



Focus Groups

FOCUS GROUP SITES

Date	County	Host Agency	N
March 10, 2001	Yuba/Sutter	Children's Home Society Resource & Referral	23
April 9, 2001	Fresno	Cold Springs/Big Sandy Rancherias	8
April 10, 2001	Sutter	Local Child Care Planning Council	6
April 11, 2001	Orange	Comfort Connection FRC -English	6
April 11, 2001	Orange	Comfort Connection FRC -Spanish	7
April 11, 2001	Orange	Comfort Connection FRC -Vietnamese	9
April 11, 2001	Los Angeles	Lynwood Family Child Care Provider Association	10
May 2, 2001	Contra Costa	West Contra Costa USD/Richmond Mission	11
May 9, 2001	Tulare	Porterville College, Family Focus – parent group	7
May 9, 2001	Tulare	Family Focus – provider group	10
May 9, 2001	Kings	Local Child Care Planning Council	6
May 10, 2001	Fresno	Clovis Unified School District	12
May 14, 2001	San Joaquin	Family Resource & Referral	21
May 16, 2001	San Bernardino	Inclusion Partners of San Bernardino	19
May 16, 2001	San Bernardino	Upper Desert Inclusion Partners	14
May 22, 2001	San Diego	Intertribal Monitoring Team	5
May 22, 2001	Riverside	Inclusion Partners of Riverside	16
May 25, 2001	Alameda	California School for the Deaf	12
Total			202

FOCUS GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Please tell us something about your child(ren), any special needs they may have, and your experience using child care.
2. Did you have any problems finding child care?
3. What were the biggest challenges in finding child care?
4. What made for a successful experience using child care?
5. What do you think child care providers need to better serve children with special needs?
6. If you could create a new or change the existing system to better meet the child care needs of your child with special needs, what would you do?
7. What else is important for us to know in order to better meet the needs of children with disabilities/special needs in child care programs/settings?



Family Survey

FAMILY SURVEY

Please take a few minutes to help shape the future of child care in California. The Map Project is collecting information on the challenges of finding and keeping child care for children with disabilities and other special needs. All information remains confidential and is shared only with your written permission.

Please tell us about your child and family

1. In what county do you live? _____
 1a. Zip code where you live: _____

2. In what county do you work? _____
 2a. Zip code where you work: _____

3. In what area do you and your child live?
 Rural Suburban/Small town Urban/City

4. Your child's age? _____

5. Your child's birthdate? _____

6. How many children in your family? _____

7. Child lives with:
 Mother
 Father
 Two parents
 Foster family
 Other relative _____
 Other _____

8. Family gross annual income where child resides:
 Below \$10,000
 \$10,000-\$15,000
 \$15,000-\$25,000
 \$25,000-\$50,000
 \$50,000- \$75,000
 Over \$75,000

9. Does your child have a diagnosed disability or special need

(check primary [1], secondary [2], etc.):

- asthma
- attention deficit disorder (ADD/ADHD)
- autism/autistic spectrum disorder
- behavior/conduct/emotional disorder
- blind/visual impairment
- cerebral palsy
- communication disorder
- deaf/hard of hearing
- developmental delay
- developmental disability
- learning disability
- mental retardation
- prenatal exposure to drugs/alcohol
- seizure disorder
- other _____

10. Age your child's disability was identified:

- Prenatal
- From birth through age 2
- between 3 to 5 years of age
- Over 6 years of age

11. Who identified and told you of your child's disability or special need?

- Health provider/Physician
- Schools
- Regional Center
- Other _____

12. Please identify the agencies your child currently receives services from:

- School district (special education)
- California Children Services
- Regional Center
- Other (specify)

13. Mother's education level:

- Some high school
- High school graduate
- Some college
- College graduate (BA/BS)
- Graduate degree/credential
- Other _____

14. Father's education level:

- Some high school
- High school graduate
- Some college
- College graduate (BA/BS)
- Graduate degree/credential
- Other _____

15. Mother's ethnicity:

- African American/Black
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Caucasian/White
- Latino/Hispanic
- Native American
- Other _____

16. Father's ethnicity:

- African American/Black
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Caucasian/White
- Latino/Hispanic
- Native American
- Other _____

17. Primary language spoken in the home:

- English
- Spanish
- Chinese
- Hmong
- Sign language
- Vietnamese
- Russian
- Other _____

Please tell us about your need for child care related to work, school or job training

18. How many hours per week did you work, go to school or participate in job training before you had children?
- 0 to 9 hours
 - 10-20 hours
 - 21-40 hours
 - Other _____
19. How many hours per week do you work, go to school, or participate in job training **now**?
- 0 to 9 hours
 - 10-20 hours
 - 21-40 hours
 - Other _____
20. If you currently work, how old was your child when you began or returned to work?
- Birth to 2
 - 3 to 5 years
 - 6 to 12 years
 - 12 years and older
 - Have not returned to work
21. What type of work do you do?
22. Please check the family support services you have used:
- Family resource center or network
 - Counseling
 - Respite
 - Other _____
23. Please identify the most helpful resources for family support:
- Family Resource Center/Network
 - Counseling
 - Respite
 - Other _____
24. What age was your child when he or she started child care?
- Birth through 2 years
 - 3 to 5 years
 - 6 to 12 years
 - 12 years +
25. How many hours per week, on average, does your child receive care at this time?
- 0 to 9 hours
 - 10-20 hours
 - 21-40 hours
 - More than 40 hours per week

26. What is the main reason you have your child in child care? (Please check one):

- Parent works
- Parent goes to school
- Parent participates in job training
- Personal needs
- To help the child's growth and development
- To play and be with other children
- No family support
- Other _____

27. What type of child care do you use?

- Child care, day care or preschool center
- Family child care home (care in someone's home)
- Church or religious-based child care
- In-home caregiver (someone comes to your home)
- Before and after school care
- Friend or neighbor
- Relative (please specify):
- Other _____

28. How did you find this child care?

- Child care resource & referral agency
- Service coordinator/Regional Center
- Friend, neighbor or relative
- Family Resource Center
- In the neighborhood
- Other _____

29. What child care arrangements do you have when your child is sick?

- I/we stay home
- Relative, friend or neighbor
- Child care program licensed for mildly ill
- Other _____

30. Have you ever had difficulty finding child care or have had services refused or denied?

- YES
- NO

31. Did you ever have to leave a job to care for your child?

- YES
- NO

32. Was/Is child care addressed in your child's IEP, IFSP or transition plan?

- YES
- NO

33. Are you satisfied with the child care services your child is receiving?

- YES
 NO

If you've had trouble finding or keeping child care, please answer these questions

34. I have had problems finding and keeping child care for my child because:

(Please check all that apply)

- I did not have information about child care programs
 My child needed more support than provided
 I could not find care close to home or work
 I could not find care for the hours needed
 I could not afford the child care
 Child care provider(s) refused to care for my child
 I worried about leaving my child due to special need
 Other _____

35. If a child care provider/program refused to accept your child or if your child was asked to leave, what reason was given?

(if more than one reason, please rank 1= primary reason, 2 = secondary, 3...)

- Communication problems between staff and family
 Extra costs involved with care for your child
 Did not complete the required records or immunizations
 Because of my child's disability, health or special needs
 Lack of special equipment
 Lack of prior experience caring for children with disabilities, health or other special needs
 Behavior problems
 Toilet training issues
 Not enough staff
 Could not pay my bill
 Inadequate staff training
 Lack of health or medical support

- ___ Problems with state licensing
- ___ Facility was not accessible(e.g., wheelchair)
- ___ Other (please describe):

36. Do you or does your child receive any financial assistance for child care services?

(Please check all that apply)

- Regional Center
- School district
- CalWORKs
- SSI
- Job Training
- PACE
- Resource & Referral /Alternative Payment
- College or University
- Other _____

37. What additional services do you pay for in order for your child to be in child care?

(Please check all that apply)

- Personal assistant
- Transportation
- Equipment
- None
- Other _____

38. If you had difficulties finding or keeping child care, what has happened as a result?

(Please rank, 1 most difficult)

- ___ I am unable to go to school or work
- ___ I have had to pass up an opportunity for career advancement
- ___ I am unable to participate in TANF services
- ___ My child has not participated in activities with other children
- ___ Nothing
- ___ I have missed work or school
- ___ I am often late for work or school
- ___ I lost my job
- ___ I delayed going back to work
- ___ Other _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

The following questions are about child care for children with disabilities and other special needs, their families and the providers who serve them. This is not a test; there are no right or wrong answers. There are five possible responses by each statement. Please circle the ONE response that you most agree with.

	never	rarely	sometimes	often	always
39. Child care staff have training to work with children with special needs.	1	2	3	4	5
40. Special services (e.g., therapy) are coordinated and included in daily routines.	1	2	3	4	5
41. Families who have children with special needs can find child care in my community.	1	2	3	4	5
42. Child care providers are comfortable caring for children with disabilities.	1	2	3	4	5
43. I know about the laws that apply to children with special needs.	1	2	3	4	5
44. Specialists (e.g., mental health, speech) provide services in child care programs.	1	2	3	4	5
45. Families who have children with special needs receive help to pay for child care.	1	2	3	4	5
46. Licensing or other regulations support child care providers to serve children with special needs.	1	2	3	4	5
47. Child care programs in my community include children with disabilities or other special needs.	1	2	3	4	5
48. There are special services for children with special needs in my community.	1	2	3	4	5
49. For children with disabilities, inclusion in child care works when there is extra adult help.	1	2	3	4	5
50. Children with disabilities should be included in child care programs.	1	2	3	4	5
51. Children with disabilities are better off in specialized settings.	1	2	3	4	5
52. Children with disabilities should spend part of the day in programs with children without disabilities.	1	2	3	4	5
53. Families of children with disabilities should decide where their children receive special services and needed supports.	1	2	3	4	5
54. I know which agencies to contact to get help for a child with special needs.	1	2	3	4	5

55. Please share any other thoughts, comments or suggestions about child care:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AND TIME



**County Data
Summary**

TABLE G1 *DDS Early Start Enrollment, Children Ages Birth to 3, December 2000*

County	DDS Enrollment	Total B-3 Pop	% B-3 Pop	County	DDS Enrollment	Total B-3 Pop	% B-3 Pop
Alameda	742	64862	1.14%	Orange	1695	144747	1.17%
Alpine	2	36	5.56%	Placer	130	9939	1.31%
Amador	16	917	1.74%	Plumas	7	579	1.21%
Butte	137	7843	1.75%	Riverside	753	78878	0.95%
Calaveras	22	1357	1.62%	Sacramento	774	56037	1.38%
Colusa	11	1136	0.97%	San Benito	17	2786	0.61%
Contra Costa	462	37183	1.24%	San Bernardino	836	93481	0.89%
Del Norte	20	1160	1.72%	San Diego	1400	145566	0.96%
El Dorado	72	5908	1.22%	San Francisco	207	25724	0.80%
Fresno	471	43388	1.09%	San Joaquin	557	28727	1.94%
Glenn	18	1507	1.19%	San Luis Obispo	126	8844	1.42%
Humboldt	106	4685	2.26%	San Mateo	334	30904	1.08%
Imperial	61	8782	0.69%	Santa Barbara	300	18070	1.66%
Inyo	18	687	2.62%	Santa Clara	835	80418	1.04%
Kern	431	37080	1.16%	Santa Cruz	155	10619	1.46%
Kings	77	6873	1.12%	Shasta	107	6900	1.55%
Lake	44	2184	2.01%	Sierra	1	71	1.41%
Lassen	9	1127	0.80%	Siskiyou	20	1617	1.24%
Los Angeles	6280	503041	1.25%	Solano	319	17689	1.80%
Madera	81	6728	1.20%	Sonoma	335	17332	1.93%
Marin	111	8312	1.34%	Stanislaus	347	23346	1.49%
Mariposa	5	521	0.96%	Sutter	43	3872	1.11%
Mendocino	40	3647	1.10%	Tehama	28	2338	1.20%
Merced	116	12481	0.93%	Trinity	5	404	1.24%
Modoc	3	394	0.76%	Tulare	290	22902	1.27%
Mono	11	345	3.19%	Tuolumne	33	1687	1.96%
Monterey	130	21049	0.62%	Ventura	710	35282	2.01%
Napa	60	4787	1.25%	Yolo	94	7194	1.31%
Nevada	42	2971	1.41%	Yuba	38	3153	1.08%
California	20094	1670457	1.20%				

Sources: California Department of Developmental Services (DDS), December 2000; California Department of Finance, 2000 Population Projections, www.dof.ca.gov/newdr/2000estimated.txt

