

Recruitment - Development - Support

NEWSLETTER
SPRING 2016

(QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR KERN'S RESOURCE FOSTER CAREGIVERS)

LETTER FROM THE OMBUDSMAN:

Hello Everyone,

I have had an exciting and insightful first quarter as your Foster Care Ombudsman. In the last newsletter, I told you a little bit about myself. In this newsletter I want you to know that you have been heard and how much I appreciate your unique role with our children! I have had a chance to participate in a foster parent support group through a local church and I have taken several calls where caregivers are looking for guidance, advice and help to navigate the complex system we call foster care.

Coming from the field of Social Work I have always understood that Social Workers can be traumatized by their experiences on the job. What I have gained is a deeper appreciation for the trauma foster families experience as children are introduced and incorporated into to their family and then returned to their family of origin leaving the caregiver and their family with a feeling of loss and grief that can go unresolved. But I have also learned that the time you give our children is not in vain. I have heard of foster families and families of origin being transformed by the love and support of our caregivers. I have seen new families created and others restored because you joined with Social Workers, children and their families to make a better life for the children who have come into your care. I know you do not always get to see the results but take hope because love is never given in vain nor does it go unnoticed. You are appreciated!

I want to assure you the Department of Human Services is hearing your voice. I am sure you have heard we often have a need for more foster parents and this is true. However, we also need to retain the caregivers who are already serving our children. We need to help support your emotional needs through difficult times so you can continue to provide love and support to the foster children of Kern County. In this newsletter and the attached fliers you will find some of those resources. I look forward to hearing from more of you and would love to hear from you about how we can better serve your needs.

Curt Williams
Ombudsman Line- (661) 631-6698



RESOURCE FAMILY APPROVAL & CONTINUUM OF CARE REFORM UPDATE

DHS, in conjunction with Kern County Juvenile Probation and our community partners, is hard at work in developing, and implementing, both Resource Family Approval (RFA) and Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) in our county. Both RFA and CCR will begin throughout the State of California on January 1, 2017. RFA is a child centered, family focused, approach to the care of our state's foster children. Beginning on January 1, 2017 all relatives, non-relatives, and traditional foster parents who wish to have placement of a dependent child, or juvenile ward of the court, will go through the same trainings and processes to ensure quality homes for our children and proper training and support for our caregivers. CCR is the movement away from group home care for our children. The goal of CCR is to have group homes accredited and linked to mental health services. Under CCR, children's stays in group home settings will be short term and their transition to the most stable and supportive family home setting will be paramount in all aspects of the child's case plan. These are exciting times for our agency and we look forward to providing you updates as we get closer to implementation.



Kern County Resource Families are Valued, Respected, Supported, and Skilled Partners and Advocates Who:
Provide safe loving homes • Commit to the development and success of children and families • Encourage family connections and nurturing relationships • Maintain a life long connection to children whenever possible

Helping Our Families Heal:

Imagine being unable to attend your child's award assembly or little league game. Or being told that you were not welcome at their spelling bee or dance recital. How would this make you feel? How would that make your child feel? Angry? Mad? Discouraged? Depressed? This is the reality facing many of the families currently receiving Family Reunification Services. Numerous studies have shown that parents who are able to participate in these types of events are far more likely to successfully reunify. Additionally, children who have parents who attend are found to be better adjusted and have better outcomes in areas such as behavior and education. It can be something as simple as having a parent attend a baseball game or supervising a parent's visit so that they can help the child with homework and be involved in the child's daily routine. Please talk to your child's social worker about how you can help rebuild families through the simple act of inclusion.

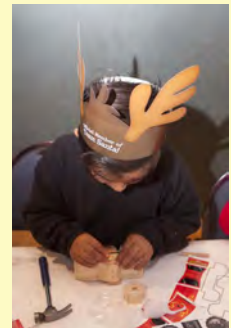
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA 2015



Our annual Breakfast with Santa event was a huge success thanks to the generosity of our local businesses and community organizations. The event offered something for everyone including games, face painting, a gift raffle for caregivers, a station for children to build a monster truck, a cupcake walk, and the ability to take a family photo with Santa.



We'd like to offer a big "Thank You" to Lowe's, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), McDonald's, Chevron, Target Distribution Center, Kern Federal Credit Union, Canyon Hills Church, and the Kern Partnership for Families for your donations and/or volunteer services. We would especially like to thank our caregivers, and their families, for their attendance and for being a part of this event. We look forward to seeing you at Breakfast with Santa 2016!



NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

Do you know a first time mother, or expectant first time mother, who could use family support, mentoring and guidance? If so, the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) may be just the thing. NFP is an evidence-based program with over thirty years of supporting research. With this program, a Public Health Nurse (PHN) works with first-time mothers from pregnancy until the child is 2 years old. The program's goals are to improve pregnancy outcomes, improve child health & development, and increase economic self-sufficiency. Patients are eligible if they meet the following criteria:

- Expecting to deliver and parent for the first time
- Less than six months pregnant
- Low-income and eligible for Medi-Cal or WIC
- Live in Kern County



If you, or someone you know, would benefit from this program please contact (661) 321-3000 for an appointment and/or for more information.

Truancy

Keeping kids home from school is “not a big deal.” Why not, right? “What’s the harm in that?” “They are young, it won’t matter, they have many years to go.” “What are a few days?” “What can they possibly be learning in kindergarten?” These are some of the excuses that are often used when keeping children home from school when they are not sick or otherwise legitimately unable to be there.

The California Legislature states that a student missing more than 30 minutes of instruction without an excuse three times during the school year must be classified as a truant and reported to the proper school authority. California State Law requires that a student attend school every day-all day, (Education Code of the State of California 48200). In California, 230,000 students missed 18 or more days of school in the 2014-2015 school year. According to the *In School + On Track 2015* report, absences happen mainly in the earliest grades. Nearly 15% of kindergarteners are chronically absent. Missing 2-3 days every month can turn into third graders unable to read on grade level. Missing school deprives students of important developmental, social, and learning opportunities and increases the risk of later involvement in the criminal justice system. Don’t let this happen to your student. Stay in touch with your student. Monitor your student’s attendance. Help your student succeed. If your child does not want to attend no matter what you do to encourage them do not give up.

Take a moment to read the information included from T.R.A.C.K. (Truancy Reduction & Attendance Coalition of Kern). If you are going through difficult times, reach out to your child’s social worker, teacher or community agencies. You are not alone. For more information, including a brochure with a listing of other resources, visit them on the web at: <http://kern.org/schcom/truancy-reduction-attendance-coalition-of-kern-track/>



Did you know...

The Education Code Section 49069.5 states that a foster child’s grades cannot be lowered due to absences caused by a change in placement, attendance at a court hearing, or a court ordered activity? Or that Education Code Section 48853.5(d)(4)(b) provides that foster children have the right to be immediately enrolled in a new school without school records, immunization records, uniforms, etc...? These are just a few of the educational protections offered to foster children under the law. To help caregivers navigate this complex system the Kern County Superintendent of Schools, in conjunction with the Kern County Network for Children, provide Foster Youth Services (FYS). Services provided include, but are not limited to, providing transcript analysis and education plans for foster youth, advocating for foster youths’ educational needs, and providing individual school or community-based tutoring referrals for foster youth. If you need help or would like more information, please contact them at [\(661\) 636-4488](tel:(661)636-4488) or visit their website at <http://kern.org/kcnc/foster-youth-services/>



Hearts Connection

Are you a caregiver or parent who is caring for someone who receives services from a regional center? If so, Hearts Connection can help! Hearts Connection provides supportive services to the family of regional center consumers, including Individualized Education Plan (IEP) clinics and training, parent support groups, social events, and more. For more information please call [\(661\) 328-9055](tel:(661)328-9055) or [\(800\) 210-7633](tel:(800)210-7633). Visit them on the web at www.heartsfrc.org.

Search & Serve

Do you know a child who has (or who you think has) autism, learning disabilities, hearing impairment, speech delays or other concerns that may impact their education? Any individual that knows a child that they feel might need special education intervention can contact the Search and Serve office to talk about their concerns or make a referral. Services are provided for children from birth through 21 years. For more information please call [\(661\) 636-4817](tel:(661)636-4817) or visit them on the web at <http://kern.org/selpa/search-and-serve/>



POINTS OF INTEREST

- Licensed Foster Families Needed for Specialty Care– Emergency Foster Homes, specialized medical needs, severe emotional behavioral challenges, homes for large sibling groups, homes for pregnant or parenting teens, AB12 youth (ages 18-21), homes for victims of Human Trafficking
- Respite Care Homes Needed– Please Contact your Licensing Program Analyst (LPA) or Eva Gonzalez, clerk at (661) 631-6876, to be added to the Respite Care Provider List.
- Pass Along Cards– Refer family and friends to become a licensed foster family and earn a gift card. For details call 661-631-6204 or email us at Resourcefamilies@kerndhs.com

COMING SOON:

MEDICALLY FRAGILE TRAINING

Edee Ellenberger, Retired RN, is providing training for caregivers of children with special medical needs on March 5th, 2016 from 10am to 2:30pm at the Kinship Center Annex located at 3041 Wilson Road, Bakersfield, California. More information will be provided in the near future.



If you are interested in submitting an article for upcoming newsletters, or have suggestions on improving the newsletter, please contact Cherie Linde at: (661) 631-6403 or email lindec@kerndhs.com

Caregivers of Kern County

Foster a Child's Journey Home



ckckids.org

With heavy hearts the Caregivers of Kern have announced that they are disbanding the group effective January 1, 2016. The Department of Human Services will continue to explore new ways for caregivers to connect and will share that information as it becomes available.

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

My name is Araceli Navarro-Gomez, Interim Program Manager, Foster and Kinship Education Program of Bakersfield College. I am honored to be able to work with Resource Families, Kern County Department of Human Services and other community members that play such an important role in the families/children we serve in Kern County.

