childhood Initiative Newsletter

Vision: All California children, youth, and their families thrive in safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments

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## California Increases Paid Family Leave

In April, Governor Brown signed into law Assembly Bill (AB) 908, a bill that increases workers' access to the Paid Family Leave program. AB 908 expands on California's Paid Family Leave program, established in 2004, making the program more accessible, especially to the state's lowest and moderate income workers. Currently, the program allows workers to take up to six weeks paid leave at 55% of their monthly salary. AB 908 will increase the wage replacement rate to 70% for the state's lowest income workers and 60% for the rest of workers. It also eliminates the current program's one-week without pay provision.

## CDPH Office of Health Equity Speaker Series

The Office of Health Equity (OHE) has been hosting a speaker series to provide education on issues surrounding health disparities, health and mental health equity. The first programs included Anthony Iton, MD, JD, MPH, Darrell Steinberg, and a screening of The Raising of America episode "Once Upon a Time."

The next presenter in the Equity Speaker Series is Dr. Rishi Manchanda, he will be speaking on how health begins at home and in the workplace, with the social and environmental factors of our everyday lives.

Rishi Manchanda, MD, MPH  
Thursday, May 19, 2016  
1:30 to 3:00 pm  
CA Dept. of Public Health Auditorium  
Bldg. 172  
1500 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento

The speaker series is open to all state employees and legislative staff. Non-state employees are welcome, but must RSVP.

RSVP for non CDPH/DHCS Employees:  
OHE@cdph.ca.gov



## Child Abuse Prevention Month at CDSS

By Alexandria Michaud, Office of Child Abuse and Prevention, California Department of Social Services

The Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) celebrated Child Abuse Prevention Month by raising awareness about child maltreatment in California. This year, OCAP and the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) embraced the theme *Community in Unity* with the belief that when families, friends, and neighbors join together to support and nurture children, child abuse and neglect can be prevented.



To honor children and families, OCAP tied blue ribbons around the trees at the California Department of Social Services building, displayed an awareness banner, and planted a pinwheel garden in the lobby. The pinwheel garden also made its way to the State Capitol!

OCAP's day at the State Capitol raised awareness and offered educational information about child abuse and neglect prevention strategies and programs. To raise awareness on social media, OCAP participated in the #WearBlue4Kids campaign by taking photos of staff wearing blue and using the hashtag. OCAP held a donation drive for the State Children's Trust Fund during the last week of Child Abuse Prevention Month. This fund was established with the specific purpose of creating prevention efforts for child abuse and neglect in California.

To learn more about Child Abuse Prevention Month and what you can do to get involved in your community year-round, visit OCAP's website: <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/ocap/>



## CA EfC Attends CDC Reverse Site Visit

The California Essentials for Childhood CDPH and CDSS backbone team attended the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Reverse Site Visit in Atlanta, Georgia from March 1-3, 2016. The Reverse Site Visit provided an important opportunity for the five-funded states as well as several self-supported states to connect on their Essentials for Childhood projects. Each state created a poster highlighting their activities and provided insight into the inner workings of their initiative.

There were several valuable panel discussions, presentations, and opportunities for networking. Steve Wirtz participated in a "Successes & Challenges" conversation that allowed states to learn from each other and to connect with CDC leadership. ReadyNation presented about engaging the business community. There was also a facilitated Q & A with several partners at the national level about aligning efforts that support the wellbeing of children and families. The meeting also provided an opportunity to engage in breakout sessions.

The California Essentials team is excited to incorporate what we have learned in moving forward.

## Community Spotlight: Building Resilient Communities in Greater Los Angeles

By Dana Brown, Southern California Regional Community Facilitator

In November 2014, the Trauma Informed Care Task Force of Greater Los Angeles (TIC Task Force) was born through a grassroots movement and convening of likeminded individuals and organizations, deeply invested in promoting trauma informed care throughout Los Angeles. A Strategic Planning Committee was formed and gathered for a Values Retreat to lay the groundwork for creating the Task Force's vision and mission. The Strategic Planning Committee is currently in the process of creating Education and Communication Subcommittees to further support this growing interest in the community, and provide opportunities for those interested to get more involved.

Since their inception, the TIC Task Force continues to gain momentum through developing engaging communications, building collaborations with community leaders and organizations, and hosting/cohosting community-centered events. Focusing on strengthening collaborative and community partnerships, the TIC Task Force is also raising awareness of trauma informed resilience building practices through presentations in the community and for service providers. Some of the highlights along the TIC Task Force's journey thus far include:

- July 14, 2015: Launch Event 1st Community Roundtable
- October 10, 2015: Strategic Planning Committee Values Retreat
- November 10, 2015: 2nd Community Roundtable on Community Trauma and Community Healing
- November 12, 2015: Roundtable Feedback Survey sent out to community
- December 16, 2015: Survey Results published in infographic
- February 2, 2016: Participated in panel discussion at Futures Without Violence Event "Changing Minds and Creating Trauma-Informed Communities"
- February 26, 2016: Created document to share the vision, mission, and approach of the TIC Task Force
- March 3, 2016: Cohosted Paper Tigers Film Screening with USC School of Social Work
- March 26, 2016: Cohosted Community Safety Conference with Tri County Collaborative and USC School of Social Work
- April 1, 2016: Participated in California Community Foundation, First5LA, Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, and The California Endowment event "Healing From Trauma and Building Resilience in Los Angeles: How Systems Leaders Can Make a Difference"
- April 13, 2016: Strategic Planning Committee members signed a Memorandum of Understanding to make official their commitment to the TIC Task Force and serving the communities of LA
- April 29, 2016 : To date, over 80 people have joined the Los Angeles County ACEs Connection Group.

For further information, please contact ([traumainformedla@gmail.com](mailto:traumainformedla@gmail.com)).

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[California Essentials for Childhood webpage](#)