TABLE G2 CDE Special Education Enrollment, Children Ages Birth to 5, June 2000

County	CDE Enrollment	Total B-5 Pop	% B-5 Pop	County	CDE Enrollment	Total B-5 Pop	% B-5 Pop
Alameda	2574	131200	1.96%	Orange	5513	293261	1.88%
Alpine	9	66	13.64%	Placer	665	20029	3.32%
Amador	87	1829	4.76%	Plumas	36	1089	3.31%
Butte	526	15637	3.36%	Riverside	3048	157258	1.94%
Calaveras	96	2688	3.57%	Sacramento	2907	112928	2.57%
Colusa	68	2159	3.15%	San Benito	135	5440	2.48%
Contra Costa	2537	75940	3.34%	San Bernardino	3569	187149	1.91%
Del Norte	123	2213	5.56%	San Diego	7362	287543	2.56%
El Dorado	437	11822	3.70%	San Francisco	599	52248	1.15%
Fresno	2144	88368	2.43%	San Joaquin	1675	57068	2.94%
Glenn	62	2935	2.11%	San Luis Obispo	630	17334	3.63%
Humboldt	343	9321	3.68%	San Mateo	976	62557	1.56%
Imperial	286	16819	1.70%	Santa Barbara	962	36232	2.66%
Inyo	88	1376	6.40%	Santa Clara	2717	161085	1.69%
Kern	1697	73079	2.32%	Santa Cruz	727	21275	3.42%
Kings	256	13577	1.89%	Shasta	395	13597	2.91%
Lake	100	4258	2.35%	Sierra	16	133	12.03%
Lassen	68	2198	3.09%	Siskiyou	127	3121	4.07%
Los Angeles	20648	1011759	2.04%	Solano	1011	35720	2.83%
Madera	385	13103	2.94%	Sonoma	251	34863	0.72%
Marin	582	16632	3.50%	Stanislaus	918	46219	1.99%
Mariposa	16	1022	1.57%	Sutter	204	7619	2.68%
Mendocino	340	7029	4.84%	Tehama	104	4559	2.28%
Merced	542	24280	2.23%	Trinity	42	805	5.22%
Modoc	29	758	3.83%	Tulare	1516	44697	3.39%
Mono	58	718	8.08%	Tuolumne	126	3223	3.91%
Monterey	823	42538	1.93%	Ventura	1135	71293	1.59%
Napa	409	9481	4.31%	Yolo	429	14211	3.02%
Nevada	177	5824	3.04%	Yuba	174	6837	2.54%
California	73479	3348022	2.19%				

Sources: California Department of Education (CDE) Special Education Division, June 2000; California Department of Finance, 2000 Population Projections, www.dof.ca.gov/newdr/2000estimated.txt

TABLE G3 | *Total DDS Early Start and CDE Special Education Enrollment, Children Ages Birth to 5*

County	Total DDS Pop	Total CDE Pop	Total DDS + CDE Enrollment*	Total B-5 Pop	% B-5 Pop
Alameda	742	2574	3316	131200	2.53%
Alpine	2	9	11	66	16.67%
Amador	16	87	103	1829	5.63%
Butte	137	526	663	15637	4.24%
Calaveras	22	96	118	2688	4.39%
Colusa	11	68	79	2159	3.66%
Contra Costa	462	2537	2999	75940	3.95%
Del Norte	20	123	143	2213	6.46%
El Dorado	72	437	509	11822	4.31%
Fresno	471	2144	2615	88368	2.96%
Glenn	18	62	80	2935	2.73%
Humboldt	106	343	449	9321	4.82%
Imperial	61	286	347	16819	2.06%
Inyo	18	88	106	1376	7.70%
Kern	431	1697	2128	73079	2.91%
Kings	77	256	333	13577	2.45%
Lake	44	100	144	4258	3.38%
Lassen	9	68	77	2198	3.50%
Los Angeles	6280	20648	26928	1011759	2.66%
Madera	81	385	466	13103	3.56%
Marin	111	582	693	16632	4.17%
Mariposa	5	16	21	1022	2.05%
Mendocino	40	340	380	7029	5.41%
Merced	116	542	658	24280	2.71%
Modoc	3	29	32	758	4.22%
Mono	11	58	69	718	9.61%
Monterey	130	823	953	42538	2.24%
Napa	60	409	469	9481	4.95%
Nevada	42	177	219	5824	3.76%
Orange	1695	5513	7208	293261	2.46%
Placer	130	665	795	20029	3.97%
Plumas	7	36	43	1089	3.95%
Riverside	753	3048	3801	157258	2.42%
Sacramento	774	2907	3681	112928	3.26%

County	Total DDS Pop	Total CDE Pop	Total DDS + CDE Enrollment*	Total B-5 Pop	% B-5 Pop
San Benito	17	135	152	5440	2.79%
San Bernardino	836	3569	4405	187149	2.35%
San Diego	1400	7362	8762	287543	3.05%
San Francisco	207	599	806	52248	1.54%
San Joaquin	557	1675	2232	57068	3.91%
San Luis Obispo	126	630	756	17334	4.36%
San Mateo	334	976	1310	62557	2.09%
Santa Barbara	300	962	1262	36232	3.48%
Santa Clara	835	2717	3552	161085	2.21%
Santa Cruz	155	727	882	21275	4.15%
Shasta	107	395	502	13597	3.69%
Sierra	1	16	17	133	12.78%
Siskiyou	20	127	147	3121	4.71%
Solano	319	1011	1330	35720	3.72%
Sonoma	335	251	586	34863	1.68%
Stanislaus	347	918	1265	46219	2.74%
Sutter	43	204	247	7619	3.24%
Tehama	28	104	132	4559	2.90%
Trinity	5	42	47	805	5.84%
Tulare	290	1516	1806	44697	4.04%
Tuolumne	33	126	159	3223	4.93%
Ventura	710	1135	1845	71293	2.59%
Yolo	94	429	523	14211	3.68%
Yuba	38	174	212	6837	3.10%
California	20094	73479	93573	3348022	2.79%

NOTE: Approximately 3000 children ages birth to 3 are served by both DDS and CDE programs.

Sources: California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) December 2000; California Department of Education (CDE) Special Education Division, June 2000; California Department of Finance, 2000 Population Projections, www.dof.ca.gov/newdr/2000estimated.txt



County Profiles

INTRODUCTION

This section provides brief and basic information related to child care and children with disabilities or other special needs by county as a quick reference tool for County Commissions, Local Child Care Planning Councils, child care and specialized service providers, families, and other interested parties. The profiles are based on available data at the time of the study and are not intended to represent a complete picture of all data and county services.

The profiles include a brief description of the county, the number of children birth through age 2 served by the County's Early Start program (early intervention program for children with or at risk for developmental disabilities), the number of children, birth to and including age 5 served by special education programs, and the total number of children birth through age 5 by ethnicity in the county. In addition, the profiles present a list of local resources and contact numbers, as well as locally funded projects and initiatives that support children with disabilities or special needs in child care programs as identified in county commission reports and/or on their websites.

Data sources for the county profiles include:

- California Child Care Resource and Referral Network
- California Department of Developmental Services
- California Department of Education, Special Education Division
- California Department of Finance
- County Children and Families Commissions
- *Early Start Central Directory of Early Intervention Resources*
- Local Child Care Planning Councils
- *California County Data Book 1999*, Annie E. Casey Foundation (www.aecf.org)

Early Start enrollment data were provided by the California Department of Developmental Services. Data in this report is for December 2000. Special education data was provided by the California Department of Education, Special Education Division. The data in this report were submitted by the Special Education Local Plan Areas (SELPA) to the Department of Education for the June 2000 reporting period.

ALAMEDA COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Alameda County is one of the fastest growing areas in the state in recent years, bringing more parents into the workforce and more children into child care programs. Approximately 2,000 licensed facilities serve more than 32,000 children in full- or part-day early childhood education programs. Children of all ages, including those with disabilities and special needs, those who are medically fragile, and those from vulnerable families are involved in child care programs. However, a recent county needs assessment indicated the number of children with special needs served in child care settings is underestimated because children with conditions such as asthma, diabetes, HIV, or cancer, are not reported although they are protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Additionally, a booming economy has drawn child care workers to higher paying jobs causing a high turnover rate and difficulty in finding qualified staff.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	84	917	40,785
Hispanic	62	655	36,443
Asian/Pacific Islander	45	372	29,979
African-American	93	614	23,477
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	16	516
Other/Unknown	458	—	—
Totals	742	2,574	131,200

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Alameda County Children and Families Commission**

510/667-7575

Local Child Care Planning Council

Alameda County Child Care LPC

510/208-9675

Regional Center of the East Bay

510/383-1339

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Mid-Alameda County SELPA

510/537-3000 x1220

Mission Valley SELPA

510/657-2350 x461

North Region SELPA

510/337-7190

Oakland Unified SELPA

510/879-8220

Tri-Valley SELPA

925/426-4293

Family Resource Network

510/547-7322

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

4Cs of Alameda County

510/582-2182

BANANAS

510/658-0381

Child Care Links

925/417-8733

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Alameda County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Family Violence Law Center

Violence prevention program.

Tri-City Health Center

Prenatal outreach program.

Bananas, Inc.

Parent education and support classes.

Davis Street Community Center

Parenting classes and mobile lending libraries of parenting resources.

CAPE, Inc.

Mental health services for low-income children and families based in child care facilities.

Community Drug Council

Support services for mental health needs of children in full-time child care.

Alameda County Every Child Counts program sponsors a variety of trainings, seminars, and workshops. Trainings are intended to enrich and heighten fundamental and specialized skills of social workers, case managers, and public health nurses. The following is a partial list of trainings that target children with disabilities and other special needs and their families.

- Relationship-Based approaches in early intervention
- Hearing screening for infants
- Family support to parents with physical and cognitive disabilities
- Promoting family wellness
- Transitioning babies from hospital to home
- Neurodevelopmental impact of substance abuse use in premature babies and strategies for recovery
- Resources and coordination issues: referral pathways

ALPINE COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Located near the Nevada border, Alpine County is home to the Sierra Mountains with an economy largely dependent on the ski industry and tourism. It is a uniquely small county with less than 1,200 residents, one-quarter of whom are members of the Washoe Tribe. Child care arrangements in such a small community are often informal, with only two child care centers (only one is open year-round) and one licensed in-home provider who serves infants. In addition, only two preschool programs are in operation. Health care is also a priority issue in this rural area, with no private health care providers residing or practicing in the county, requiring residents to drive to Lake Tahoe for Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) exams and other health services.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	0	1	21
Hispanic	0	1	9
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0	1
African-American	0	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	7	35
Other/Unknown	2	—	—
Totals	2	9	66

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Alpine County Children and Families Commission

530/694-1149

Local Child Care Planning Council

Child Care Services

530/694-9118

Alta California Regional Center

916/978-6249

Tahoe-Alpine County SELPA

530/541-2850

WarmLine Family Resource Center

916/631-7995

800/660-7995

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Choices for Children

877/694-2129

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Alpine County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Alpine County Health & Human Services Health Department

Provides funding for increased Family Nurse Practitioner services.

AMADOR COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Amador County is a sparsely populated area in which relative affluence exists side-by-side with poverty. The majority of residents live in areas removed from community services and have limited or no access to transportation. The demand for quality child care far exceeds the supply, especially for the birth-to-3 population. Exacerbating this situation is the shortage of trained child care staff and a workforce centered around the retail and tourism industries, which creates the need for child care during and outside of traditional work hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	13	84	1,556
Hispanic	1	2	204
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	1	20
African-American	0	0	11
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	0	38
Other/Unknown	0	—	—
Totals	16	87	1,829

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Amador County Children and Families Commission**

209/223-6545

Local Child Care Planning Council

Amador County Superintendent of Schools

209/257-5338

Valley Mountain Regional Center

209/754-1871

Tri-County SELPA

209/536-2008

Family Resource Network

209/472-3674

800/847-3030

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Child Care Resources

209/223-1624

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Amador County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Child Care Resources

RITES Professional Child Care Association.

BUTTE COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Butte County is a mainly rural community with integrated suburban areas and large areas that are sparsely populated. The county has the second highest rate of infant mortality rate in the state, which may be partly attributed to late access to prenatal care. Families also face a number of challenges related to early care and education. A recent needs assessment identified half of the county’s children 5 years and younger in need of child care, however, limited availability, accessibility, and affordability to child care impact a family’s ability to maintain economic stability. Barriers to early care and education include transportation, staff retention, lack of licensed care providers, and care during non-traditional work hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	105	472	11,181
Hispanic	12	28	2,477
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	16	1,418
African-American	3	6	297
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	4	264
Other/Unknown	12	—	—
Totals	137	526	15,637

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Butte County Children and Families Commission

530/538-6464

Local Child Care Planning Council

Butte County Office of Education

530/532-5763

Far Northern Regional Center

530/222-4791

Butte County SELPA

530/532-5620

Exceptional Family Support, Education, and Advocacy Center of Northern California, Inc.

888/263-1311

530/876-8321

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Valley Oak Children’s Services

530/895-3572

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Butte County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Discovery World Child Development Programs

Facilities renovations.

CALAVERAS COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

In Calaveras County, limited employment opportunities mean families must travel long distances for work and child care. Only 1,000 slots exist for licensed care with more than 4,000 children in homes where both parents work. The lack of infant care is one of the greatest areas of need, with a maximum licensed capacity for slightly more than 100 infants, just a fraction of the demand. In a recent needs assessment, focus group participants indicated the need for increased mental health services for children age birth to 5 as a priority area for child care and early education, and increased training, education, and support services for child care providers regarding children with special needs as an additional area that needed to be addressed.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	18	89	2,277
Hispanic	0	5	300
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	1	28
African-American	0	1	13
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	70
Other/Unknown	4	—	—
Totals	22	96	2,688

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Calaveras County Children and Families Commission**

209/754-1470

Local Child Care Planning Council

HRC-Child Care Resource

209/754-5348

Valley Mountain Regional Center

209/754-1871

Tri-County SELPA

209/536-2008

Family Resource Network

209/472-3674

800/847-3030

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Child Care Resources

209/754-1075

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Calaveras County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

HRC/Child and Parent Services

Increase parent access, learning and successful utilization of the skills and knowledge necessary to raise healthy children from conception to 5 years.

CCOE/Bridge Program

Support the enhancement and expansion of accessible early education services to improve child development and ensure school success.