I am excited to announce that foster parent trainings are being offered again. Please review the enclosed flyer for the upcoming trainings; you can also visit our webpage at http://www2.bc.cc.ca.us/cdt/Foster_Kinship/foster_kin.html

With all the up-coming changes related to RFA we will be exploring new ways to improve the program to better serve the training needs of our Resource Families. If you have any ideas, comments or questions please call or e-mail me. I am looking forward to working with all of you!

Araceli Navarro-Gomez

[661-395-4737](tel:661-395-4737)

Araceli.Navarro@bakersfieldcollege.edu

KERN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

100 E. California Ave., Bakersfield, Ca. 93307

PO Box 511, Bakersfield, Ca. 93302

Recruitment Phone (661) 631-6204

Resourcefamilies@kerndhs.com

Fax (661) 633-7077

We're on the Web!

www.co.kern.ca.us/dhs/FosterFamilyResource/

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE



Foster & Kinship Care Education Program

Foster Parent Training Schedule (February-April):

February 9, 2016

Session 1

5:00pm-7:00pm

Caring for Children with Severe/Emotional Behavioral Needs Level 2

Presented by Monica Goodell-Bonello, Social Service Supervisor-Kern County Department of Human Services & Brenda Story, Mental Health Supervisor-Kern County Mental Health

Session 2

7:00pm-9:00pm

ILP/AB12 Overview & Services

Presented by Juanika Barnett, Social Service Worker III, Kern County Department of Human Services

February 23, 2016

Session 1

5:00pm-7:00pm

Caring for Children with Severe/Emotional Behavioral Needs Level 3/4

Presented by Miriam Ocampo, Social Service Supervisor-Kern County Department of Human Services & Kern County Mental Health

Session 2

7:00pm-9:00pm

Drug Awareness & Prevention

Presented by Jessica Villarreal, Community Relations Liaison Officer-Bakersfield Police Department

March 8, 2016

Session 1

5:00pm-7:00pm

Hair & Skin Care for African American Children

Presented by Juanika Barnett, Social Service Worker-Kern County Department of Human Services

Session 2

7:00pm-9:00pm

Caring for Children with Severe Emotional/Behavioral Needs Level 2

Presented by Monica Goodell-Bonello, Social Service Supervisor-Kern County Department of Human Services and Kern County Mental Health

March 22, 2016

Session 1

5:00pm-7:00pm

Caring for Children with Severe/Emotional Behavioral Needs Level 3/4

Presented by Miriam Ocampo, Social Service Supervisor-Kern County Department of Human Services & Kern County Mental Health

Session 2

7:00pm-9:00pm

Internet Bullying/Preventing Child Sexual Abuse

Presented by Rachel Rivera, Community Relations Specialist-Bakersfield Police Department

April 5, 2016

Session 1

5:00pm-7:00pm

Caring for Children with Severe/Emotional Behavioral Needs Level 2

Presented by Monica Goodell-Bonello, Social Services Supervisor- Kern County Department of Human Services & Kern County Mental Health

Session 2:

7:00pm-9:00pm

Best Practices for LGBTQ Youth in Care

Presented by Lori Toia, Resource Specialist Teacher-Panama Buena Unified School District

April 19, 2016

Session 1

5:00pm-7:00pm

Caring for Children with Severe/Emotional Behavioral Needs Level 3/4

Presented by Miriam Ocampo, Social Service Supervisor-Kern County Department of Human Services & Kern County Mental Health

Session 2

7:00pm-9:00pm

Rights & Responsibilities of Foster Parents

Presented by Gayla Gibson, Foster Parent/Relative Caregiver and former member of Caregivers of Kern County

**All classes will be held at: Weill Institute, 2100 Chester Avenue
Bakersfield CA, 93301, Room 103**

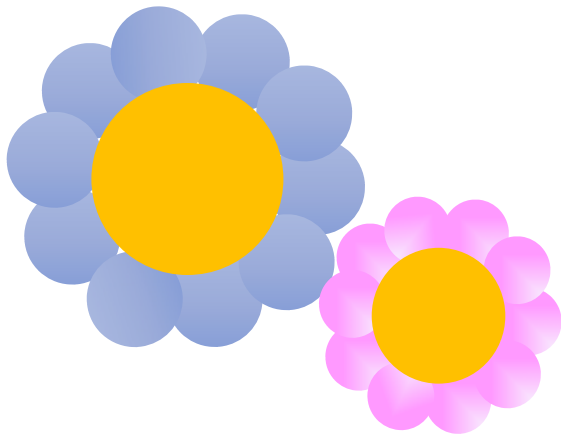
- ❖ The classes being offered will fulfill training hours for licensing.
- ❖ Pre-Register: (661)319-1836 or Araceli Navarro (661)395-4737



Nurse-Family Partnership

Helping First-Time Parents Succeed

*Our purpose is to promote
healthy lifestyles for women
and their children and to
create stronger family bonds*



*For information or to make an appointment, call
(661) 321-3000 • Fax (661) 868-1200*



Just in Time Training

“Training you need, when and where you need it”



Just in Time Training is a web based service program designed to connect with foster parents, kinship or other caregivers with training, peer experts and other resource, all from the comfort of their home or office. Questions are answered and practical solutions to care for children are discussed. It's also completely free!

Service Features



Request Training

Send training requests right from the www.qpicalifornia.org home page.



On-Demand Training Videos

Watch our pre-recorded training videos anytime, anywhere, in the Just in Time video directory.



Keeping You Informed

The Just in time Training website features a Training Calendar to keep you updated with training events in each region. You can select the entire region or use the drop down box to select only your county!



Document Resource

You have unlimited access to our resource library, filled with the latest information foster parents and caregivers will want to know.

www.qpicalifornia.org

Have questions or comments? Email QPICalifornia@usf.edu

ASPIRA^{net}

Adoption Parent Partnership

- Do you find yourself wanting to interact with other adoptive family's who understand the joys and challenges associated with loving and raising children who have not always been with you?
- Meetings are held the third Monday of every month, from 5:30pm-7:00pm.

*Meeting dates are adjusted for legal holidays

1001 Tower Way, suite 110
Bakersfield, CA 93309

- Please RSVP to Paula Williams, so that sufficient food and childcare can be assured. (661) 323-1233 x0

2016 Meeting Dates

- January 11
- February 8
- March 21
- April 18
- May 23
- June 20
- July 18
- August 15
- September 19
- October 17
- November 21



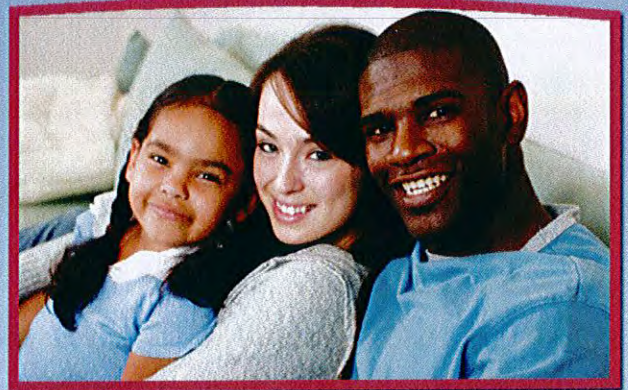


Koinonia Family Services Adoption Program

Adoptive Family Support Group

Koinonia...

*Serving the adoption community
with education, advocacy, and
support for and by adoptive families*



Meets the first Monday of each month 6:30-8:30pm. If the first Monday is a holiday, the support group will be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday.

Koinonia's Support Group is free and open to ALL families:

Considering adoption • In the adoption process • Who have adopted

**Adoption Support Groups are held at:
Ridgeview Community Church**

8420 Stine Road, Bakersfield

Hwy 99 Northbound:

- Take 99 North
- Take Taft/Lamont Exit
- Turn left onto South H St
- Take the 1st left onto Taft Hwy
- Turn right onto Stine Rd
- Destination will be on the right

Hwy 99 Southbound:

- Take 99 South
- Take Panama Ln Exit
- Turn right onto Panama Ln
- Turn left onto Stine Rd
- Destination will be on the left



For questions or to
RSVP for childcare, call:
(661) 833-4483 or
email: kernpass@kfh.org

*Upon request, childcare
and training certificates
are available at no charge*

ADOPTION SUPPORT PROGRAM SERVICES

Koinonia's Permanency and Adoption Support Services (PASS) seeks to further Koinonia's mission to provide the highest quality treatment and services available for children, youth, and their families by supporting family systems created through adoption and other permanency options so that families can fulfill their life-long commitments to children. In addition, Koinonia seeks to promote adoption awareness within Kern County through promotional events and collaboration with other providers and community partners so that families are effectively supported within their local communities.

Supportive services are provided by highly trained and competent staff and include:

► Crisis Support and Intervention

Strength and Needs Assessment for Services
An informed consent needs to be reviewed and signed prior to completion of the assessment.

► Education/ Trainings

► Lending Library

► Support Groups

► Advocacy

► Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP)

Can include any or all of the following: case management, counseling, education/training, support (groups and/or mentorship), advocacy, referrals or linkage to other community providers and partners.

► Promotional Events

► Communication and Outreach

Permanency and Adoption Support Services (PASS) is coordinated through Koinonia's Bakersfield District Office. For additional information or to request assessment for services, please contact (661) 833-4483.

Additional information may also be obtained through Koinonia's Permanency and Adoption Support Services (PASS) website located at <http://adoption.kfh.org>.



(866) 223-1983
24-HOUR HOTLINE

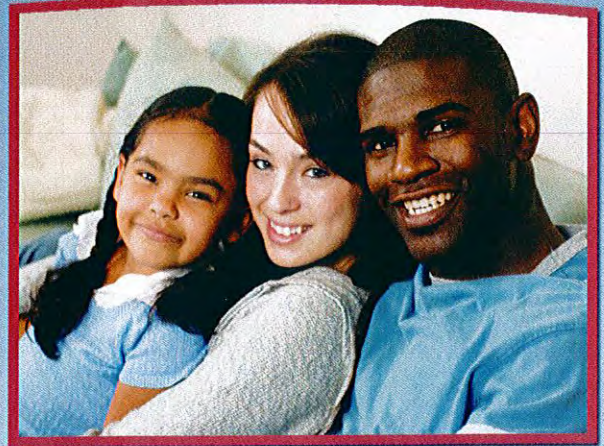


Koinonia Family Services Programa de Adopción

Grupo de apoyo para Familias Adoptivas

Koinonia...

Presta servicios a familias adoptivas mediante capacitación, defensa del caso y apoyo para y por familias que adoptan.



**Nos reunimos el primer Lunes de cada mes
de 6:30 a 8:30pm, excepto los feriados.**

El Grupo de Apoyo de Koinonia es gratuito y abierto a TODAS las familias, incluso aquellas que hayan realizado la adopción por medio de la Agencia de Adopción del Condado de Kern.

Para aquellos que están pensando en adoptar • En el proceso de adopción • Después de la adopción

**Los Grupos de Apoyo para Adopción se reúnen en la:
Iglesia de la Comunidad Ridgeview**

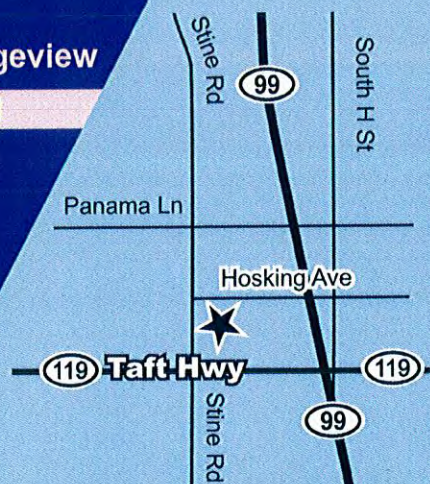
8420 Stine Road, Bakersfield

Carretera 99 hacia el Norte:

- Tome la 99 North
- Tome la Salida Taft/Lamont
- Doble a la izquierda en South H St
- Tome la 1ra a la izquierda en la carretera Taft
- Doble a la derecha en Stine Rd
- El centro de reunión está a la derecha

Carretera 99 hacia el Sur:

- Tome la 99 Sur
- Tome la Salida Panama Ln
- Doble a la derecha en Panama Ln
- Doble a la izquierda en Stine Rd
- El centro de reunión está a la izquierda



Si tiene alguna pregunta o quiere confirmar el servicio de guardería, llame al: **(661) 833-4483** o envíe un correo electrónico a: kernpass@kfh.org

La guardería y los certificados de asistencia a la capacitación son gratuitos y a pedido.

Financiado por el Departamento de Servicios Sociales del Condado de Kern para todas las Familias de Kern.

SERVICIOS Y PROGRAMAS DE APOYO PARA LA ADOPCIÓN

Los Servicios de Apoyo de Adopción y Permanencia de Koinonia (PASS, según sus siglas en inglés) allienta la misión de Koinonia al brindar un trato y servicios de alta calidad para niños, jóvenes y sus familias; y apoya aquellos sistemas de familia que se crean por adopción u otras opciones de permanencia, a fin de que puedan cumplir con su compromiso de por vida con los niños. Además, Koinonia promueve la conciencia por la adopción dentro del Condado de Kern organizando eventos publicitarios y colaborando con otros proveedores y miembros de la comunidad. De esta forma se contiene, eficazmente, a las familias dentro de sus comunidades.

Se brindan servicios de apoyo con personal eficiente y altamente capacitado. Entre ellos, se incluye:

- ▶ **Contención en Momentos de Crisis e Intervención**
Evaluación de Puntos Fuertes y Necesidad de Servicios. Se revisará y se firmará un consentimiento informado antes de realizar la evaluación.
- ▶ **Educación/Capacitación**
- ▶ **Préstamo de Libros de la Biblioteca**
- ▶ **Grupos de Apoyo**
- ▶ **Defensa del caso**
- ▶ **Plan de Servicios para Familias Personalizado (IFSP, según sus siglas en inglés)**
El plan puede incluir algunas o todas las siguientes: conducción del caso, asesoramiento, educación/capacitación, grupos y/o tutorías de apoyo, defensa del caso, referidos o vínculo con otros proveedores y miembros de la comunidad.
- ▶ **Eventos Publicitarios**
- ▶ **Comunicación y Compromiso**

Los Servicios de Apoyo para Adopción y Permanencia (PASS, según sus siglas en inglés) están organizados por la Oficina del Distrito Bakersfield de Koinonia. Si necesita más información o necesita los servicios de evaluación, llame al (661) 833-4483.

También podrá obtener más información en la página web de Servicios de Apoyo para Adopción y Permanencia (PASS) de Koinonia <http://adoption.kfh.org>.



KOINONIA
FAMILY SERVICES

(866) 223-1983

Línea directa las 24 horas

What actions may be taken against the student?

- An infraction under Welfare and Institutions Code 601 (b) may be filed against the truant student.
- Penalties against the student may include:
 - 20 to 40 hours of community or school service
 - \$50 fine
 - Suspension or revocation of driving privileges

What penalties may be imposed on the parent or guardian?

- The penalties with court may include a fine with penalties assessments of \$420 for first offense, \$570 for second offense, and \$820 or more for the third offense.
- For a misdemeanor, the penalties may include a fine of \$50 to \$500; 5 to 25 days in jail with up to one year probation; and parenting classes
- Contributing to the delinquency of a minor under the age of 18 years is considered a misdemeanor and punishable by law. In addition to imprisonment in a county jail for up to one year, a parent may be Fined up to \$2500 and receive up to 5 years of probation (Penal Code section 272)

Did you know...

Welfare and Institutions Code section 11253.5 authorizes the County CalWORKS office to reduce a family welfare grant if it is determined that the child is not "regularly attending school as required."

STEP POLICY

The following **STEPS** are a series of progressive measures and interventions set by the KHSD to improve student attendance. Though each student will be held accountable for his/her actions and each parent held responsible for his/her student's truancy, it is an overall goal of each school to increase daily attendance for the purpose of ensuring student achievement and success. **It is the goal of the KHSD that each student graduate from high school and receive a diploma.**

- Step 1 Student is contacted. Parent is notified. Student is labeled as a Truant (CA Ed. Code Section 48260.5)
- Step 2 Student is contacted. Parent is notified. Intervention strategies may be implemented.
- Step 3 Parent is required to meet with School Site Truancy Administrator. Intervention strategies may be implemented. Student may be placed on a behavioral agreement. Student is labeled as Habitually Truant (CA Ed. Code Section 48262).
- Step 4 Student and parent required to meet with Student Attendance Review Team (SART). Community and/or school service may be assigned.
- Step 5 Student and parent are required to meet with the School Attendance Review Board (SARB) at the KHSD District Office.
- Step 6 Student and/or parent may be issued a citation to appear in court. Student and parent may be required to appear in court. Fines and community service may be imposed.

(Students who were on STEP 5 in a previous school year will skip STEP 4 & 5 and go directly to STEP 6)

Truancy Reduction Program

The Kern High School District



A Message to Students and Parents

The Kern High School District allocates many resources helping our students be productive citizens. One of the major indicators of a successful life is consistent school attendance. Because we are committed to student success, we are happy to partner with other agencies helping our students develop positive school attendance patterns working toward a successful life.

Bryon Schaefer, Ed.D.
KHSD Superintendent

What Can I do?

- Establish and stick to the basic routines (i.e., setting a bedtime and sticking to it, laying out clothes and packing a backpack the night before, waking up on time, etc.)
- Talk to your student about why going to school every day is critical and important.
- If your student is absent, work with the teachers to make sure she or he has an opportunity to learn and make up the academics missed.
- Reach out for help if you are experiencing tough times (i.e., Transportation, unstable housing, loss of a job, health problems) that make it difficult to get your child to school.
- Enroll in The Parent Project (contact your school for more information).

California State Law requires
That a student attend school
EVERY day, ALL day.

48200 from the Education Code of the State of California states the following:

Each person between the ages of 6 and 18 years is subject to compulsory full-time education.....and shall attend the public full-time day school or continuation school for the full school day.

What can students do to avoid consequences of truancy and REMAIN SUCCESSFUL IN SCHOOL?

- Attend school EVERY day, for the full school day.
- Be ON TIME to class; don't be tardy.
- Actively participate in class: DO YOUR WORK and DO YOUR BEST.
- Complete your homework.
- Follow the school's discipline and attendance policies and procedures.
- Be a leader: DO WHAT'S RIGHT.
- Take charge of your education.

What can parents do to help their student succeed in school?

- Stay in touch with your student; know what's going on.
- Provide a quiet place for him/her to study and a regular, healthy routine.
- Stay in touch with your student's school: VISIT.
- Monitor your student's attendance.
- Seek help from the school when you need it. The deans and counselors want to help you and your student.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is a truant?:

- A truant is a student who is absent from school 3 times in a school year without having a good reason (an excused absence) or permission from home or school. (Education Code 48260)

Who is considered a habitual truant?

- A habitual truant is a student who is absent from school 5 times in a school year without having a good reason (an excused absence) or permission from home or school (Education Codes 48260, 48261, and 48262).

How can I clear an absence for my student?

- If a student is ill or has an excused reason for his/her absence, a parent may call the school within **72 hours** (3 school days) to clear the absence.

What happens if I don't clear my student's absence?