COLUSA COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Colusa is a rural county with a seasonal economy driven by agriculture. This means employment varies and therefore child care needs vary depending on the time of year. This irregular employment situation exacerbates an already significant shortage of child care slots. In addition, only one center exists for infant care. In a recent needs assessment, half of the respondents identified access to quality child care as one of the biggest challenges affecting the well-being of their children. Affordability, care during non-traditional hours, and the need for seasonal care add to the difficulties facing the county.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	0	23	723
Hispanic	0	43	1,373
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	1	28
African-American	0	1	8
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	27
Other/Unknown	11	—	—
Totals	11	68	2,159

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Colusa County Children and Families Commission

530/473-3927

Local Child Care Planning Council

Colusa County Child Care LPC

Colusa COE

530/458-0300

Alta California Regional Center

916/978-6249

Colusa County SELPA

530/458-8891

Colusa County Family Resource Center

530/458-7535

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Children's Services, Colusa County Office of Education

530/458-0300

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Colusa County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Maxwell Elementary School

Replace playground equipment to meet new state safety regulations as well as meet the physical, emotional, and social needs of children ages 2-5 years.

Colusa County Child Abuse Prevention Council

Sponsor RFP for a combined Mandated Reporter Training Child Assault Prevention Program.

Grand Island Elementary School

Help upgrade age-appropriate play equipment in existing public recreation areas for children birth-to-5.

Williams Elementary School

Upgrade play equipment for children birth-to-5 years of age and make it accessible to children with special needs and their families.

Colusa County Library Literacy Lab

Assist with providing mobile literacy services to rural areas and children and families with special needs.

Colusa County Health Education/HUGS

Provide a home visiting program to first-time parents to increase early intervention opportunities and provide education to promote healthy children and families.

Colusa County Office of Education/Children's Services

Provide a home visiting program to promote education and training to parents and child care providers, including awareness and early intervention for children with special needs.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Contra Costa County has one of the fastest growing economies in the San Francisco Bay area. It is a county of great affluence coupled with cities and neighborhoods of extreme poverty. The entire county suffers from a child care crisis as providers leave for better paying jobs, which threatens the quality of child care during the critical early years of development. A recent survey indicated that families of children with special needs reported high quality child care that offered early learning opportunities as their number one priority. The local child care planning council cited dramatic shortages in infant and toddler care, with about 5,000 more slots needed to meet the demand.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	41	1,467	39,128
Hispanic	27	447	17,543
Asian/Pacific Islander	10	133	10,341
African-American	24	486	8,699
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	4	229
Other/Unknown	360	—	—
Totals	462	2,537	75,940

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Contra Costa County Children and Families Commission

925/335-9991

Local Child Care Planning Council

Contra Costa County Office of Education

925/942-3413

925/335-9991

Regional Center of the East Bay

510/383-1339 (Alameda and Contra Costa)

925/798-3001 (Contra Costa)

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Contra Costa SELPA

925/827-0949 x10

Mt. Diablo Unified SELPA

925/682-8000 x4048

925/685-1962 (TDD)

West Contra Costa Unified SELPA

510/741-2801

CARE Parent Network

925/313-0999

800/281-3023 (local area only)

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Contra Costa Child Care Council

925/676-KIDS (5437)

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Contra Costa County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Pittsburg Preschool and Community Council, Inc.

Improve parenting skills, knowledge of child development, and reduce delayed identification of physical, developmental, and cognitive problems.

We Care Inc.

Provide services to assure accessibility, early identification, and referral of children with mental health, social/emotional, and developmental problems and provide support for caregivers of children birth to 5 with identified mental health problems or special needs.

Contra Costa Child Care Council

Expand and enhance the availability of quality child care and early education in typical settings for infants and children with special needs.

DEL NORTE COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Del Norte is a small, sparsely populated county that comprises less than one-tenth of one percent of the state's population. The county's biggest employers, Pelican Bay State Penitentiary, Native American Casinos, and Sutter Coast Hospital, result in an increased need for child care during non-traditional hours. Del Norte County ranks in the bottom third of all California counties for children, ages birth to 4, living in poverty.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	13	85	1,592
Hispanic	3	16	321
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	1	98
African-American	0	0	8
American Indian/Alaska Native	4	21	194
Other/Unknown	0	—	—
Totals	20	123	2,213

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Del Norte County Children and Families Commission

707/464/7291

Local Child Care Planning Council

Del Norte County Unified School District

707/464-0709

Redwood Coast Regional Center

707/445-0893 x335

800/281-3832 (Ukiah)

888/584-9473 (Eureka)

Humboldt-Del Norte SELPA

707/445-7043

Del Norte Special Needs Information Network

707/464-1224

800/808-7206

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Del Norte Child Care Council

707/464-8311

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Del Norte County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Child Care Mini Grants:

- Tribal Head Start
- Head Start

EL DORADO COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

El Dorado's location near lakes and ski areas makes tourism its major industry. Residents who work in this service field require flexible child care during non-traditional hours. The local Child Care and Developmental Planning Council reports that parents of children with special needs have difficulty finding child care due to the short supply of providers. Many providers lack the specialized training needed to care for children with special needs and those that do have the training are unaffordable for many parents, requiring them to stay at home to care for their children. In 2000, the local resource and referral agency indicated that only 19 providers had training to care for children with special needs.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	20	380	9,321
Hispanic	2	46	1,939
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	8	419
African-American	0	2	41
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	1	102
Other/Unknown	50	—	—
Totals	72	437	11,822

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**El Dorado County Children and Families Commission**

530/672-8298

Local Child Care Planning Council

El Dorado County Child Care & Development Planning Council

530/295-2312

Alta California Regional Center

916/978-6249

Special Education Local Plan Areas

El Dorado County SELPA

530/295-2228

Tahoe-Alpine County SELPA

530/541-2850

WarmLine Family Resource Center

916/631-7995

800/660-7995

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Choices for Children

877/676-0707 (Cameron Park)

877/541-5848 (South Lake Tahoe)

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of El Dorado County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

El Dorado County Office of Education and El Dorado County Mental Health

- Training program for early identification of young children with special needs.
- Renovation Project for an infant center at a center-based program. Once completed, the program will offer care to infants who have disabilities.
- Teen Pregnancy Program with an emphasis on teens with babies who have identified disabilities.
- Completion of a center-based program at South Lake Tahoe Community College. Once completed, the program will house three projects, one specifically designed to provide integrated services to young children with disabilities.
- Home visitation program in specific parts of the county to provide home/hospital visits to families. Specialization in identification of families that have children with disabilities.

Infant, Toddler, Preschool Mental Health Project

Provide services to children at risk and with disabilities and their families using a therapy service delivery approach.

Renovation Grant

- Early care homes to provide services to children with disabilities.
- Development of a play therapy space and training for counselors to provide services to children with disabilities and at risk.

FRESNO COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Fresno County has one of the highest child poverty rates in California. Child care subsidies for working families are in short supply, which means families can wait years to receive the assistance they need to help with child care costs. This population of working poor families is left to rely on license-exempt care for their children. Exacerbating the situation is a high unemployment rate and the changing nature of an agricultural economy that is weather dependent.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	119	721	25,045
Hispanic	273	1,121	46,137
Asian/Pacific Islander	31	139	11,293
African-American	28	153	5,211
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	10	682
Other/Unknown	20	—	—
Totals	471	2,144	88,368

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Fresno County Children and Families Commission

559/241-6515

Local Child Care Planning Council

Fresno County Office of Education

559/497-3846

Central Valley Regional Center

559/276-4300

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Clovis Unified SELPA

559/327-9400

559/327-9430 (TDD)

Fresno County SELPA

559/265-3049

Fresno Unified SELPA

559/457-3220

Family Resource Centers

Circle of Friends Family Resource Center

559/327-8455

Exceptional Parents Unlimited

559/229-2000

Kings County Family Resource Center

United Cerebral Palsy Association

559/584-1551

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Central Valley Children's Services Network

559/456-8195

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Fresno County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

American Lung Association

Asthma Program.

Blind Babies

Valley's Children's Hospital-Countywide services.

Centro La Familia Advocacy Services

Child Abuse services.

Centro La Familia

Child Abuse Services.

Court Appointed Special Advocates

Advocacy program for abused and neglected children of juvenile court system.

Exceptional Parents Unlimited (2)

Countywide programs and training for children who are disabled or at risk and their parents.

Fresno County Office of Education

Early identification and intervention in rural communities.

Fresno Unified School District (2)

Education and health screening in urban low-income neighborhoods.

Kings Canyon Unified School District

Expanding the TIPS program to provide infant and preschool inclusion support to the current early intervention program.

March of Dimes

Prenatal education and community collaboration for low-income minority population.

Spirit of Women

Court referred residential substance abuse program for women and their children.

FRESNO COUNTY

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES CONTINUED

The Living Room

Planning for the expansion of a children's center for HIV-positive parents and children.

Valley Children's Hospital

Respite care.

West Fresno Crisis Center

Child abuse services.

West Hills Community College

Create an early intervention program.

GLENN COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Glenn County’s population includes an Indian reservation in Elk Creek, a large number of Hmong families in Willows, and a growing Hispanic population. Findings of a recent community assessment process indicated that nearly one-quarter of those surveyed reported that access to affordable child care was one of the biggest challenges affecting the well-being of young children; respondents said education about special needs was a “big problem” affecting their young child; and early screening for and assessment of disabilities and special needs was an unmet community need.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	11	33	1,447
Hispanic	5	23	1,197
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	2	245
African-American	1	1	10
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	3	36
Other/Unknown	0	—	—
Totals	18	62	2,935

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Glenn County Children and Families Commission

530/934-6575

Local Child Care Planning Council

Glenn County Office of Education

530/865-1145

Far Northern Regional Center

530/222-4791

Glenn County SELPA

530/934-6575 x24

Exceptional Family Support, Education, and Advocacy Center of Northern California, Inc.

888/263-1311

530/876-8321

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Glenn County Office of Education

530/865-1118

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Glenn County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

GCOE/GAP

PEN/KIDS

WIC/Mercy

HUMBOLDT COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Humboldt County is a large mountainous county located on the northern California coast. Geographic isolation creates a problem for parents seeking child care, since many areas of the county have no licensed child care providers. In addition, a recent needs assessment indicated the need for extended hours of child care, training for providers, and care for children with special needs. An advisory committee on inclusion has been established to guide efforts in this area and to help coordinate services.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	85	267	7,165
Hispanic	4	30	840
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	4	387
African-American	0	113	82
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	29	847
Other/Unknown	15	—	—
Totals	106	343	9,321

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Humboldt County Children and Families Commission**

707/445-7389

Local Child Care Planning Council

Humboldt County Office of Education

707/445-7006

Redwood Coast Regional Center

707/445-0893 x335

800/281-3832 (Ukiah)

888/584-9473 (Eureka)

Humboldt-Del Norte SELPA

707/445-7043

The Special Needs Connection

707/444-8293

800/795-3554

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Humboldt Child Care Council

707/444-1195

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Humboldt County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Vector Health Programs, Inc.

“Early Intervention for Academic Success” provides educational inservices for preschool and kindergarten teachers, provides school psychologists, and speech pathologists regarding how to improve fine motor and prewriting skills.

IMPERIAL COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Imperial County is a large, desert region bordering Mexico and Arizona that includes some of the highest unemployment and poverty areas in California. One-third of children, birth to age 5, live in poverty. Imperial County ranks 57th of 58 counties in its present supply to meet the demand for licensed child care slots. Although agriculture provides the primary source for employment, its seasonal nature and incremental mechanization have created an intermittent and cyclical employment pattern. The community has identified the need to recruit, train, and retain qualified child care staff.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	8	44	1,888
Hispanic	46	221	14,522
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	8	165
African-American	1	5	219
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	8	25
Other/Unknown	5	—	—
Totals	61	286	16,819

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Imperial County Children and Families Commission
760/482-4474

Local Child Care Planning Council
Imperial County Office of Education
760/312-6604

San Diego Regional Center
858/496-4318
858/292-5821 (TDD)

Imperial County SELPA
760/312-6419

Exceptional Family Resource Center
858/268-8252
800/281-8252 (San Diego County only)
877/268-8252

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
Imperial County Child Development Services
760/312-6431

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Imperial County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

March of Dimes Birth Defects
Healthy Babies, Healthy Communities.

Valley Family Care Center of ECRMC
Child Asthma Project.

Imperial County Probation Department
Betty Jo McNeece, Shelter Home Program.

Center for Family Solutions
Healing Violent Families/Identifying Home Violence.

CHARLEE Family Care
CHARLEE's Shelter Program, ages birth to 5.

Court Appointed Special Advocates
SHEANE (Safe, Healthy, Educational and Nurturing Environment).

INYO COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Inyo County is California's second largest county in terms of area, but has an approximate population of only 18,000 residents. Transportation has been identified as a problem for parents of young children in such a geographically diverse and expansive area. It is especially challenging for parents of children with disabilities, since preschool services for children with special needs are available in selected areas only.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	14	56	802
Hispanic	2	11	368
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	1	24
African-American	0	0	1
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	20	181
Other/Unknown	1	—	—
Totals	18	88	1,376

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Inyo County Children and Families Commission

760/872-0925

Local Child Care Planning Council

Inyo County Office of Education

760/873-5123 x39

Kern Regional Center

661/327-8531

800/479-9899

Inyo County SELPA

760/938-2633

Heart to Hand Family Resource Center

760/872-4604

800/237-6996

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Child Care Connection

760/873-5123

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Inyo County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Information not available to WestEd at the time of printing.