- If the parent/guardian fails to clear a student's absence within the 72-hour period (3 school days), the absence will automatically turn into a cut, or an unexcused absence. Three cuts will result in truancy, and the student will automatically be placed on the next STEP of the KHSD Truancy Program.

What if I'm having a problem with my student attending school?

- Parents are encouraged to seek immediate help from the school if they are having a problem with their student attending school. Schools want to help!

We're Looking for Children

...very special children

**For
more
information
call:**

Kern County
Consortium/SELPA:
(661) 636-4817

Bakersfield City
School District/SELPA:
(661) 631-5850

Kern High
School District/SELPA:
(661) 827-3288

Sierra Sands
School District/SELPA:
(760) 446-8703

Kern County
Superintendent of Schools
(661) 636-4817

...and we need your help

There are many children with disabilities (birth to 21 years) who need free educational and therapeutic services available from Kern County school districts. We need your help to find these children!

The Search and Serve Office can identify possible disabilities and refer you to the appropriate educational facility. If you know of a child who has one or more of the disabilities listed below, (or you suspect they have) please let us know!

- ◆ autism
- ◆ learning disabilities
- ◆ deafness or severe hard of hearing
- ◆ total or partial blindness
- ◆ speech or language difficulties
- ◆ physical or orthopedic impairments
- ◆ developmental delays
- ◆ mental retardation
- ◆ serious emotional problems
- ◆ multiple disabilities



BUSCAMOS NIÑOS

...niños muy especiales

**Para obtener
más
información
llame a:**

Consortio del Condado
de Kern/SELPA:
(661) 636-4817

Distrito Escolar de la Ciudad
de Bakersfield/SELPA:
(661) 631-5850

Distrito de las Escuelas
Secundarias de Kern/SELPA:
(661) 827-3288

Distrito Escolar
de Sierra Sands/SELPA:
(760) 446-8703

Consortio del Condado
de Kern/SELPA:
(661) 636-4817

...y necesitamos su ayuda

Hay muchos niños incapacitados (desde recién nacidos hasta los 21 años de edad) que necesitan los servicios de educación o terapia gratis disponibles en los Distritos Escolares del Condado de Kern.

¡Necesitamos su ayuda para encontrar a estos niños! La Oficina de Investigación y Servicios puede identificar las incapacidades y recomendarlo a la entidad educativa adecuada. ¡Si usted conoce algún niño que tiene una o más de las incapacidades indicadas abajo (o si usted sospecha que puedan tener una incapacidad) por favor avísenos!

- ◆ autismo
- ◆ incapacidades del aprendizaje
- ◆ sordera o pérdida severa del oído
- ◆ ceguera total y parcial
- ◆ dificultades con el habla o el lenguaje
- ◆ incapacidades físicas u ortopédicas
- ◆ incapacidades del desarrollo
- ◆ retrasos mentales
- ◆ trastornos emocionales
- ◆ discapacidades múltiples



Graduation

AB 167/216 allows foster youth to graduate by completing the CA requirements rather than their local district's credit requirements, when 3 requirements are met (EC § 51225.1(a)):

- (1) The foster youth student must have transferred schools after completing their second year of high school, using either the number of credits earned or length of time of enrollment, whichever will make a student eligible.
- (2) The district must find that the pupil is not reasonably able to complete the district's local graduation requirements by the end of their 4th year of high school.
- (3) The pupil must complete all CA graduation requirements.

Notice required: W/in 30 days of student's transfer district must provide notice to student, social worker, and ed right holder re: eligibility.

Note: Students with IEP or 504 plan are exempt from the CA exit exam (CHASEE). EC § 60852.3.

Ed Rights

Std to limit ed rights for a minor dependent:

necessary to protect the child. WIC § 361. (At detention: unwilling, unavailable, unable WIC § 319). Court form: JV-535 & JV-535 (A).

- Court must determine whether there is an available, willing adult known to the minor before appointing an unknown adult or ordering an LEA to do so. WIC §§ 319,726.



If you have a foster child or relative child in your care and you would like to have the right to make educational decision for him or her, contact your child's social worker.

To find a listing of your school district's Liaison, contact Foster Youth Services at 661-636-4488 or visit the Kern County Network for Children's website at www.kcnc.org and click under Foster Youth Services.

OTHER RESOURCES:

Foster Care Ombudsman's website at www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov or call their toll free number at 1-877-846-1602.

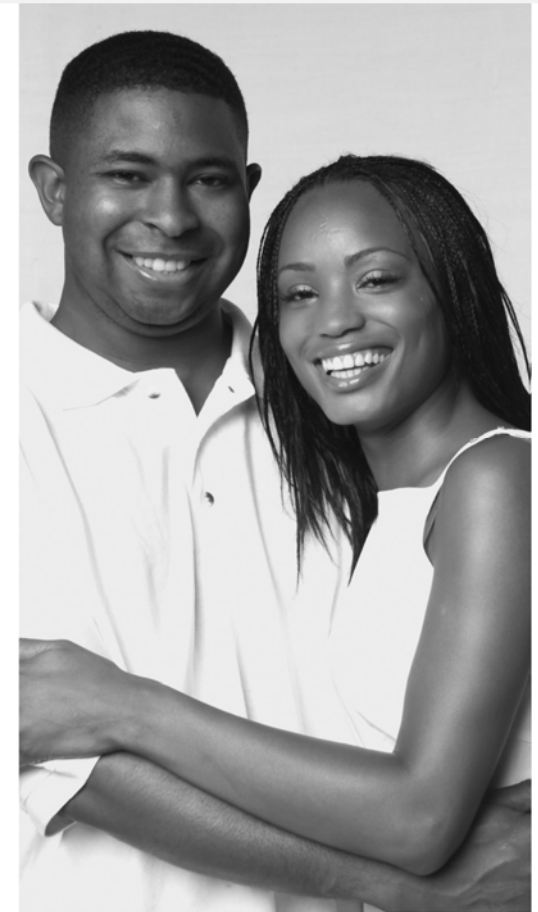


100 E. California Ave. Bakersfield, CA 93307
Tel 661.631.6600 • Fax 661.631.6631 • TTY 800.735.2929

KCDHS 336-Gen (11/15)

KCDHS is an equal opportunity agency.

Educational Rights for Foster Youth



Opportunity. Options. Empowerment.
www.KCDHS.org

School Change

When Contemplating a School Change

- Youth has the right to remain in school/district or origin when there is a change in placement. EC § 48853.5(e)(1).
- The placing agency must consider a new home's proximity to the school of origin. WIC § 16501.1(c).
- W/in 24 hours of determining that a home change would result in a school change, the CWW must contact minor's counsel and the ed rights holder. CRC 5.651(e)(1)(A).
- Minor's counsel must, as appropriate, discuss the proposed school change with the child and the ed rights holder and may request a hearing. CRC 5.651(e)(2)(A).

Youth Remains in School of Origin

- Youth has the right to remain in school of origin for the duration of court's jurisdiction, or through graduation, if in high school when case is dismissed. EC § 48853.5(e)(3)(A).
- Youth is a resident of the school district of origin. EC § 48204(a)(1)(B)(2).
- School of origin = school attended while permanently housed, school last enrolled, or any school the youth attended within the last 15 months. EC § 48853.5(f).
- If youth has transportation in their IEP as a related service, school district of origin is responsible to provide it. EC §§ 48204(a)(1)(B)(2), 48853.5(e)(3)(B)(5).
- If no IEP transportation, foster parent may be reimbursed by Social Services for reasonable travel to school of origin. ACL No. 11-51; CRC 5.651(f)(1)(C).

Youth Changes School

- Foster youth liaison must give written explanation to the youth and ed rights holder why it's in the youth's best interest to change schools. EC § 48853.5(e)(3)(b)(7).
- If the pupil has an IEP, the CWW must give the new and old school 10 days prior written notice of the expected school change. CRC 5.651(e)(1)(B).
- If the pupil has an IEP and changes districts, the new district must immediately provide comparable services and hold an IEP meeting within 30 days. EC § 56325.
- CWW should compile school records and education passport for new caregivers. WIC § 16010 (a),(c).
- The NEW SCHOOL shall allow the pupil to IMMEDIATELY enroll even if the pupil lacks records normally required for enrollment (EC § 48853.5(e)(8)(B)) AND within 2 days must contact the previous school to request all the pupil's records. EC § 48853.5(e)(8)(C).
- The PREVIOUS SCHOOL w/in two days must provide the records including any PARTIAL CREDITS received, which the new school must accept. Id., EC § 48645.5.
- CWW provides new district/SELPA Director a copy of the IEP and relevant records, contact information of previous school

attended, and notice of who holds educational rights, when placing a child in licensed foster home or children's institution. See 2 CCR § 60510; EC § 56156.

- Open IEP assessment must be completed by new/old districts. 20 USC § 1414(b)(3)(D); EC § 56320(i).



Assess For Special Ed & 504 Plan

Referral

Written referral by ed rights holder OR service provider (e.g., teacher, CWW, attorney) to assess youth for SPED & 504 Plan (EC § 56029; 34 C.F.R. § 104.35) from birth to age 22. EC § 56026.

Assessment Plan

School must provide assessment plan w/in 15 days to ed rights holder (no SST is required). EC § 56321(a). If school refuses to assess, contact CWW & minor's counsel to discuss next steps.

IEP Meeting

IEP mtg held w/in 60 days of receipt of assessment plan signed by ed rights holder. EC § 56344(a).

Eligible

If pupil qualifies for special ed (5 CCR. § 3030), the pupil is eligible for a free appropriate public education (FAPE, e.g., SPED services & accommodations) in the least restrictive environment (LRE, 20 USC § 1412 (a)(5)(A)), annual IEP review (EC § 56344(d), & reassessment every 3 years (EC § 56381(a)2). If only eligible for a 504 plan, school must create a plan w/ accommodations and services. 34 CFR § 104.3(i).

Not Eligible

If the pupil does not qualify, contact CWW and minor's counsel. If you disagree with the assessment, consider an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE). EC § 56329(b).

School Discipline

Suspension?

The school must make a reasonable effort to notify the ed rights holder by phone and must provide written notice. EC § 48911(d),(g). 20 days of suspension does not automatically create an expulsion rec. EC § 48903(a).

Extended Suspension / Rec to Expel?

If the pupil is referred for expulsion and suspension is extended b/c the pupil is deemed disruptive or a danger, the school must convene a meeting with the ed rights holder and invite the minor's lawyer and social services designee to the meeting. EC § 48911(g).

Pupil has a Disability?

If the pupil has a disability (IEP or 504 plan), or the school has knowledge of a suspected disability (e.g., referred for an assessment), and the pupil has (1) either been referred for expulsion or (2) been suspended more than 10 days constituting a change in placement, the school must hold a manifestation determination w/in 10 days. 20 USC § 1415 (k)(1)(E), (k)(5); 34 CFR § 300.534(b)

Manifestation Determination?

School must contact minor's lawyer & social services. EC § 48915.5(d). The MD requires 2 questions.

- (1) was the behavior cause by, or did it have "a direct and substantial relationship" to the pupil's disability; and
- (2) was the behavior a direct result of the district's failure to implement the IEP?

If answer is YES to either, pupil cannot be expelled, and school must develop a behavior plan. If the answer is NO to both questions, the pupil may be disciplined like a non disabled peer. 20 USC § 1415(k)(1)(F); 34 CFR § 300.530 (e),(f).

Expulsion Hearing?

If the pupil is not disabled or the answer was "no" to both MD questions, the school may hold an expulsion hearing within 30 days of committing any EC 48900 act EC § 48918 (a). Ten days prior to the hearing, written notice must be sent to the student (EC § 48918(b)), and if it's discretionary act, the minor's attorney and social services designee must be contacted. EC § 48918.1. The pupil may request to postpone the hearing for up to 30 days. EC § 48918(a).

Expulsion Appeal

If expelled, the ed rights holder may appeal within 30 days of the governing board's decision to expel. EC § 48919.

Graduación

AB 167/216 permite a jóvenes de crianza graduarse al completar el requisito de CA en lugar de los requisitos de crédito de su distrito local cuando se cumplen los siguientes 3 requisitos (EC § 51225.1(a)):

- (1) El joven de crianza estudiante deberá haber transferido escuela después de completar su segundo año de escuela secundaria, ya sea usando el número de créditos acumulados o el período de tiempo de inscripción, cual haría que un estudiante sea elegible.
- (2) El distrito debe encontrar que el alumno no es razonablemente capaz de completar los requisitos de graduación del distrito local para el final de su cuarto año de escuela secundaria.
- (3) El alumno debe completar todos los requisitos de graduación de CA.

Notificación Requerida: Dentro de 30 días de la transferencia el distrito debe proveer una notificación al estudiante, trabajador social, y titular de los derechos de educación re: elegibilidad.

Nota: Estudiantes con IEP o plan 504 son excluidos del examen de salida de CA (CHASEE). EC § 60852.3.

Derechos Educativos

Standard de limitar derechos educativos para un menor dependiente: necesario para proteger al niño. WIC § 361. (En la detención: indispuesto, no disponible, incapaz WIC § 319). Forma de corte: JV-535 & JV-535 (A).

- La corte debe determinar si hay un adulto, conocido por el menor, disponible y dispuesto antes de nombrar un adulto desconocido o ordenar la LEA para hacerlo. WIC §§ 319,726.



Si usted tiene un hijo de crianza o un niño en relación a su cuidado y le gustaría tener el derecho de hacer decisiones educativas para él o ella, póngase en contacto con el trabajador social de su hijo/a.

Para obtener una lista de coordinadores en su distrito escolar, contacte Foster Youth Services al 661-636-4488 o visite el sitio web de Kern County Network for Children en www.kcnc.org y oprima Foster Youth Services.

OTROS RECURSOS:

Foster Care Ombudsman's sitio web en www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov o llame al número gratuito al 1-877-846-1602.



100 E. California Ave. Bakersfield, CA 93307
Tel 661.631.6600 • Fax 661.631.6631 • TTY 800.735.2929

KCDHS 336-Gen (11/15)

KCDHS es una agencia de igualdad de oportunidades.

Derechos Educativos para Jóvenes de Crianza



Oportunidad. Opciones. Empoderamiento.
www.KCDHS.org

Cambio Escolar

Quando Se Contempla Un Cambio De Escuela

- El joven tiene el derecho a permanecer en la escuela/distrito de origen cuando hay un cambio en colocación. EC § 48853.5(e)(1).
- La agencia de colocación debe tener en cuenta la proximidad de un nuevo hogar a la escuela de origen. WIC § 16501.1(c).
- Dentro de 24 horas de determinar que un cambio de hogar daría lugar a un cambio de escuela, el CWW (trabajador de bienestar infantil) debe contactar al abogado del menor y el titular de los derechos de educación. CRC 5.651(e)(1)(A).
- El abogado del menor debe, según el caso, discutir el cambio de escuela propuesto con el menor y el titular de derechos de educación y puede solicitar una audiencia. CRC 5.651(e)(2)(A).

Joven Permanece en La Escuela de Origen

- El joven tiene derecho a permanecer en la escuela de origen por la duración de la jurisdicción de la corte, o a través de la graduación, si está en la escuela secundaria cuando se desestima el caso. EC § 48853.5(e)(3)(A).
- El joven es residente del distrito escolar de origen. EC § 48204(a)(1)(B)(2).
- Escuela de origen = escuela de asistencia mientras alojado permanentemente, última escuela inscrita, o cualquier escuela que el joven asistió dentro de los últimos 15 meses. EC § 48853.5(f).
- Si el joven tiene transporte en su IEP (plan de educación individual) como un servicio relativo, el distrito escolar de origen es responsable de proveerlo. EC §§ 48204(a)(1)(B)(2), 48853.5(e)(3)(B)(5).
- Si no hay transporte IEP, el padre de crianza puede ser reembolsado por Servicios Sociales para viajes razonables a la escuela de origen. ACL No. 11-51; CRC 5.651(f)(1)(C).

Joven Cambia Escuela

- El coordinador de jóvenes de crianza debe dar una explicación, por escrito, al joven y titular de derechos de educación porque está en el mejor interés del joven cambiar escuela. EC § 48853.5(e)(3)(b)(7).
- Si el alumno tiene un IEP, el CWW debe dar a la nueva y previa escuela 10 días de previo aviso por escrito del cambio esperado de escuela. CRC 5.651(e)(1)(B).
- Si el alumno tiene un IEP y cambia distrito, el nuevo distrito debe, inmediatamente, ofrecer servicios comparables y tener una reunión de IEP dentro de 30 días. EC § 56325.
- CWW debe compilar los registros escolares y el pasaporte de educación para los nuevos cuidadores. WIC § 16010 (a),(c).
- La NUEVA ESCUELA deberá permitir al alumno a inscribirse INMEDIATAMENTE aun si al estudiante le faltan registros normalmente requeridos para la inscripción (EC § 48853.5(e)(8)(B)) Y dentro de 2 días debe comunicarse con la escuela anterior para solicitar todos los registros de alumno. EC § 48853.5(e)(8)(C).

- La ESCUELA ANTERIOR debe proveer, dentro de 2 días, los registros incluyendo CREDITOS PARCIALES acumulados, los cuales la nueva escuela debe aceptar. Id., EC § 48645.5.
- CWW proporciona al nuevo distrito/Director de SELPA una copia de registros IEP pertinentes, información de contacto de la escuela anterior, y aviso de quien tiene los derechos de educación, cuando coloca a un niño en un hogar de crianza con licencia o institución de niños. Ver 2 CCR § 60510; EC § 56156.
- Evaluación de IEP abierta debe completarse por nuevo/previo distrito. 20 USC § 1414(b)(3)(D); EC § 56320(i).



Evaluación Para Educación Especial Y Plan 504

Referencia

Referencia escrita por el titular de derechos educativos Qproveedor de servicios (ej., maestro, CWW, abogado) para evaluar al joven para SPED y plan 504 (EC § 56029; 34 C.F.R. § 104.35) desde nacimiento hasta los 22 años. EC § 56026.

Plan de Evaluación

La escuela debe proporcionar un plan de evaluación dentro de 15 días al titular de los derechos de educación (no se requiere SST). EC § 56321(a). Si la escuela se niega a evaluar, contacte CWW y el abogado del menor para discutir los pasos a seguir.

Reuniones IEP

Reunión de IEP dentro de 60 días de recibir el plan de evaluación firmado por el titular de los derechos de educación. EC § 56344(a).

Elegible

Si el alumno califica para educación especial (5 CCR. § 3030), el alumno tiene derecho a una educación pública apropiada gratis (FAPE, e.g., servicios SPED y acomodaciones) en el ambiente menos restrictivo (LRE, 20 USC § 1412 (a)(5)(A)), revisión anual de IEP (EC § 56344(d), y reevaluación cada 3 años (EC § 56381(a)2). Si es solamente elegible para un plan 504, la escuela debe crear un plan con acomodaciones y servicios. 34 CFR § 104.3(i).

No Elegible

Si el alumno no califica, comuníquese con CWW y el abogado del menor. Si no está de acuerdo con la evaluación, considere una Evaluación Educativa Independiente (IEE). EC § 56329(b).

Disciplina Escolar

Suspensión?

La escuela debe hacer un esfuerzo razonable para notificar a los titulares de derechos de educación por teléfono y debe dar aviso por escrito. EC § 48911(d),(g). 20 días de suspensión no crea automáticamente recomendar una expulsión. EC § 48903(a).

Suspensión Ampliada / Recomendación para Expulsar?