KERN COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Geography is one of the biggest deterrents to effectively meeting the child care needs of Kern County. Kern is the fastest growing county in California and one of the top 10 fastest growing regions in the country. Residents in outlying areas must commute to both work and child care with little infrastructure in place to support them. In a survey of 2,500 families, nearly half reported that no child care services were available in their area.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	143	651	28,659
Hispanic	195	856	36,959
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	35	2,460
African-American	43	143	4,540
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	12	461
Other/Unknown	44	—	—
Totals	431	1,697	73,079

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Kern County Children and Families Commission

661/328-8888

Local Child Care Planning Council

Kern County Child Care Council

661/636-4444

Kern Regional Center

661/327-8531

800/479-9899

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Bakersfield City SELPA

661/631-5868

Kern County Consortium SELPA

661/636-4801

661/636-4600 (TDD)

H.E.A.R.T.S. Connection Family Resource Center

661/328-9055

800/210-7633 x282

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Community Connection for Child Care

877/861-5200 (Bakersfield)

877/375-3234 (Ridgefield)

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Kern County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

American Lung Association

Implement the Kern Asthma Education Home Visit Program.

KCDPH – Healthy Children Ready To Learn

Expansion of the Perinatal Outreach and Black Infant Health Programs.

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies of Kern County

Funding for Maternal Labor and Post-Partum Education and Support Project.

Gymboree Play and Music

Expansion of Gymboree Services to create greater accessibility.

KINGS COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Kings County is a largely agricultural community with an expanding economic base. The rural character of the county leads to isolation from services. Among the county's goals related to Parent Support Services and Parent Education is to establish multipurpose community resource centers in various communities. Families in Kings County identified the need for additional support services at accessible hours in the areas of child rearing, including children with special needs, equipment lending programs for children with special needs, and child care.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	10	112	5,129
Hispanic	27	125	6,998
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	7	601
African-American	0	12	736
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	113
Other/Unknown	40	—	—
Totals	77	256	13,577

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Kings County Children and Families Commission**

559/585-0814

Local Child Care Planning Council

Kings County Office of Education

559/584-1441 x4269

Central Valley Regional Center

559/738-2225 (A-M)

559/738-2247 (N-Z)

Kings County SELPA

559/584-1441

Family Resource Centers

Exceptional Parents Unlimited

559/229-2000

Kings County Family Resource Center

United Cerebral Palsy Association

559/584-1551

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Kings County Community Action Organization

559/582-4386

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Kings County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Kings County Family Resource Center

Expand UCP's Family Resource Center library with books, videos, and audio tapes about child development, parenting skills, and other relevant information.

Kings County Library

Purchase materials for parents of 2-5 year olds on topics such as health, nutrition, illnesses, early development and education, school readiness, and other related topics. These materials will be available through all six Kings County libraries.

Magic Castle Preschool

Financial support for staff to attend early literacy workshops and to purchase books and materials for the preschool to increase oral language and language development.

Pioneer Preschool

Purchase playground enhancements to meet California Health and Safety Codes.

UCP Parent Child Development Program

Develop and provide multimedia presentations to parents and professional groups on topics related to children birth to 5 such as early childhood development, early intervention, and special needs.

LAKE COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Lake County’s recreation and tourism industries employ many local residents at jobs that require part-time, weekend, or nighttime shifts. The demand for child care during non-traditional hours and the lack of providers to offer care during these hours has caused many parents to turn to licensed-exempt providers. A recent needs assessment found child care for children with developmental and physical disabilities was extremely limited.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	19	77	3,209
Hispanic	3	15	704
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0	56
African-American	1	6	131
American Indian/Alaska Native	8	2	158
Other/Unknown	13	—	—
Totals	44	100	4,258

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Lake County Children and Families Commission

707/263-6169

Local Child Care Planning Council

Lake County Office of Education

707/994-4795

Redwood Coast Regional Center

707/462-3832

Lake County SELPA

707/262-4130

Lake County Family Resource Center

707/262-0672

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

NCO - Rural Communities Child Care

707/994-4647 (Lakeport)

707/263-4688 (Clearlake)

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Lake County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Easter Seals of Northern CA

- Child Find Linkages.
- Verna Morris Memorial Travel Fund.

Sutter Lakeside Community

Parent-to-Parent Support Program.

LASSEN COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Lassen County is a remote, mountainous, high desert area with natural geographic barriers. Seventy percent of the population is rural and public services have not improved in relation to the increase in population. A recent needs assessment indicated a lack of child care and other services for children with special needs. One indicator in the area of Parent Education and Support was the identified need for more training opportunities for child care providers. The most common areas of interest included behavior management, communication with parents, and working with children with special needs.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	7	56	1,697
Hispanic	1	7	363
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0	30
African-American	0	0	28
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	5	80
Other/Unknown	1	—	—
Totals	9	68	2,198

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Lassen County Children and Families Commission**

530/257-9600

Local Child Care Planning Council

Child and Family Resources

530/257-9781

Far Northern Regional Center

530/222-4791

Lassen County SELPA

530/257-7266

RAINBOW Regional Family Support and Resource Network

530/251-2417

800/537-TALK (8255)

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Lassen Child & Family Resources

530/257-9781

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Lassen County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Information not available to WestEd at the time of printing.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Los Angeles County is the world's 18th largest economy and home to nearly 10 million people, one million of whom are younger than age 6. A recent needs assessment cited the need for additional information on both the demand for and supply of early care and education services for children with special needs. A survey of subsidized early care and education program providers revealed more than 1,000 children with special needs on waiting lists for subsidized child care services.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	864	4,755	178,156
Hispanic	2,762	12,204	647,026
Asian/Pacific Islander	223	1,061	101,604
African-American	762	2,590	83,152
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	38	1,821
Other/Unknown	1,668	—	—
Totals	6,280	20,648	1,011,759

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Los Angeles County Children and Families Commission

213/482-6601

Local Child Care Planning Council

Los Angeles Child Care Advisory Board

213/974-2440

Regional Centers

Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center

626/299-4779

Westside Regional Center

310/258-4096

South Central Los Angeles Regional Center

213/763-7800

North Los Angeles County Regional Center

818/778-1900

Harbor Regional Center Family & Professional Resource Center

310/543-0691

Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center (Koch-Young Family Resource Center)

213/383-1300

800/546-3676 (local area only)

San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center

909/620-7722

800/822-7504

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Antelope Valley Service Area SELPA

661/274-0147

Downey-Montebello SELPA

562/622-6671

East San Gabriel Valley SELPA

626/966-1679

Foothill SELPA

818/246-3841

Long Beach Unified SELPA

562/442-6868 x237

Los Angeles County SELPA

562/923-1351

Los Angeles Unified SELPA

213/229-4713

Mid-Cities Service Area SELPA

562/622-6671

Norwalk-La Mirada/ABC SELPA

562/868-0431

Pasadena Unified SELPA

626/568-4531

Puente Hills Service Area SELPA

562/622-6671

Santa Clarita Service Area SELPA

661/255-6928

LOS ANGELES COUNTY**RESOURCES** CONTINUED*Southwest SELPA*

310/921-2901

Tri-City SELPA

310/551-5100 x2226

West San Gabriel Valley SELPA

626/254-9406

Whittier Area Cooperative SELPA

562/945-6431

Family Resource Centers*Families Caring for Families FRC*

661/949-1746

Family Focus Resource Center

818/677-5575

Family Focus Resource Center

661/299-4572

Koch-Young FRC (Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center)

213/383-1300

800/546-3676

Loving Your Disabled Child FRC

323/299-2925

The Parents' Place

626/856-8861

800/422-2022 (WarmLine)

Partnership in Early Intervention FRC

626/300-9171

562/906-1141 (Whittier area)

Carolyn Kordich FRC

310/325-7288

Long Beach FRC

562/985-1152

Southeast FRC

562/461-2986

877/243-BABY

Southwest Special Education FRC

310/606-0859

Westside Coastal FRC

310/258-4063

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies*Child and Family Services*

213/427-2700

Child Care Information Service

626/449-8221

Child Care Information Service

909/397-4740

Child Care Resource Centers of the San Fernando Valley and Antelope Valley

818/756-3360

661/951-8654

661/949-0651

Child Care Resource Center

818/256-1020

Children's Home Society of California

310/816-3690

Connections for Children

310/452-3202

Crystal Stairs, Inc.

888/KIDS24-7

Mexican American Opportunity Foundation

323/890-9616

Options - A Child Care & Human Services Agency

626/856-5900

Center for Communities and Family Services

888/421-4247

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Los Angeles County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Healthy Births

This initiative addresses barriers to achieving healthy birth outcomes (with low birthweight as a primary indicator).

Assistance to Family Support Providers

Assistance and support to family support providers linking programs and addressing systems improvement needs.

WarmLine

A 24-hour, seven day per week "Information, Referral, Support, and Assistance to Parents" help line.

Compensation and Retention Initiative

Compensation and incentives provided to eligible child care providers to promote retention in the field of child care.

Enhancing Child Care and Early Learning Opportunities

Enhance the availability, accessibility, and quality of child care and early learning opportunities.

Home Visitation

Supporting the ongoing provision of home visitation services to children and families.

Community-Based Child Care Quality Enhancement Grants

Improve the quality of child care services through increasing provider skills and enhancing child care environments.

MADERA COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Madera County is a mixture of mountains and flatlands in the heart of the Central Valley. The county is experiencing substantial population growth, particularly in the unincorporated areas. Many of the unmet needs for child care services in the county are attributed to affordability, availability, accessibility, and quality. Increased technical assistance and subsidies for licensed child care providers is one of the identified needs.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	19	154	4,637
Hispanic	57	207	7,783
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	9	173
African-American	3	7	377
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	8	133
Other/Unknown	2	—	—
Totals	81	385	3,103

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Madera County Children and Families Commission

559/771-5155

Local Child Care Planning Council

Madera County Office of Education

559/674-0915 x468

Central Valley Regional Center

559/276-4300

Madera-Mariposa SELPA

559/662-4666

Madera County Early Start Family Resource Center

559/674-0915

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Madera County Action Committee

559/675-8469

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Madera County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Madera County Community Action Agency (Health & Training Workshop)

Expand current health and safety training project.

Madera Community Hospital (Medical Social Workers Services)

Social workers will develop care plans, provide referrals, and follow-up with newborns, paying specific attention to those with high-risk factors.

Darin M. Camarena Health Centers, Inc. (Pediatric Dental Health Services)

Offer an array of dental services for children prenatal to 5 years old.

Madera County Superintendent of Schools (Madera County Extra Special Parent's Healthy Start)

Provide parent/provider training and support. Monthly Health Awareness to include mobile medical and dental services on-site. Resource and referral services. Case management for teen parents.

Madera County Foster Parent Associates

Respite care for foster children during education training for foster parents.

MARIN COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Marin County has one of the highest median household incomes in California, however, there are also great economic and social disparities existing among its residents. The steep cost of living makes child care unaffordable for many parents and low rates make it nearly impossible for child care providers to earn a living. In West Marin, the agricultural sector relies on migrant labor creating a seasonal fluctuation in the numbers of children birth to 5. The lack of affordable child care coupled with insufficient subsidies for low-income working families is the most significant issue yielding a lack of options for many families.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	44	412	11,196
Hispanic	12	114	3,835
Asian/Pacific Islander	7	14	1,102
African-American	5	41	473
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	1	26
Other/Unknown	43	—	—
Totals	111	582	16,632

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Marin County Children and Families Commission**

415/507-2700

Local Child Care Planning Council

Marin County Child Care Commission

415/507-4169

Golden Gate Regional Center

415/945-1600 x210

Marin County SELPA

415/499-5882

MATRIX Parent Network and Resource Center

415/884-3535

800/578-2592

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Marin Child Care Council

415/472-CARE

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Marin County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Information not available to WestEd at the time of printing.

MARIPOSA COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Mariposa County is a rural community in central California, home to Yosemite National Park. Mariposa has a declining birth rate as well as a high rate of women receiving inadequate prenatal care. The majority of children in the county are born in Merced or Fresno County hospitals. Findings of a child care survey found enough child care resources for preschool-age children, although there is a significant shortage of options for infants and school-age children and for care during non-traditional hours.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	3	13	869
Hispanic	1	2	106
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	1	11
African-American	1	0	3
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	33
Other/Unknown	0	—	—
Totals	5	16	1,022

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Mariposa County Children and Families Commission
209/966-3689

Local Child Care Planning Council
Local Planning Council
209/966-6299

Central Valley Regional Center
209/723-4245

Madera-Mariposa SELPA
559/662-4666

Mariposa Family Resource Center
209/966-6162

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
Infant/Child Enrichment Services
209/966-4474

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Mariposa County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Information not available to WestEd at the time of printing.

MENDOCINO COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Mendocino County is located in the north coastal region of California and is bound by the rugged Pacific coastline and the Coastal Mountain Range. The county's depressed economy forces many residents to commute long distances to work, school, and services, and often to access work below their skill level and salary potential. There is a need to increase the accessibility and number of quality child care providers in all areas of the county for children with special needs and special populations, and improve access to services for children with developmental disabilities and serious emotional disturbance. Identified needs in the county include more technical assistance and continuing education opportunities for current and new child care providers to serve children with special needs and to support early screening and development programs to identify children with special needs.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	27	223	4,340
Hispanic	7	83	2,071
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	4	109
African-American	1	3	40
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	27	469
Other/Unknown	4	—	—
Totals	40	340	7,029

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Mendocino County Children and Families Commission**

707/462-4453

Local Child Care Planning Council

Mendocino County Office of Education

707/467-5143

Redwood Coast Regional Center

707/462-3832

Mendocino County SELPA

707/467-5166

Family Resource Centers

Mendocino County Coast Family Resource Center

707/964-3674

Mendocino County Inland Family Resource Center

707/472-0208

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

NCO - Rural Communities Child Care

707/467-3211 (Ukiah)

707/459-2019 (Willits)

707/964-3080 (Fort Bragg)

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Mendocino County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Mendocino County Office of Education Collaborative, Child Care Development Training & Staff Retention Project.**Action Network (Growth & Development of Coastal South Child Care Facilities & Services)**

Integrate, streamline, and enhance local child care and family services.

MERCED COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Merced County is a rural community located in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, California's agricultural hub. Many parents work irregular, night, and weekend hours in food and cotton processing plants. Parents indicate the need for child care for children with special needs and information about what quality early childhood education and child care should consist of and how it impacts their children. Child care providers report the need to access consultation from health care professionals and other experts on child development when they have concerns about children and families and how to access services. Focus groups identified the need to educate child care providers to identify and work with children who have challenging behaviors, provide more special education programs for children 3 years and older, increase disability awareness in the community through education programs, and educate parents to understand children with disabilities. Also mentioned was the need to enhance technical assistance and training for licensed and license-exempt providers in the areas of working with children with special needs, child development, and resources for families.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	25	204	7,807
Hispanic	64	266	12,067
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	34	3,417
African-American	2	38	916
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	73
Other/Unknown	22	—	—
Totals	116	542	24,280

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Merced County Children and Families Commission

209/381-1217

Local Child Care Planning Council

Merced County Local Planning Council

209/381-5982

Central Valley Regional Center

209/723-4245

Merced County SELPA

209/381-6711

CHALLENGED Family Resource Center of Merced County

209/394-4610

800/394-6347

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Children's Services Network of Merced County, Inc.

209/722-3804 (Merced)

209/826-8861 (Los Banos)

209/394-1680 (Livingston)

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Merced County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

MCCAA Head Start/MCOE (Inclusive Preschool)

Collaboration with Head Start for early childhood education for special needs kids in a center environment (Merced/Dos Palos).

Merced College Child Development Center

Family Service Program.

MODOC COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Modoc is a small, remote county characterized by inadequate resources and programs in health, education, child care, and transportation resulting in an increasingly underserved population. Issues identified in the county that affect children with special needs include lack of transportation, lack of skilled providers willing to work in outlying areas and provide extended hours of care, as well as the need for perinatal outreach education for families.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	3	19	543
Hispanic	0	8	174
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	1	5
African-American	0	1	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	36
Other/Unknown	0	—	—
Totals	3	29	758

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Modoc County Children and Families Commission**

530/233-0910

Local Child Care Planning Council

TEACH, Inc.

530/233-3111

Far Northern Regional Center

530/222-4791

Modoc County SELPA

530/233-7109

RAINBOW Regional Family Support and Resource Network

530/251-2417

800/537-TALK (8255)

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Modoc Child Care Resource & Referral

530/233-KIDS (5437)

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Modoc County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Perinatal Outreach Program**Children's Medical Assistant Program**

MONO COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Mono County is a rural community located on the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada. The county is geographically isolated from the rest of the state and its economy is largely dominated by tourism. Hospitality employment requires night and weekend shifts, and families encounter difficulties accessing child care during non-traditional hours. The county has identified the need to increase early identification of behavioral and developmental issues and to increase the number of children who receive developmental screening and appropriate referrals. An interagency committee addresses services for children birth to 3 years.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	6	37	432
Hispanic	3	18	250
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0	12
African-American	0	1	2
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	2	22
Other/Unknown	2	—	—
Totals	11	58	718

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Mono County Children and Families Commission

760/924-7626

Local Child Care Planning Council

Mono County Office of Education

760/924-7626

Kern Regional Center

661/327-8531

800/479-9899

Mono County SELPA

760/932-7311

Family Resource Centers

Heart to Hand Family Resource Center

760/872-4604

Eastern Sierra Family Resource Center

760/924-5998

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Community Connection for Children

800/317-4600

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Mono County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Mono County Health Department

Infant and Young Child Home Visiting Program.

Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action/Community Connection for Children

Family Day Care Trainer.

Licensing Assistance for Family Day Care Providers.

Mono County Child Care Council

Child Care Retention and Compensation Project.

MONTEREY COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Monterey County is among California's fastest growing counties. Located on California's Central Coast region, tourism and agriculture dominate the local economy. The seasonal nature of employment in these industries contributes to the uncertainty of regular income and the need for child care during non-traditional hours. The county reported that fewer than 35% of the county's children enter kindergarten adequately prepared. Parents, caregivers, and providers of health and other services need increased skills, training, and knowledge to identify which behaviors may be signs of potential disability.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	25	230	11,534
Hispanic	77	488	27,676
Asian/Pacific Islander	6	52	2,295
African-American	4	47	941
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	6	92
Other/Unknown	18	—	—
Totals	130	823	45,538

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Monterey County Children and Families Commission**

831/444-8549

Local Child Care Planning Council

Monterey County Social Services

831/796-3530

San Andreas Regional Center

831/759-7500

Monterey County SELPA

831/755-0340

Peaks & Valleys Family Resource Center

831/424-2937

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Monterey County Child Care Resource & Referral

831/757-0775

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Monterey County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Silver Lining Preschool

Facility improvements.

NAPA COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Napa County is growing at a slower rate than the statewide average, yet its racial and ethnic diversity is increasing. Children birth to age 5 comprise 6.5% of the county’s residents and 54% of these children live with working parents. In a recent community survey, respondents ranked child care and preschools as the number one issue to helping families raise happy and healthier children, specifically the need for more child care programs and increased hours of service. Napa county has also identified a need for improved interagency collaboration to improve service delivery for children and families as well as a need for increased child care opportunities for children with special needs.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	19	258	5,219
Hispanic	16	141	3,735
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	6	364
African-American	1	4	105
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	58
Other/Unknown	21	—	—
Totals	60	409	9,481

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Napa County Children and Families Commission

707/257-1410

Local Child Care Planning Council

Napa County Child Care Planning Council

707/259-5929

North Bay Regional Center

707/256-1100

800/646-3268 or 800/256-2555

707/252-0213 (TDD)

Napa County SELPA

707/253-6807

Matrix Parent Network Resource Center

707/253-8728

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Community Resources for Children

800/696-4CRC

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Napa County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Napa Solano Head Start

Expand full day/full year Head Start to serve additional families.

Napa County Health and Human Services

Staff support for the Therapeutic Child Care Center to meet the needs of families that are challenged.

Napa County Office of Education

Training, consultation and support to expand parent and professional expertise in child development (inclusion specialist).

COPE

Staff support for Family Resource Center.

Community Resources for Children

Subsidies via Emergency Child Care Assistance Program.

ALDEA

Support for Family Resource Center including home visits, information and referral, crisis intervention, therapeutic services, etc.

Napa Valley Assistive Technology Lending Library

Materials for children with special needs.

Community Resources for Children

Materials and resources for early childhood education providers.

Dee T. Davis Medical Therapy Unit for Children

Technical support services for parents of children with disabilities.

Music for Life Therapy Services

Music therapy for low-income children.

Napa Valley Assistive Technology Lending Library

Assistive technology for parents of children with disabilities.

NEVADA COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Nevada County stretches from the Sierra Nevada foothills to the Nevada State line, encompassing 978 square miles with a population of about 88,800. A recent needs assessment identified a critical shortage of child care settings capable of including children with special needs. There is a need to increase infant, toddler, and preschool programs capacity to include children with disabilities. Additional needs identified include increasing the availability of care for infants with disabilities and providing technical assistance, economic, and other support to allow child care and early childhood education settings to serve children with disabilities.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	0	169	5,107
Hispanic	0	2	570
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	2	70
African-American	0	3	6
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	1	71
Other/Unknown	42	—	—
Totals	42	177	5,824

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Nevada County Children and Families Commission**

530/265-0611

Local Child Care Planning Council

CCCC of Nevada County

530/271-0258

Alta California Regional Center

916/978-6249

Placer-Nevada SELPA

530/889-5902

WarmLine Family Resource Center

916/631-7995

800/660-7995

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Sierra Nevada Children's Services

530/587-5960 (Truckee)

530/272-8866 (Grass Valley)

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Nevada County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Community/Grass Valley School District Preschool Playground
Facilities improvements.**Team 3 Family Counseling**

Provide low-income families therapy and education sessions.

Chicago Park School

Facilities improvements.

Truckee State Preschool Diversity Project

To support the stabilization of the new preschool to accept Latino and special needs children and provide transportation.

Preschool Disability Respite Program

Provide extended preschool hours for all children.

ORANGE COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Orange County is a diverse community experiencing a growing disparity between rich and poor. Despite its growth over the past few years, the number of child care facilities has decreased. Community forums identified inadequate developmental assessments and early detection of chronic and disabling conditions as a service gap in the county. Respondents emphasized the need for standard comprehensive assessments to be used by both health care providers and early care and education programs. The community planning process identified the need for developing incentives to recruit child care providers to serve children with special needs and increasing the number of child care slots available for children with special needs. Training and support for providers and the need for a coordinated system of care and services for high-risk populations such as children with special needs were also identified.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	686	2,789	106,852
Hispanic	633	2,174	142,019
Asian/Pacific Islander	115	430	38,893
African-American	34	106	4,865
American Indian/Alaska Native	4	14	632
Other/Unknown	223	—	—
Totals	1,695	5,513	293,261

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Orange County Children and Families Commission

714/834-5310

Local Child Care Planning Council

Orange County CCD Planning Council
949/548-3194

Regional Center of Orange County

714/796-5354
800/244-3177
714/667-6021 (TDD)

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Anaheim City SELPA
714/517-7528
Garden Grove Unified SELPA
714/663-6233
Greater Anaheim SELPA
714/828-1766
Irvine Unified SELPA
949/936-5856
Newport-Mesa Unified SELPA
714/424-5060
North Orange County SELPA
714/870-4850

Northeast Orange County SELPA

714/996-2550

Santa Ana Unified SELPA

714/558-5861

South Orange County SELPA

949/376-2144

Tustin Unified SELPA

714/730-7301 x332

West Orange County Consortium for Special Education

714/964-3339 x4293

Comfort Connection Family Resource Center

714/ 558-5400

888/FRC-BABY

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Children's Home Society of California

714/543-2273

ORANGE COUNTY**COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES**

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Orange County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Hands Together (A Center for Children)

This Center for Children is a comprehensive, culturally appropriate, bilingual, educational rich model of early care.

St. Jude Medical Center (Steps for Young Children Program)

To enhance the capacity of the pediatric team to assess and address major behavioral and developmental issues, as well as serve as a parent resource.

PROUD

To create and expand its services to those with children with Down Syndrome, which would better prepare these developmentally disabled children for entry to the school system and into society at large.

New Millennium Community Coalition: Special Children's Connection Preschool Program

To provide an early intervention preschool program for abused, at risk, and homeless children.

New Millennium Community Coalition

To support early intervention of preschool for abused, at risk, and homeless children, and provide health services and early care education.

Jewish Community Center (Early Childhood Program)

To provide staff development, ongoing staff support, educational accommodations, and family support.

Children's Hospital of Orange County

To expand comprehensive medical services to infants at the highest risk for infant mortality and chronic and disabling conditions.

Regional Center of Orange County

To improve services for young children with autism.

The Regents of the University of California

Provide early screening and diagnosis of autism and efficacy of early intervention on the outcome of autism.

Dayle McIntosh Center for the Disabled

Design and implement a comprehensive program to support and strengthen families for the ultimate development of young children with disabilities.

Latino Health Access

Provide a peer led asthma and allergy self-management program.

PLACER COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Placer County’s population has increased more than 20% since 1990 and is expected to continue this high growth trend well into the next century. Placer County has a relatively low rate of child poverty, approximately 14% for children birth to 5. The county identified the need to improve early identification of children with special needs before kindergarten.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	8	594	13,195
Hispanic	4	46	2,773
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	13	760
African-American	1	10	138
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	2	163
Other/Unknown	115	—	—
Totals	130	665	20,029

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Placer County Children and Families Commission
714/834-2307

Local Child Care Planning Council
Placer County Office of Education/Placer County Child Care Advisory Council
530/886-4960

Alta California Regional Center
916/978-6249

Placer-Nevada SELPA
530/889-5902

WarmLine Family Resource Center
916/631-7995
800/660-7995

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
Placer County Office of Education, Child Care Services
800/464-3322

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Placer County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Placer County

- Model play area; Integration with non-disabled peers. Purchase equipment to enhance language development. Purchase equipment to assist with training needs. Specifically targeted for children with developmental delays.
- Purchase therapy materials and equipment to limit non-instructional time. Specifically targeted for children with severe multiple disabilities.
- Improve facilities. To purchase materials for assessing auditory skills of deaf and hard of hearing students and relating this information to parents.
- Purchase equipment and technology to enhance communication skills, specifically for orthopedic impairments and to provide parent education.
- Purchase technology to enable itinerant staff to communicate more effectively.
- Provide parent support and purchase equipment to enhance communication skills for communication delays and disorders.
- Purchase equipment to improve communication for children who are diagnosed with autism.