Si el alumno es referido para expulsión y la suspensión se extiende porque el alumno es considerado disruptivo o un peligro, la escuela debe convocar una reunión con el titular de los derechos de educación e invitar al abogado del menor y al representante de Servicios Sociales a la reunión. EC § 48911(g).

Alumno tiene una Discapacidad?

Si el alumno tiene una discapacidad (IEP o plan 504), o la escuela tiene conocimiento de una sospecha de discapacidad (e.g., referido para una evaluación), y el alumno tiene (1) ya sea referido para una expulsión o (2) ha sido suspendido más de 10 días que constituye un cambio de colocación, la escuela debe realizar una determinación de la manifestación dentro de 10 días. 20 USC § 1415 (k)(1)(E), (k)(5); 34 CFR § 300.534(b)

Determinación de Manifestación?

La escuela debe contactar al abogado del menor y Servicios Sociales. EC § 48915.5(d). El doctor requiere 2 preguntas.

- (1) Fue la conducta causada por, o tenía “una relación directa y sustancial” con la discapacidad del alumno; y
- (2) Fue el comportamiento un resultado directo del fracaso del distrito para implementar el IEP?

Si la respuesta es SI a cualquiera, el alumno no puede ser expulsado, y la escuela debe desarrollar un plan de comportamiento. Si la respuesta es NO a las dos preguntas, el alumno puede ser disciplinado como un compañero no discapacitado. 20 USC § 1415(k)(1)(F); 34 CFR § 300.530 (e),(f).

Audiencia de Expulsión?

Si el alumno no está discapacitado o la respuesta es “no” a ambas preguntas al doctor, la escuela puede retener una audiencia de expulsión dentro de 30 días de cometer cualquier EC 48900 acto EC § 48918 (a). Diez días antes de la audiencia, una notificación por escrito debe ser enviada al estudiante (EC § 48918(b)), y si el acto es discrecional, el abogado del menor y la persona designada por Servicios Sociales se debe contactar. EC § 48918.1. El alumno puede solicitar posponer la audiencia hasta por 30 días. EC § 48918(a).

Apelación de Expulsión

Si expulsado, el titular de los derechos de educación puede apelar dentro de los 30 días de la decisión de la junta de gobierno de expulsar. EC § 48919.

H.E.A.R.T.S. Connection was founded in 1990 by parents of special needs children and remains a parent driven organization. Monthly support group meetings are held throughout Kern County. These meetings provide an opportunity to meet other families and to share joys, challenges and information. Our goal is to empower parents and strengthen families. We do this by providing the following services to our families:

- ♥ Collaboration with Special Needs Child Care
- ♥ Community Involvement
- ♥ Conference Information
- ♥ Family Social Events
- ♥ IEP Clinics and Trainings
- ♥ In-services
- ♥ Kids on the Block Program
- ♥ Parent to Parent Support
- ♥ Public Awareness
- ♥ Electronic Mailings
- ♥ Referral to Outside Services
- ♥ Resource Libraries
- ♥ Sibling Activities
- ♥ Support Group Meetings
- ♥ Toy Lending Library



Building a community that is accepting of people with special needs.

OUR MISSION: To enhance the quality of life for people with special needs through a family directed resource center that symbolizes professionalism, dignity, compassion, and respect.



*Serving Special Families
in Kern County since 1990*

H.E.A.R.T.S. Connection Family Resource
Center & Family Empowerment Center
3101 N. Sillect Ave., Ste 115
Bakersfield, CA 93308
TEL: 661-328-9055 800-210-7633
FAX: 661-328-9940
www.heartsfrc.org

Five Tips for Boosting Your Kids' Self-Esteem

Here's how to help teens build confidence and beat bullying.

- 1. Have a compassionate voice.** A positive mantra goes a long way. Teens should repeat to themselves, 'I love you just the way you are. You are good enough. Remind your sons and daughters that it's acceptable to have weaknesses: Those weaknesses make them who they are. Also, encourage children to talk to themselves the same way they'd talk to a good friend who's feeling down. They wouldn't bash a pal for making a little mistake, so they shouldn't do that to themselves.
- 2. Make other people smile.** After being bullied, kids/teens try to make themselves feel good by putting others down. Remind kids to compliment others and they'll feel good too. Tell your kids to be kind to their classmates so they can experience that increase in positive energy.
- 3. Don't take life too seriously.** Of course it's hard to convey this to a kid in middle school or high school, but treating life playfully can promote happiness. Bringing a sense of lightness to a situation makes all the difference. "Laugh, breathe and let it go." telling kids/teens to ask "What if?" more often to relax the mood, tone down the scariness of a situation, and think about possible positive outcomes.
- 4. Keep in mind that this will pass.** Even when something feels tragic it helps to be reminded that it will get better. Let your kids/teens vent about a fight with a friend or how they didn't make the soccer team, but then remind them of the obstacles they've already overcome and how new, exciting opportunities are bound to pop up again.
- 5. Be a confident role model.** You can't lift your children's self-esteem if you're lacking in self-love. You need to follow these strategies and show compassion for yourself in order for your kids to follow suit.



Motor Vehicle Safety Fact Sheet (2015)

Fatalities

Motor vehicle crashes

- 2,862 children ages 19 and under died in motor vehicle crashes in 2013 as occupants or drivers. This is a 56% decrease in the annual number of fatalities since 2000, and 57% decrease in the death rate.¹
- Teens ages 15-19 years old made up 71% (2,028) of motor vehicle occupant/driver fatalities among children in 2013.¹
- Of the 480 children ages 8 and under who died in motor vehicle crashes in 2013, 147 (31%) were unrestrained.¹

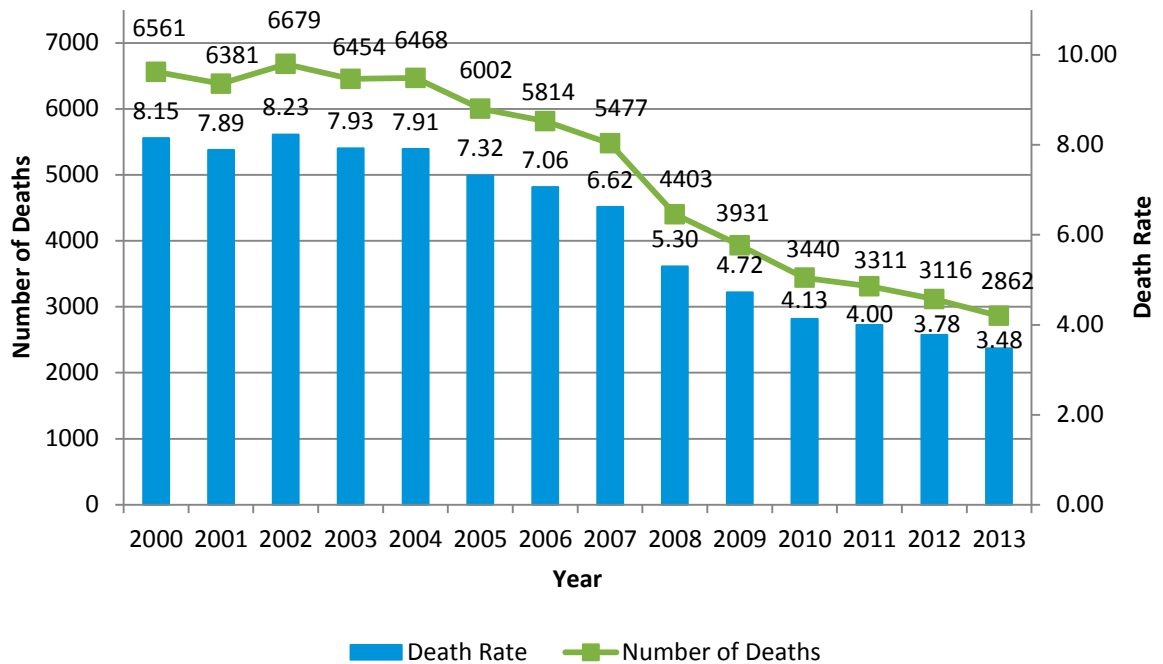
Frontovers and backovers

- 262 children ages 14 and under died in not-in-traffic crashes in 2007. 45% of these deaths were backovers, and 49% were frontovers.²

Heatstroke

- 30 children, ranging in age from 1 month to 5 years, died from heatstroke or suspected heatstroke while left in cars in 2014.³

2000-2013 MV Occupant Crash Fatalities and Death Rate Among Children Ages 19 and Under



Death Rate per 100,000 Children
 Person Type codes used were 1: Driver of a MV In-Transport, 2: Passenger of a MV In-Transport, 9: Unknown Occupant Type in a MV In-Transport



Injuries

Motor vehicle crashes

- 373,829 children ages 19 and under were nonfatally injured in motor vehicle crashes in 2011. Of these, 211,050, or 56%, were ages 16 to 19.⁴

Frontovers and backovers

- 92,000 children ages 14 and under are seen in emergency rooms for not-in-traffic crash injuries each year, based on annualized estimates from 2008 to 2010.⁵

Heatstroke

- <500 children ages 14 and under are seen in emergency rooms for heat exhaustion in cars each year, based on annualized estimates from 2008 to 2010.⁵

Additional Statistics

Child passenger safety

- Motor vehicle crashes are the number one cause of death among children ages 1 to 19.¹⁸
- Booster seats have been shown to reduce the risk of serious injury by 45 percent compared to seat belts alone for children ages 4 to 8 years.¹⁹
- Children should ride in a back seat until they are at least 13 years of age.^{6,7}
- Children 2 to 5 years of age using safety belts prematurely are four times more likely to suffer a serious head injury in a crash than those restrained in child safety seats or booster seats.⁸
- When installed and used correctly, child safety seats and safety belts can prevent injuries and save lives. Child safety seats can reduce fatal injury by up to 71 percent for infants and 54 percent for toddlers (ages 1 to 4).⁶
- The overall critical misuse for child restraints is about 73 percent. Infant seats have the highest percent of critical misuse, followed by rear-facing convertible seats.⁹
- It is estimated that 284 children were saved due to restraint use in 2012 alone.¹⁰
- From 1975 through 2012, an estimated 10,157 lives were saved by child safety seats or adult seat belts for children ages 4 and under.¹⁰