PLUMAS COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Plumas County, located in the northern Sierra Nevada, is home to approximately 20,000 people. Although geography and weather can isolate residents, the small population allows for collaboration among county agencies to address complicated issues. Some areas of the county indicated the need for more center-based programs for children with special needs and more infant care for this population. Targeted long-term results include increased access to quality early care among infants and toddlers with developmental delays and special needs.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	5	30	903
Hispanic	0	4	118
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0	15
African-American	0	1	11
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	1	42
Other/Unknown	2	—	—
Totals	7	36	1,089

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Plumas County Children and Families Commission**

530/283-6159

Local Child Care Planning Council

Plumas County Office of Education

530/832-5355

Far Northern Regional Center

530/222-4791

Plumas Unified SELPA

530/283-6500 x227

800/974-1925

RAINBOW Regional Family Support and Resource Network

530/251-2417

800/537-TALK (8255)

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Plumas Rural Services

530/283-4453

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Plumas County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Plumas Unified School District

Developmental specialist to perform outreach services and home visitation to children with disabilities and their families.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Riverside County is geographically the fourth largest county in California, with an estimated 1.4 million residents. There is a significant shortage of quality, accessible, and affordable child care services, including high quality programs for children with special needs and children with behavior and emotional challenges. An interagency advisory committee has been developed to make recommendations regarding children with special needs.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	124	1,537	61,448
Hispanic	144	1,156	76,984
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	57	7,903
African-American	44	279	9,699
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	19	1,224
Other/Unknown	435	—	—
Totals	753	3,048	157,258

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Riverside County Children and Families Commission

909/955-9950

Local Child Care Planning Council

Riverside County Child Care Consortium

909/826-6368

Inland Regional Center

909/890-4711

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Corona/Norco Unified SELPA

909/736-5090

Moreno Valley Unified SELPA

909/697-4330

Riverside County SELPA

909/826-6687

Riverside Unified SELPA

909/788-7142

Early Start Family Resource Network

909/890-4791

800/974-5553

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Riverside County Office of Education

909/826-6626

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Riverside County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Blindness Support Services Inc.

Initiate a unique inclusion program, Parenting Training for the Blind.

The Children's Center of Riverside

Expand child care services provided to children with special needs and disabilities (including expanded days and hours).

Corona-Norco YMCA

A supportive network of services to benefit children ages 3 to 5 years and their families in Corona-Norco and surrounding areas. The enhanced services will be accessible to children who have special needs.

The Desert Sands Unified School District/Early Childhood Programs

Parental outreach and education including child and adult literacy, ESL classes, child development, child health and nutrition issues, parenting, and school readiness.

Riverside County MFI Recovery Center

Provides for increased access to treatment services and education, improving treatment success rates, by offering child care services to women participating in drug, alcohol, and smoking cessation treatment programs. Includes developmental assessment of children in care.

Riverside County Department of Mental Health and V.I.P. TOTS

A specialized program created to provide inclusion service capacity to programs integrating child development services for children with special need and physical disabilities. Riverside County Department of Mental Health is the lead agency to assist pediatricians, health care providers, and child care providers to provide outreach, screening assessments, and referrals for children birth-to-5.

V.I.P. TOTS (Health)

Provide a nurse and behavioral specialist to support both teacher and families to work with preschool children in their program. Assist children with disabilities and provide direct consultation and training services both in the center and at home-based programs sites.

V.I.P. TOTS (Child Care)

Expand services, reserving one-third of the spaces for children with special needs.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Sacramento County is a growing metropolis with a broad employment base dominated by the federal, state, and local governments. A significant and increasing number of the county's population is comprised of children younger than age 5. Sacramento has one of the higher proportions of children in poverty, almost 27% of children birth to 5. The community has identified mental health services, positive birth outcomes, and preventable disabilities as high priority areas.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	112	1,575	57,664
Hispanic	35	535	22,453
Asian/Pacific Islander	21	228	17,677
African-American	47	527	14,139
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	42	995
Other/Unknown	558	—	—
Totals	774	2,907	112,928

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Sacramento County Children and Families Commission

916/929-2384

Local Child Care Planning Council

Child Action, Inc.

916/369-3323

Alta California Regional Center

916/978-6249

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Elk Grove Unified SELPA

Office of Special Services

916/686-7780

Sacramento City Unified SELPA

916/264-3300

Sacramento County SELPA

916/228-2446

San Juan Unified SELPA

916/971-7953

WarmLine Family Resource Center

916/631-7995

800/660-7995

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Child Action, Inc.

916/369-0191

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Sacramento County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Sacramento Children's Home

A 24-hour residential nursery for short- or long- term stays, physical exams, development assessments, meals, case management, counseling, advocacy, and service referrals.

Southgate Parks and Recreation District

Construction and operation of an interactive creative and fully automated aquatic facility that is accessible to children with special needs.

Sacramento County Department of Health

Coordinate and provide training for therapists on assessment, diagnosis and treatment of mental health issues for children birth to 5.

UC Davis Medical Center

Development assessments up to age 5, supportive social worker services, service referrals, case management, advocacy, and mental health counseling. Expands upon services provided by California Children Services.

WestEd

Provides comprehensive infant/toddler caregivers (PITC) training and technical assistance. Program includes inclusion training.

SAN BENITO COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

San Benito County is located in California’s central coast region between the Santa Cruz and Diablo mountain ranges. As the Silicon Valley expands southward, San Benito is quickly growing and changing from a solely rural, agricultural community to a community providing affordable housing for technology company employees. A recent needs assessment reported that only 25% of children with special needs are enrolled in licensed child care programs. Issues identified by the community include lack of subsidized child care services (particularly in outlying areas), lack of transportation, and lack of subsidized infant care.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	6	52	2,154
Hispanic	5	80	3,121
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	2	126
African-American	0	1	23
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	16
Other/Unknown	5	—	—
Totals	17	135	5,440

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

San Benito County Children and Families Commission
831/634-2046

Local Child Care Planning Council
Child Care Planning Council
408/374-1709

San Andreas Regional Center
831/728-2810

San Benito County SELPA
831/637-5393 x112

Special Connections Family Resource Center
831/636-4410 x10

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
Go Kids, Inc.
831/637-9205

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of San Benito County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Information not available to WestEd at the time of printing.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

San Bernardino County is geographically the largest county in the contiguous United States. Children ages birth to 5 make up approximately 11% of the population, and licensed child care is available for only one in seven children with working parents. A recent community needs assessment identified the need to make child care and development facilities, playgrounds, and materials more accessible to children with disabilities. Geographic distances, with dense urban populations as well as remote and rural communities, necessitate developing creative strategies to minimize the isolation felt by families of young children in those areas.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	146	1,735	66,574
Hispanic	189	1,345	91,428
Asian/Pacific Islander	17	96	10,410
African-American	61	382	17,750
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	11	987
Other/Unknown	423	—	—
Totals	836	3,569	187,149

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

San Bernardino County Children and Families Commission

909/386-7706

Local Child Care Planning Council

Children's Network

909/387-5375

Inland Regional Center

909/890-4711

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Desert/Mountain SELPA

760/242-6333 x147

East Valley Consortium SELPA

909/433-4734

Fontana Unified SELPA

909/357-5000 x7254

Morongo Unified SELPA

760/367-9191 x230

San Bernardino City Unified SELPA

909/381-1197

West End SELPA

909/481-4547

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Child Care Information Service

909/397-4740 (Western San Bernardino County)

San Bernardino County Schools Child Development Services

909/384-1492 (San Bernardino)

760/245-0770 (Victorville)

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of San Bernardino County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Inland Regional Center-Early Start Family Resource Network

Provides support services to families of children with developmental disabilities or who are at risk for disabilities, ages birth to 3 years.

Mountain View Child Care

Provides pediatric day health services, early childhood education, social education services, respite services, Head Start Program services, and After School Child Development to families with medically fragile children.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

San Diego County is geographically the second largest county in California and the fourth most populated county in the United States. The county contains a complex and often overlapping patchwork of jurisdictions that provide services for children, families, and communities with child care services that range from high quality to those with significant issues in serving children with disabilities and other special needs. A report on the child care needs of families with children with disabilities was recently completed for San Diego County. The local family resource center reported that children with behavioral difficulties (this includes autism) are generally refused access to both center and family child care homes. Other issues for the San Diego community include long wait lists for subsidized child care programs and a high turnover rate of child care staff contributing to the overall quality of child care in the community.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	193	3,719	121,812
Hispanic	339	2,460	115,903
Asian/Pacific Islander	28	437	29,012
African-American	39	687	19,455
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	59	1,361
Other/Unknown	800	—	—
Totals	1,400	7,362	287,543

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

San Diego County Children and Families Commission

619/230-6471

Local Child Care Planning Council

County of San Diego/Child Care & Development
Policy Division

619/515-6906

San Diego Regional Center

858/496-4318

858/292-5821 (TDD)

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Poway Unified SELPA

858/748-0010 x2370

San Diego City Unified SELPA

858/272-9641

San Diego East County SELPA

619/590-3920

San Diego North Coastal Consortium SELPA

760/471-8208

San Diego North Inland SELPA

760/788-4671

San Diego South County SELPA

619/498-8171

Exceptional Family Resource Center

858/268-8252

800/281-8252 (San Diego County only)

877/268-8252

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

YMCA Child Care Resource Service

619/521-3070 (San Diego)

760/471-2751 (San Marcos)

619/667-2955 (Lemon Grove)

SAN DIEGO COUNTY**COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES**

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of San Diego County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Alpha Project of San Diego

AVHA for Tots - Provide vision-screening services for preschoolers and vision and health care advocacy for children and their families in accessing service providers.

Joy of Sports Foundation

San Diego Star Power for Preschoolers - Provides training and technical assistance to providers to use specialized physical education program for children 3-5 years of age.

Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center: A Network of Support

Early childhood prevention and intervention.

North County Serenity House

Serenity House Child Development Center - Improve and expand child development center and provide support and parent education to substance abuse parents in treatment.

Cambodian Dancers of San Diego

Parents & Children for Kinder Readiness - Provide psychological and health assessment, education case management, and referrals for Cambodian families with children ages birth to 5.

Child Abuse Prevention Foundation

Developmental Screening and Enhancement Project at Polinsky Children's Center - Enhance services to include developmental screening and follow-up for all foster children birth to 5 and their families.

Children's Hospital & Health Center

Children's Care Connection (C3) - Provide screening, evaluation, and early intervention services to address developmental and behavioral risks for children ages birth to 5 and their families.

North County Collaboratives

ACHIEVE - Develop a supportive services network and assist North County children ages birth to 5 who are removed from their homes or at high risk for removal due to protective issues.

SDSU Foundation

Healthy and Ready to Learn - Provide information, resources, training, and education to children who are disabled, ages birth to 5 and their families.

St. Vincent de Paul Village, Inc.

Provide information, counseling, and referral services to parents of disabled children ages birth-to-5.

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

San Francisco County has promoted the health and development of young children and their families for many years through numerous local policies and action by both government agencies and private organizations. San Francisco has identified the lack of integration and coordination among agencies and between parents and providers as a barrier to serving children with special needs, including those with special health care needs.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	52	116	15,059
Hispanic	37	173	12,044
Asian/Pacific Islander	28	189	19,080
African-American	49	118	5,949
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	3	116
Other/Unknown	41	—	—
Totals	207	788	52,248

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

San Francisco County Children and Families Commission

415/934-4849

Local Child Care Planning Council

CDPAC c/o DCYF

415/554-8990

Golden Gate Regional Center

415/546-9222

San Francisco Unified SELPA

415/452-4625

Family Resource Centers

Support for Families at Open Gate

415/469-4518

Support for Families of Children with Disabilities

415/282-7494

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Children's Council of San Francisco

415/343-3300

Children's Council of San Francisco, Bayview

415/ 920-7280

Wu Yee Children's Services

415/391-4956

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of San Francisco County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Department of Health

Department of Children

- Youth and Their Families
- High Risk Inter-Agency

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

San Joaquin County is an urban and agricultural community that is also one of the most ethnically diverse counties in the state. The county population is relatively young and the birth-to-5 population makes up 30% of all children. The community is focusing on a plan that emphasizes “Child Care for Children with Disabilities,” specifically focusing on research that promotes inclusion in community settings. San Joaquin reports that families are concerned with the lack of available quality child care for children with special needs, and providers are concerned with their lack of training, the high costs associated with care, and government regulations limiting the administration of certain health procedures by child care providers.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	140	726	22,070
Hispanic	137	574	21,248
Asian/Pacific Islander	21	135	9,421
African-American	56	227	3,919
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	13	410
Other/Unknown	202	—	—
Totals	557	1,810	57,068

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**San Joaquin County Children and Families Commission**

209/468-0250

Local Child Care Planning Council

San Joaquin County Office of Education
209/468-9062

Valley Mountain Regional Center

209/473-0951

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Lodi Unified SELPA
209/331-7061

San Joaquin County SELPA
209/468-4925

Stockton City Unified SELPA

Walton Special Center
209/953-4196

Family Resource Network

209/472-3674
800/847-3030

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Family Resource & Referral Center
209/948-1553

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of San Joaquin County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

American Lung Association (“Yes We Can”)

Pediatric asthma project for children ages birth to 5.

Council for Spanish (speaking “Telecoo”)

Brief assessment and mental health counseling services for low socioeconomic Spanish speaking parents and their children birth to 5 years.

Easter Seals Superior (California Special Families Support)

Provide comprehensive in-home counseling, and support services to help parents develop effective parenting skills.

Birds Nest Child Development Center

To improve the health of children in San Joaquin County.

Country Kids Child Development

Upgrade and replace existing playground equipment to meet CPSC, ASTM, and ADA requirements.