Frontovers and backovers

- Sports utility vehicles and trucks are involved in more backovers than cars.¹¹
- Approximately 39 percent of backover deaths occurred at home in the driveway, an apartment parking lot or in a townhome complex.¹¹
- Drivers in backover and frontover deaths are often family members or family friends of the injured child.¹²



Heatstroke

- Heatstroke is the number one cause of non-crash, vehicle-related death in children ages 14 and under.²
- Within 10 minutes, the inside temperature of a vehicle can be up to 20 degrees hotter than the outside temperature; after 30 minutes the vehicle's temperature can be up to 34 degrees hotter.¹³
- A child's body does not have the same internal temperature control as an adult's and can warm three times to five times faster. Body temperature may rise to 106 degrees Fahrenheit within 10 to 15 minutes.^{13 14}
- A review of 636 media reports of child heatstroke deaths from 1998 to 2014 indicates that 53 percent of heatstroke deaths among children in vehicles occurred when a child was "forgotten" by a parent or caregiver, 29 percent of deaths occurred when a child gained access to an unattended vehicle and 17 percent occurred when a child was intentionally left in a vehicle. Circumstances were unknown in 1 percent of cases.¹⁵
- Heatstroke deaths have been recorded in 11 months of the year in 46 states.¹⁵

Teen passengers and teen drivers

- The risk for crashes is higher for newly licensed teen drivers, teens driving with other teens, and male teens, compared to other teenagers.¹⁶
- Mile for mile, teens ages 16 to 19 are three times more likely to be involved in a crash compared to older drivers.¹⁷
- Compared with other age groups, teens have the lowest rate of seat belt use. Only 54% of high school students reported always wearing a seat belt when riding with someone else.¹⁶
- Comprehensive graduated driver licensing (GDL) programs have been linked to a 38% reduction in fatal crashes, and a 40% reduction in injury crashes.¹⁶

References

- ¹ NHTSA, NCSA Data Resource Website. Fatality Analysis Reporting System Encyclopedia. Available at <http://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/QueryTool/QuerySection/SelectYear.aspx>. Accessed January 12, 2015. Person Type codes used were 1: Driver of a MV In-Transport, 2: Passenger of a MV In-Transport, 9: Unknown Occupant Type in a MV In-Transport.
- ² National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Traffic safety facts, crash stats: not-in-traffic surveillance (NiTS) 2007-children. DOT HS 811 116. Washington, DC: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, National Center for Statistics and Analysis.
- ³ Null J. Heatstroke Deaths of Children in Vehicles. Department of Geosciences, SFSU Website. Available from: <http://ggweather.com/heat/hyperthermia2014.htm>. Accessed January 12, 2015.
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- ⁵ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Traffic safety facts, crash stats: not-in-traffic surveillance—non-crash injuries. August 2012. DOT HS 811 655. Washington, DC: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, National Center for Statistics and Analysis.
- ⁶ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Traffic safety facts, 2009 data: occupant protection. Washington, DC: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, National Center for Statistics and Analysis.
- ⁷ Committee on Injury, Violence, and Poison Prevention. Child passenger safety. *Pediatrics*. 2011; 127: 788-793.
- ⁸ Winston FK, Durbin DR, Kallan MJ, Moll EK. The danger of premature graduation to safety belts for young children. *Pediatrics*. 2000; 105(6): 1179-1183.
- ⁹ Decina LE, Lococo KH. Child restraint system use and misuse in six states. *Accid Anal Prev*. 2005. 37: 583-590.
- ¹⁰ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Traffic Safety Facts 2012: Children. April 2014. DOT HS 812 011.



¹¹ Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, Highway Loss Data Institute. Q&A: backover crashes. Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, Highway Loss Data Institute Website, June 2011. Available from: <http://www.iihs.org/research/qanda/backover.html>. Accessed October 26, 2011.

¹² Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Q&A: Backover Crashes. August 2012. Available at: <http://www.iihs.org/research/qanda/backover.aspx#cite-text-0-6>. Accessed March 28, 2013.

¹³ Null J. Never leave your child alone in a car fact sheet. San Francisco, CA: San Francisco State University, Department of Geosciences; August 2007.

¹⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Extreme heat: a prevention guide to promote your personal health and safety. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Website. Available from: http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/heat_guide.asp. Accessed October 26, 2011.

¹⁵ Null J. Heatstroke Deaths of Children in Vehicles. Department of Geosciences, SFSU Website. Available from: <http://www.ggweather.com/heat/#stats>. Accessed January 12, 2015.

¹⁶ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Teen Drivers Fact Sheet. Available at http://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/teen_drivers/teendrivers_factsheet.html. Accessed January 10, 2012.

¹⁷ Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS). Fatality facts: teenagers 2010. Available at: <http://www.iihs.org/research/fatality.aspx?topicName=Teenagers&year=2010>. Accessed March 28, 2013.

¹⁸ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS). National Center for Injury Prevention and Control Website. Leading causes of death, children ages 19 and under. Available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html>. Accessed March 2013.

¹⁹ Arbogast KB, Jermakian JS, Kallan MJ, Durbin DR. Effectiveness of belt positioning booster seats: an updated assessment. *Pediatrics*. 2009; 124(5):1281-6.

Last updated January 2015. If you have a question about this factsheet, please call 202-662-0600.



Your Home Doesn't Come with a Lifeguard



Staying safe around water is more than staying near the lifeguard at the pool. Every year many children drown in residential swimming pools, bath tubs, buckets of water and other containers of water. Anywhere there is water there is risk for drowning. Do not leave a young child unattended near any source of water, not even for a moment.

Remove the risk and prevent access.

- Use physical barriers to prevent children from accessing any source of water.
- Use safety locks on toilets and keep bathroom doors closed and toilet-bowl covers down if there are small children in the home.
- Empty cleaning buckets immediately after use.
- Empty kiddie pools immediately after use.
- Install barriers around your home pool. Pool alarms and covers provide additional layers of protection.
- Know the water hazards in your community and make sure children stay away. These hazards could include—
 - Drainage ditches.
 - Garden ponds.
 - Creeks and streams.
 - Wells and cisterns.
 - Canals.
- When visiting another home, check the site for potential water hazards and always supervise children.

Practice water safety.

- Teach children to always ask permission to go near water.
- Never leave a young child unattended in a bath tub and do not trust a child's life to another child or to aids that help a child sit upright in the tub.
- Have young children or inexperienced swimmers wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket around water.
- When swimming, set specific rules for each individual based on swimming ability.
- Designate a person to watch over children whenever they are in, on or around any body of water.

Know how to respond to an aquatic emergency.

- If a child is missing, check the water first. Seconds count in preventing death or disability.
- Know how and when to call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.
- Enroll in Red Cross water safety, first aid and CPR courses to learn what to do.
- Have appropriate equipment, such as reaching or throwing equipment, a cell phone, life jackets and a first aid kit.

For more information or to enroll in Swimming and Water Safety courses, contact your local Red Cross chapter.





FEMALES ONLY!

Health and Sex Education Workshop: Make the Right Choice



Wednesday, February 17, 2016

4:00pm - 6:00pm

**KERN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT –
CAREER RESOURCE DEPARTMENT**

**2727 F STREET – ROOM 104
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

**Directions: Between 26th and 28th Street,
located next to Rosemary's Ice Cream Shop**



**Receive a
\$10.00 WalMart
incentive for
participating
in this event**

**For questions, contact
Andrea Martinez at 631-6854
Seating is limited - reserve
a seat by February 15, 2016**



*Please use the enclosed envelope to mail in your response
for the FEMALE Health and Sex Education workshop.*

_____ Yes, I plan to attend

_____ No, I cannot attend

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____





MALES ONLY!

Health and Sex Education Workshop: Make the Right Choice



Wednesday, February 17, 2016

4:00pm - 6:00pm


KERN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT –
CAREER RESOURCE DEPARTMENT

2727 F STREET – ROOM 104
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301

Directions: Between 26th and 28th Street,
located next to Rosemary's Ice Cream Shop



Receive a
\$10.00 WalMart
incentive for
participating
in this event

For questions, contact 
Francisco Martinez at 631-6206
Seating is limited - reserve
a seat by February 15, 2016



Please use the enclosed envelope to mail in your
response for the **MALE** Health and Sex Education workshop.

_____ Yes, I plan to attend

_____ No, I cannot attend

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____





FEMALES ONLY!

Health and Sex Education Workshop: Make the Right Choice

Wednesday, February 17, 2016

4:00pm - 6:00pm

**KERN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT –
CAREER RESOURCE DEPARTMENT**

**2727 F STREET – ROOM 104
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

**Directions: Between 26th and 28th Street,
located next to Rosemary's Ice Cream Shop**



**For questions, contact
Andrea Martinez at 631-6854
Seating is limited - reserve
a seat by February 15, 2016**



*Please use the enclosed envelope to mail in your response
for the **FEMALE** Health and Sex Education workshop.
14-15 year old youth*

_____ Yes, I plan to attend

_____ No, I cannot attend

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____





MALES ONLY!