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

San Luis Obispo is a largely rural county situated between the Pacific Ocean and the Santa Lucia coastal mountains. Most of the county is unpopulated and is covered with agriculture, wild mountains, or coastal plains. San Luis Obispo is experiencing changing demographics, with children of Hispanic origin comprising 26% of the birth-to-5 population, with more than half of the mothers having completed less than high school education. San Luis Obispo has one of the highest rates of child well-being in California with high test scores and low infant mortality rates.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	75	454	12,020
Hispanic	45	150	4,547
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	15	476
African-American	0	9	221
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	2	70
Other/Unknown	5	—	—
Totals	126	645	17,334

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

San Luis Obispo County Children and Families Commission

805/781-4058

Local Child Care Planning Council

Child Care Planning Council

805/783-2160

Tri-Counties Regional Center

805/543-2833 (San Luis Obispo)

805/461-7402 (Atascadero)

San Luis Obispo County SELPA

805/782-7300

805/781-8572 (TDD)

Parents Helping Parents

805/549-8148

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

EOC - Child Care Resource Connection

805/541-2272

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of San Luis Obispo County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

CHDP

Coordinate and expand developmental and behavioral assessment and intervention for birth to 5 year olds.

Lions Club

Facilitate identification of undiagnosed visual disorders in preschool-age children.

SAN MATEO COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

San Mateo County includes rural communities west of the coastal mountains where a large number of low-income families reside, as well as the wealthy suburbs of Silicon Valley found east of the mountains. A recent needs assessment indicated that the provision of child care services to children with special needs is extremely scarce even though most children with special needs, birth to 5, are able to be in regular child care settings. Even though both center-based and family child care programs report being accessible to children with special needs, parents of children with special needs report difficulty finding and retaining care.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	93	475	23,228
Hispanic	95	294	21,891
Asian/Pacific Islander	29	150	15,043
African-American	13	55	2,238
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	2	157
Other/Unknown	104	—	—
Totals	334	976	62,557

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**San Mateo County Children and Families First Commission**

650/802-5090

Local Child Care Planning Council

San Mateo County Office of Education
650/802-5623

Golden Gate Regional Center

650/574-9232

San Mateo County SELPA

650/802-5464

MORE Family Resource Center

650/259-0189

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Child Care Coordinating Council
650/696-8787

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families First Commission of San Mateo County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Lucile Packard Children's Hospital (Preemie Project)

Support overall health and development for low birthweight preemies by improving coordination of care, access to early intervention services, and family support.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Santa Barbara County, situated between the Santa Ynez mountains and the Pacific Ocean, is home to wine production and other agricultural endeavors. A recent needs assessment reported numerous issues related to children with special needs. These include no local or statewide method to collect and track data on the child care needs of families who have children with disabilities; inclusive child care settings become “saturated” when serving one or more children with special needs; and parent reports that the lack of child care services was more significant than the severity of the child’s disability in accessing care.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	108	441	13,419
Hispanic	154	464	20,220
Asian/Pacific Islander	6	25	1,720
African-American	3	25	748
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	7	125
Other/Unknown	29	—	—
Totals	300	987	36,232

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Santa Barbara County Children and Families Commission
805/884-8085

Local Child Care Planning Council
Santa Barbara County Office of Education
805/964-4710 x4473

Tri-Counties Regional Center
805/962-7881 (Santa Barbara)
805/922-4640 (Santa Maria)

Santa Barbara County SELPA
805/683-1424

Alpha Resource Center of Santa Barbara County
805/683-2145
877/414-6227

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
Children’s Resource & Referral Program
805/962-8988 (Santa Barbara)
805/925-1989 (Santa Maria)

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Alpha Resource Center (Family First Program)

Expand services for families of children 3-5 years of age with special needs and improve the services and supports for those receiving services through Early Start.

American Lung Association (Healthy Lungs for Children)

Support identification of children at risk of asthma and provide asthma education and resources to parents and children.

Carpinteria Unified School District

Prepare incoming kindergarten children to be ready for school. New services include information on asthma prevention and treatment, how to detect learning disabilities, and toxins in the home and workplace.

Easter Seals Tri-Counties (Lekotek Program)

Provide expansion of parent education and toy program for children with special needs.

Marian Medical Center (Pediatric Dental Surgery)

Provide dental surgeries for children with extreme cases of bottlemouth and special needs children who require anesthesia for dental treatment.

Santa Barbara County Office of Education, and Santa Barbara County Health Department (Health & Early Care Linkages Program)

Develop a Health and Early Care Linkages Program for state subsidized child care programs throughout Santa Barbara County.

UCSB Autism Center (Community Outreach and Education)

To develop a new model of parent education for young children birth to 5 years old with autism who are currently not being identified.

Gevirtz Research Center (Expanded Child Care)

Engage in a community-based planning process that is inclusive of diverse constituencies and promotes collaboration among key providers of service to children prenatal through age 5 and their families.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Santa Clara County has quickly shifted from an agricultural-based economy to an information-based one and its success has strained child care resources by bringing more parents into the work force. Gaps identified by the community include concerns that children with special needs are not properly identified and referred for services, and parents of children with special needs have difficulty finding affordable, quality child care. Many families are not eligible for programs that are subsidized and very few child care providers have the training necessary to work with children with special needs.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	224	1,231	52,947
Hispanic	241	847	56,972
Asian/Pacific Islander	140	535	45,698
African-American	13	80	5,102
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	24	366
Other/Unknown	197	—	—
Totals	835	2,717	161,085

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Santa Clara County Children and Families Commission
408/289-5332

Local Child Care Planning Council
Santa Clara County Office of Education
408/453-6649

San Andreas Regional Center
888/299-7272

Santa Clara County SELPA
408/453-6566

Parents Helping Parents
408/727-5775

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
Community Child Care Council of Santa Clara County, Inc.
408/487-0749

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Santa Clara County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Parents Helping Parents
Subcontracting six home-based visitation programs for infants to-2-years-old population.

Learning Achievement Diagnostic Center
Serving children birth to 5 years.

Early Childhood Institute for Professional Development, Innovation and Creativity

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Santa Cruz County is located on California's central coast, situated at the north end of Monterey Bay. A recent needs assessment reported that there is an increasing number of children in the county that are in need of special services in the child care setting. Recommendations were made to allocate local resources for additional staff and specialists to assist child care programs in accommodating children with special needs and to increase professional development opportunities for child care staff such as workshops on working with children with special needs, identifying children with special needs, and accessing local resources for children with special needs.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	51	323	10,069
Hispanic	80	378	10,219
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	13	758
African-American	4	13	170
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	59
Other/Unknown	19	—	—
Totals	155	727	21,275

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Santa Cruz County Children and Families Commission

831/465-2217

Local Child Care Planning Council

Santa Cruz County Office of Education

831/477-5521

San Andreas Regional Center

831/728-1781

888/270-7272

Special Education Local Plan Areas

North Santa Cruz County SELPA

831/464-5677

Pajaro Valley Unified SELPA

831/761-6082

Family Resource Centers

Special Connections Family Resource Center

831/464-0669 (Santa Cruz)

831/761-6066 (Watsonville)

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Child Development Resource Center

831/479-8585

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Santa Cruz County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Family Resource Center Network

Health Services Agency, High-Risk Infant Program.

Special Parents Information Network

SHASTA COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Shasta County's rugged terrain, geography, and climate create isolation as well as physical and economic difficulties for its residents. The need to increase access to quality, affordable early care and education by developing incentives for providers who care for this population and to develop a mechanism to increase child care spaces for infants and children with special needs is planned. The community has identified a need to improve screening, referral, and follow-up on referrals for services for children with developmental delays.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	82	349	11,366
Hispanic	4	24	1,048
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	7	576
African-American	2	2	127
American Indian/Alaska Native	4	13	480
Other/Unknown	14	—	—
Totals	107	395	13,597

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Shasta County Children and Families First Commission**

530/229-8300

Local Child Care Planning Council

Shasta County Office of Education

530/225-2995

Far Northern Regional Center

530/222-4791

Shasta County SELPA

530/225-0100

Exceptional Family Support, Education, and Advocacy Center of Northern California, Inc.

888/263-1311

530/876-8321

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Early Childhood Services, Shasta County Office of Education

530/225-2999

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Shasta County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Healthy Pathways for Infants

Infant/toddler and maternal mental health.

Children First

Early intervention services.

Developmental Care Team, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Developmentally appropriate care for preterm infants.

SIERRA COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Sierra County is a sparsely populated, mountainous, rural county located in the Sierra Nevada Mountains north of Lake Tahoe. The geography of the county creates a separation in communities and services that are exacerbated by the lack of public transportation. In addition to recreation and tourism, employment opportunities are primarily in federal, state, and local government, as well as timber, logging, ranching, and mining. Limited child care options are available for families. Child care and services for children with special needs has been identified as two of the most important priorities for the county to address.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	0	15	114
Hispanic	0	1	17
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0	2
African-American	0	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	0
Other/Unknown	1	—	—
Totals	1	16	133

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Colusa County Children and Families Commission

530/993-4884

Local Child Care Planning Council

Sierra Nevada Children's Services

530/289-3666

Alta California Regional Center

916/978-6249

Sierra County SELPA

530/993-4991

RAINBOW Regional Family Support and Resource Network

530/251-2417

800/537-TALK (8255)

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Sierra Nevada Children's Services

530/993-1288 (Loyalton)

530/289-3666 (Downieville)

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Sierra County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Downieville Fire Department Safety Program

Safety program for centers.

SISKIYOU COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Siskiyou County is centrally located in inland northern California, adjacent to the Oregon border with one of the most ecologically diverse regions in the world. The county is the fifth largest in size in California with a population estimated at 44,200, spread out over great distances. Siskiyou County has one of the highest young child poverty rates among the counties and a higher rate of young children receiving TANF. Almost 33% of children birth to 5 are living in poverty. Siskiyou has a higher than average rate of child abuse reports and children in foster care.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	17	104	2,331
Hispanic	1	11	552
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	1	42
African-American	1	2	48
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	9	148
Other/Unknown	1	—	—
Totals	20	128	3,121

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Siskiyou County Children and Families Commission
530/938-2834

Local Child Care Planning Council
Siskiyou County Office of Education
530/842-8467

Far Northern Regional Center
530/222-4791

Siskiyou County SELPA
530/842-8441

Exceptional Family Support, Education, and Advocacy Center of Northern California, Inc.
888/263-1311
530/876-8321

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
Siskiyou Child Care Council
530/938-2748

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Siskiyou County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Information not available to WestEd at the time of printing.

SOLANO COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Solano County comprises a very diverse region, with a range of rural agricultural communities alongside urban centers. Solano County has a high rate of women not receiving adequate prenatal care, with approximately 41% of Latino mothers having less than high school education. A recent community needs assessment indicated that requests for child care for children with special needs was a high priority and identified the need to increase capacity to provide support services to meet individual needs of children and their families.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	117	555	16,735
Hispanic	47	164	7,411
Asian/Pacific Islander	17	99	5,869
African-American	51	185	5,484
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	8	221
Other/Unknown	87	—	—
Totals	319	1,011	35,720

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Solano County Children and Families Commission

707/435-2965

Local Child Care Planning Council

Children's Network of Solano County

Solano County LPC

707/421-7229

North Bay Regional Center

707/256-1100

800/646-3268 or 800/256-2555

707/252-0213 (TDD)

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Solano County SELPA

707/399-4461

Vallejo City Unified School District SELPA

707/556-8440

MATRIX Parent Network and Resource Center

707/586-3314

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Solano Family & Children's Council

707/863-3950

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Solano County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Mini-Grants

- Sound amplification system for a Vacaville preschool working with children who have auditory and speech delays.
- Materials and training facilitation for "Life Skill Curriculum" for parents of homeless children, birth to 5, through the Interfaith Council of Solano County.
- Play equipment for Fairfield's Homeless Day Center through the Interfaith Council of Solano County.
- Art Therapy Room supplies and furniture for a Fairfield non-profit agency providing services for infants and toddlers with mental health issues.
- Outreach services by Matrix to teen parents focusing on child development and the benefits of early screenings for disabilities.

Direct Services Grant

Awarded to Matrix for support services to parents of children with disabilities. Services include training in the navigation of appropriate collateral services, parent support groups, and advocacy training.

SONOMA COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Sonoma County is located just 35 miles north of San Francisco along the Pacific coastline. It is one of the original homes of wine production in Northern California. To improve services for children with special needs in child care settings, Sonoma County has increased the number of trained specialists available to work with children with special needs, using consultants to assist with behavior, mental health, health, and other issues.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	164	166	22,793
Hispanic	104	73	9,404
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	3	1,607
African-American	1	7	630
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	2	429
Other/Unknown	61	—	—
Totals	335	251	34,863

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Sonoma County Children and Families Commission**

707/565-6638

Local Child Care Planning Council

Sonoma County LPC

707/588-7420

North Bay Regional Center

707/569-2022

800/6INFANT

Sonoma County SELPA

707/524-2750

MATRIX Parent Network and Resource Center

707/586-3314

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

4Cs of Sonoma County

707/544-3084

River Child Care Services

707/887-1809

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Sonoma County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Mini-Grants to child care providers and community organizations:

- Child Care Behavioral Health Consultation Project
- Home Visiting
- Early Intervention Services
- Parent Support and Education

STANISLAUS COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

The community identified the most compelling needs of the county as Child Care and Child Development; Public Transportation; Jobs/Economic Development; After-School Activities; Housing; and Health and Health Care. Stanislaus County has a higher rate of poor and very poor children compared to the state average, approximately 28% of children birth to 5.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	132	501	22,680
Hispanic	110	329	18,582
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	34	3,387
African-American	12	50	1,102
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	4	468
Other/Unknown	92	—	—
Totals	347	918	46,219

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Stanislaus County Children and Families Commission

209/558-6218

Local Child Care Planning Council

Stanislaus County Office of Education

Child Development Programs

209/558-4938

Valley Mountain Regional Center

209/529-2626

209/576-3673 (Infant Referral Program)

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Modesto City SELPA

209/576-4155

Stanislaus County SELPA

209/541-2944

Family Resource Network

209/472-3674

800/847-3030

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Stanislaus County Office of Education

209/558-4050

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Stanislaus County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Modesto City Schools Healthy Start

Providing parent education workshops on school readiness and child development topics for pregnant teens or teen parents.