Health and Sex Education Workshop: Make the Right Choice



Wednesday, February 17, 2016

4:00pm - 6:00pm

KERN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT –
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For questions, contact 
Francisco Martinez at 631-6206
Seating is limited - reserve
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*Please use the enclosed envelope to mail in your
response for the MALE Health and Sex Education workshop.
14-15 year old youth*

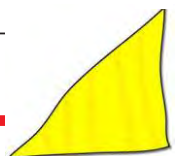
_____ Yes, I plan to attend

_____ No, I cannot attend

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____



"All About Me" Book

Fun Activity Idea

In this Activity, children will learn how to create a book about them, called "All About me"
This activity is great at helping build self-confidence.

What We Learn

- Confidence
- Independence
- Self-worth

Supply List

- Photos of child
- Tape
- Construction Paper
- Marker
- Yarn







How to

- 1) Collect several sheets of construction paper.
- 2) Use a hole punch to make a couple holes along the sides of the paper.
- 3) Cut a piece of yarn and loop it through the holes in the construction paper.
- 4) Tie the yarn in a knot to bind the pages together. As an alternative, you can simply use a spiral notebook or you can put loose-leaf pages in a 3 ring binder.
- 5) Next, take a photo of the child. Tape his or her photo to the cover of the book. Using a thick marker, write "All About Me" above the child's photo. Underneath the photo, write the child's name.
- 6) Use a marker to write a heading along the top of each blank page of the book. The headings might be: "My Favorite Food," "My Favorite Toy," "My Favorite Animal," "My Best Friend," ect.
- 7) Then, sit down with the child and show the "All About Me" book. Explain how the book is all about them and what they like. Go through each page and heading.
- 8) Give the child crayons, markers or pencils. explain what the headings mean so that your child can draw pictures to accompany the heading.
- 9) It's important to work on this together with your child. Ask the child questions about what they are drawing. This way you continuously build your child's self-confidence by validating them and making them feel important.
- 10) If the child is too young to participate then the adult can write or draw pictures based on what they observe from the child.



February 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Koinonia Support Group Considering adopting, in the process of adopting, Who have adopted. For questions or to RSVP for childcare call 661-833-4483	2 \$ Ice Center of Bakersfield Family Night For more info Call 661-852-7400	3 Toddler time with Miss Jade 10am-11am Barnes and Noble For more info call 661-631-2575	4	5	6
7 Rollerama West \$7 & \$3 for skate rental 7pm-10pm for more info 661-589-7555	8 ASPIRAnet Adoption Parent Partnership Meeting 5:30pm-7:30pm RSVP 661-323-1233 x 0	9 Foster Parent Training SCI 5pm-7pm ILP/AB12 Overview 7pm-9pm Weill Institute Call 661-319-1836	10 Valentines Day Story time & Craft Baker Library@ 3pm for more info call 661-861-2390	11 DHS Foster Parent Orientation 5:30pm-7:30pm 661-631-6204	12	13 LOWE'S BUILD AND GROW Valentine's Day Picture Frame 10am Various locations in Bakersfield
14 Valentine's Day 	15 PRESIDENT'S DAY HOLIDAY DHS CLOSED	16 Autism  Support Groups 6pm-7:30pm Canyon Hills Church For more info Call 661-489-3335	17  \$ Family Karaoke Rusty's Pizza For more info call 661-835-5555	18 DHS Spanish Foster Parent Orientation 5:30pm-7:30pm 661-631-6204	19 Bakersfield Museum of Art Free Friday For more info Call 661-323-7219	20 Peter Rabbit Storytime 11am Barnes & Noble 661-631-2575
21	22 Pajama Storytime Arvin Library 6pm For more info call 661-854-5934	23 Foster Parent Training SCI 5pm-7pm Hair & Skin Care 7pm-9pm Weill Institute Call 661-319-1836	24 Rollerama West Bargain skate night \$6 at the door free skate rental For more info visit www.rollerama.com	25 DHS Foster Parent Orientation 5:30pm-7:30pm 661-631-6204	26	27 CALM ZOO Kids up to 12 are free with a paying adult 661-872-2256 Dr. Seuss's Birthday Celebration Storytime 11am @ Barnes & Noble 661-631-2575
28 Haggin oaks Farmers Market Kaiser Permanente Medical office For more info call 661-334-2033	29	 Safely Surrendered Babies There is an option. Don't abandon your baby.				

**** For specific information on events please call the phone number provided**

**** For questions on library events email info@kernlibrary.org**



March 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Koinonia Support Group Considering adopting, in the process of adopting, Who have adopted. For questions or to RSVP for childcare call 661-833-4483	2 Dr. Seuss Story time and Craft Baker Library for more info 661-861-2390 \$ Family karaoke @ Rusty's for more info call 661-835-5555	3	4 First Friday Art 19th and Eye street 5pm-8pm	5 Medically Fragile Training 10am-2:30pm 661-319-1836 Kids workshop Home Depot 661-835-1133 Call in advance 
6	7	8 Foster Parent Training Hair & Skin Care 5pm-7pm SCI 7pm-9pm Weill Institute (661) 319-1836	9  Family Story time Baker Library For more info call 661-861-2390	10 Mojave JobFest 1247 Poole St. 10am-2pm 661-631-6000 DHS Foster Parent Orientation 5:30pm-7:30pm 661-631-6204	11  Autism Spectrum Disorder seminar Series #3 8:30am-12:00pm Canyon Hills Church For more information call 661-489-3335	12  Farmers market Golden state mall 661-633-9800
13	14	15 Autism Support Groups  Canyon Hills Church 6pm-7:30pm 661-489-3335	16 Beale library Bilingual Story time @11am 661-861-2390	17 Shafter JobFest 309 California Ave. 9am-Noon 661-631-6000 DHS Spanish Foster Parent Orientation  5:30pm-7:30pm 661-631-6204	18 Free day @ the Bakersfield Museum of Art For more info call 661-323-7219	19 Free CPR and First Aid McMurtrey Aquatic Center 8am-1pm For more info call 661-852-7430
20	21 ASPIRAnet Adoptions Parent Partnership Meeting 5:30pm-7:30pm 661-323-1233	22 Foster Parent Training SCI 5pm-7pm Internet Bullying 7pm-9pm Weill Institute (661) 319-1836	23  Rollerama West Bargain Skate Night \$6 skate rental is free For more info call 661-589-7555	24 DHS Foster Parent Orientation 5:30pm-7:30pm 661-631-6204	25	26 Calm Kids free day Kids up to 12 are free with a paying adult For more info call 661-872-2256
27 Easter 	28	29	30	31		

** For specific information on events please call the phone number provided

** For questions on library events email info@kernlibrary.org



April 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2  Home Depot Kids workshop For more info call 835-1133 Call ahead
3	4 Koinonia Support Group Considering adopting, in the process of adopting, Who have adopted. For questions or to RSVP for childcare call 661-833-4483	5 Foster Parent Training SCI 5pm-7pm Best Practice for LGBTQ Youth 7pm-9pm Weill Institute (661) 319-1836	6 Toddler time with Miss Jade @ Barnes and Noble Toddler to 3 rd grade For more info call 661-631-2575	7 Ridgecrest JobFest 100 W. California Ave. 10am-1pm 661-631-6000	8	9
10	11	12	13  Rollerama west Bargain skate Night \$6 skate rental is free For more info call 661-589-7555	14 Taft JobFest 915 N. 10 th St 9am-Noon 661-631-6000 DHS Foster Parent Orientation 5:30pm-7:30pm 661-631-6204	15 Free Friday Bakersfield Art Museum 10am-4pm For more info call 661-323-7219	16 Farmers Market Golden state Mall For more info call 661-633-9800 Garden Fest Bakersfield College 9am-4pm For more info call 661-395-4011
17	18 ASPIRAnet Adoption Parent Partnership Meetings are held The 3 rd Monday Of every month 5:30pm-7:30pm RSVP 661-323-1233 X 0	19 Foster Parent Training SCI 5pm-7pm Right & Responsibilities Of Foster Parents 7pm-9pm Weill Institute (661) 319-1836	20 Women's Self Defense Workshop Alliance Against Family Violence outreach Fro more info call 661-322-0931	21 DHS Spanish Foster Parent Orientation 5:30pm-7:30pm 661-631-6204	22	23 The Great American Cleanup 8am-1pm Yokuts Park For more info call 661-831-2321
24 National Blue Sunday April is Child Abuse Awareness Month	25	26	27 Adoption and Permanency Planning Orientation 5:30pm-7:30pm 661-868-8900	28 DHS Foster Parent Orientation 5:30pm-7:30pm 661-631-6204	29	30 Farmers Market Golden State Mall For more info call 611-633-9800



National Blue Sunday
April is Child Abuse Awareness Month

Respite Care Providers List

Spring 2016

The Respite Care List is a listing of county foster parents willing to provide respite care. You may have to call several people before you can find one with an opening.

Name	Location	Phone #	Ages Preferred
Amos, Shirley	Bakersfield	661-833-2984	2-18
Alvarez, Eufemia	Bakersfield	818-269-4625	10-17
Gualt, Gwyanda	Bakersfield	661-748-1613	4-12
Vargas, Daisy	Bakersfield	661-444-8403	2-17 (Weekends only)
Macias, Aurora	Arvin	661-903-2317	0-3

**If you can help and would like to have your names on this quarterly listing please call:
Your Licensing Analyst or Eva Gonzalez, (661) 631-6876 to sign up!**

TO DO RESPITE CARE:

You must:

1. Have a current opening in your capacity for the number of children that you will be doing respite for
2. Get the paperwork from child's Social Worker.
3. Have an understanding of how to get medical care for children while in your care.

Respite Care Policy:

Respite care is the temporary care of a foster child by someone other than the foster parent.

- Caregiver is subject to Social Worker approval.
- Limited to 7 days/168 hours annually (non-consecutive) per child or 12 days/288 hours annually (non-consecutive) for a child receiving a SCI rate of Level 2 or higher.
- DHS' fiscal year is July 1st to June 30th. Respite Care hours must be used during the fiscal year. All unused days for current year **cannot** be carried over to next year.