Modesto City Schools Healthy Start

Provide parent education workshops on school readiness and child development topics for pregnant teens or teen parents; and in-home follow-up by specifically trained Parent Support Workers.

Garcia's Day Care

Safe environment for young children – playground equipment.

Oak Valley Family Support Network

Oakdale Family Resource Center/Planning.

Sierra Vista Children's Center/Center for Human Services

Playground Equipment for Perinatal Treatment program.

SUTTER COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Sutter is one of California's original counties. Situated between the Sacramento and Feather Rivers, the county has identified the need for parent education, training, and support including parenting skills classes for parents with children with special needs and child care to support parent education efforts. Services for children with special needs and their families and the lack of accessible, adequate, quality child care were also identified as gaps in services.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	1	149	4,178
Hispanic	0	28	2,092
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	14	1,150
African-American	0	11	118
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	2	81
Other/Unknown	41	—	—
Totals	43	204	7,619

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Sutter County Children and Families Commission**

530/822-7505

Local Child Care Planning Council

Child Care Council of Sutter and Yuba Counties

530/749-3276 x108

Alta California Regional Center

916/978-6249

Sutter County SELPA

530/822-5158

Sutter County Parent Network

530/751-1925

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Children's Home Society of California

800/552-0400

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Sutter County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Information not available to WestEd at the time of printing.

TEHAMA COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Tehama County is a rural community in the far northern Central Valley. Although seasonal work is the county’s primary industry and affects the unemployment rate and household incomes, large corporations such as Wal-Mart help to alleviate this financial strain. Among the access barriers to promoting healthy children is a lack of child care options and facilities, particularly for children with special needs. Parent focus groups indicated the need to provide support groups and advocacy services for families of children with special needs. Community members also reported a lack of child care and preschool facilities for children with special needs.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	19	79	3,078
Hispanic	7	22	1,312
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	1	52
African-American	0	1	26
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	1	91
Other/Unknown	2	—	—
Totals	28	104	4,559

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Tehama County Children and Families Commission

530/528-1395

Local Child Care Planning Council

Tehama County Department of Education

530/528-7343

Far Northern Regional Center

530/222-4791

Tehama County SELPA

530/527-5811

Exceptional Family Support, Education, and Advocacy Center of Northern California, Inc.

888/263-1311

530/876-8321

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Child Care Referral & Education

530/529-3131

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Tehama County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Information not available to WestEd at the time of printing.

TRINITY COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Trinity County is a rural community located in the Northern California Mountains. Employment is often seasonal and dominated by government and timber-related jobs. The seasonal nature of the timber, tourism, and recreation industries led to a 1999 county unemployment rate that was more than twice the state rate. The county has identified the need for increasing child care provider awareness for early detection of potential learning disabilities as well as public awareness of existing health and community services.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	5	37	721
Hispanic	0	3	23
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	1	13
African-American	0	0	3
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	1	45
Other/Unknown	0	—	—
Totals	5	42	805

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Trinity County Children and Families Commission**

530/623-2861

Local Child Care Planning Council

Child Care Planning Council

530/623-2024

Far Northern Regional Center

530/222-4791

Trinity County SELPA

530/623-2861 x239

Exceptional Family Support, Education, and Advocacy Center of Northern California, Inc.

888/263-1311

530/876-8321

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Human Response Network

530/623-KIDS

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Trinity County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Information not available to WestEd at the time of printing.

TULARE COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Tulare County is one of the poorest counties in the state despite a major agricultural and food processing center that has experienced considerable growth in manufacturing employment. Parents who work in these industries require services during non-traditional hours and encounter limited child care options. There is a need for early intervention services for high-risk children and a need for mental health services and behavior management for children younger than 5.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	37	398	13,500
Hispanic	110	1,012	28,318
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	67	2,019
African-American	5	35	621
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	4	239
Other/Unknown	137	—	—
Totals	742	1,516	44,697

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Tulare County Children and Families Commission

559/622-8650

Local Child Care Planning Council

Child Care Planning Council

County Office of Education

559/651-3026

Central Valley Regional Center

559/738-2225 (A-M)

559/738-2247 (N-Z)

Tulare County SELPA

559/733-6317

Parenting Network Inc.

559/625-0384

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Tulare County Office of Education

559/651-0862

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Tulare County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Tulare County Office of Education

Promote mentally healthy children, provide early intervention for high-risk families, develop capacity and quality of child care for children (birth to 5) through collaborative efforts.

Parenting Network

Provide a child care subsidy to families who have children, birth to 5, with special needs.

TUOLUMNE COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Tuolumne County is a rural community located along the western slope of the Sierra Nevada mountain range. The local economy has shifted from a resource-based economy to a service economy, and many families cannot achieve self-sufficiency wages. This has led to a higher unemployment rates. A recent needs assessment concluded that most parents of children with disabilities in the county are choosing to provide at-home care. In addition, many child care providers reported that they did not have the skills and expertise necessary to care for children with special needs, even though they were aware of the Americans with Disabilities Act requirement that they accommodate these children. Further, it was reported that the most pressing “special need” in child care was support for children with extreme behavioral or emotional problems.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	25	117	2,752
Hispanic	0	8	346
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	1	42
African-American	0	0	29
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	54
Other/Unknown	8	—	—
Totals	33	126	3,223

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Tuolumne County Children and Families Commission**

209/586-0707

Local Child Care Planning Council

Infant/Child Enrichment Services

209/533-0377

800/533-0377

Valley Mountain Regional Center

209/754-1871

Tri-County SELPA

209/536-2008

Family Resource Network

209/472-3674

800/847-3030

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Infant/Child Enrichment Services

209/533-0377

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Tuolumne County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

A-TCAA Family Learning Centers

To operate two Family Learning Centers where parents of young children can come daily to improve their skills and can be supported in their efforts with infant and toddler care and transportation.

Tuolumne County Health Department

To administer a project by the Perinatal Multidisciplinary Team to provide prenatal assessment, in-home case management services, and education to pregnant women and new mothers.

Infant Child Enrichment Services

To administer a Child Care Provider Retention program designed to provide stipends to local child care providers who meet certain eligibility of training and retention in the child care field.

Smile Keepers Program

To provide preventative dental education to parents of preschool-aged children, and to expand the preschool dental screening program.

A-TCAA

Appropriate, safer, and more appealing play area at the Sonora Homeless shelter for young children.

YES Partnership

Ongoing community collaborative efforts toward the health of children and families in the community.

A-TCAA AmeriCorps Child Abuse Prevention Program

Provide parenting education and to work directly with young children.

Jamestown School Healthy Start

Co-fund the purchase of a portable building for the program.

VENTURA COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Ventura County Child Care Planning Council provided several recommendations regarding children with special needs. These include developing and funding training for child care providers that address care for children with special needs, creating and funding child care positions to help include children with special needs, increasing incentives for providers who serve children with special needs, providing transition assistance for children with special needs when they enter a family child care setting, and providing transportation services for children with special needs.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	131	631	31,937
Hispanic	319	435	33,293
Asian/Pacific Islander	12	40	4,481
African-American	7	23	1,317
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	6	265
Other/Unknown	241	—	—
Totals	710	1,135	71,293

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Ventura County Children and Families Commission
805/648-9990

Local Child Care Planning Council
VCSSO
805/388-4459

Tri-Counties Regional Center
805/485-3177 (Oxnard)
800/664-3177
805/522-8030 (Simi Valley)
800/517-2524

Ventura County SELPA
805/383-1919

Rainbow Connection Family Resource Center
805/485-9643 (English)
805/485-9892 (Spanish)
800/332-3679

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
Child Development Resources of Ventura County, Inc.
805/485-7878

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Ventura County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Child Development Services at Simi Valley Hospital & Health Care Services

Computers for Kids Project loans families computers/technology for children with developmental delays in speech and language.

Easter Seals Tri-Counties (2)

- Funds an audiometer for hearing screenings, specialized classroom equipment to accommodate all types of physical disabilities, and playground modifications for wheelchair accessibility without assistance for Easter Seals' Early Intervention Infant Development, Preschool, and Child Care Programs.
- Provides subsidized child care for lower-income families, including children with special needs, to enable families in Easter Seals' preschool program to receive "wrap around" childcare.

Family Connection Child Care Center

A new playground designed to challenge and protect all young children with and without special needs, to increase capacity to serve special needs children, foster formal school readiness in all children, and improve and strengthen the lives of young children, and their families.

Free Clinic of Simi Valley

Adds a Play Therapy component to existing Counseling Program to expand ability to serve very young children and their families who are in need of assistance with problematic family dynamics.

VENTURA COUNTY**COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES**

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Ventura County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Ojai Unified School District

Obtain handicap-accessible playground equipment for handicapped preschoolers and children at risk at Topa Topa Kindergarten Annex to remove barriers that prevent social integration and inclusive play.

Ojai Valley Early Childhood Collaborative (OVECC) c/o Ojai Valley Youth Foundation (OVYF)

Provides a free 22-week, two-hour a week, Spanish language course for Ojai Valley providers of services to young children and their families with an emphasis on appropriate terminology and communication.

Ventura County Public Health Department

Improves access to developmental services by providing specific training for primary care physicians in the appropriate and timely use of developmental screening tools.

Child Development Services at Simi Valley Hospital & Health Care Services

Funds a unique family-focused approach that builds skills and competencies of parents to be the language facilitator for their young child with special needs through a 14-week training program that includes videotaping parent-child interactions with feedback provided by a speech and language pathologist certified in the Hanen Program to impact the school readiness of the child.

Santa Paula Elementary School District Child Care Services

Handicap-accessible playground equipment for preschool children at the Child Development and Community Preschool programs. Computer technology to increase educational opportunities for low-income Spanish speaking children.

Camarillo Family YMCA

Scholarships for the Camarillo Family YMCA Kindergarten Program to serve children between the ages of 4.9-5.6 years for before and after school.

KidShape

To develop and pilot test BabyShape, a family-based pediatric weight management program targeting children birth to 5 living in Ventura County. BabyShape will be developed as a four-week curriculum, in both English and Spanish, which will be suitable to deliver to parents and day care workers and will focus on healthy eating and active lifestyles for the entire family. Children will participate in age-specific exercise sessions.

Regents of the University of California on behalf of University of California Cooperative Extension, Ventura

The F.I.E.S.T.A. program is a series of six 1.5 hour weekly sessions for families of overweight low-income preschool-aged children. It will focus on nutrition knowledge and practices, increasing physical activity, and improving parenting skills and behavior modification.

YOLO COUNTY

DESCRIPTION

Yolo County was one of 27 original counties when California became a state in 1850. A recent needs assessment reported limited child care services to accommodate children with disabilities and considerable concern by providers about the lack of training to support children with special needs. In the area of family needs, it was reported that child care providers need to help identify children who may be at risk. Serving all children with a special focus on those with disabilities and developmental delays was also cited as a key characteristic of quality programs in terms of helping children transition to kindergarten.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	0	258	7,136
Hispanic	1	135	5,226
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	19	1,403
African-American	0	16	299
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	1	177
Other/Unknown	93	—	—
Totals	94	429	14,241

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES

Yolo County Children and Families Commission

530/669-2475

Local Child Care Planning Council

Yolo County Office of Education

530/668-3773

Alta California Regional Center

916/978-6249

Yolo County SELPA

530/668-3787

WarmLine Family Resource Center

916/631-7995

800/660-7995

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

City of Davis, Child Care Services

530/757-5691

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Yolo County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

CommuniCare Health

Steps Toward Active Recovery.

CommuniCare Health

Answers Benefiting Children.

Esparto Unified School District

Esparto Results/Healthy Start.

Families First Inc.

Yolo Crisis Nursery.

Broderick Christian Centers

Child Care & Development for Homeless Families.

Lekotek Family Resource Center

Services to young children through Davis Community Meals and Shelter.

Yolo Connections

Integrated Parenting Support Services.

Sacramento District Dental Foundation

Yolo County Children Oral Health Summit.

Yolo County Health Department

Assessment & Intervention.

DESS

Yolo County Parent-Child Interaction Therapy.

Yolo County Health Department

California Children Services.

Yolo County Health Department

Nurses Home Visitation.

YUBA COUNTY**DESCRIPTION**

Yuba County, located in the Northern Sacramento Valley, is one of the original 27 counties established by the California State Legislature in 1850. Strategically located in the north central part of California, Yuba County has a substantially higher percentage of poor and very poor children compared to the state average, close to 30% for children birth to 5. Almost 62% of Latino mothers have less than high school education. The county also has the highest percentage of children receiving TANF.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ethnicity	Early Start (Birth-2)	Special Ed. (Birth-5)	Total Pop. (Birth-5)
White	0	130	4,029
Hispanic	0	25	1,219
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	9	1,269
African-American	0	10	217
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	103
Other/Unknown	38	—	—
Totals	38	174	6,837

Early Start - 12/2000; Special Education - 6/2000; Total Population - Department of Finance 2000 Population Projections

RESOURCES**Yuba County Children and Families Commission**

530/749-6229

Local Child Care Planning Council

Child Care Council of Sutter and Yuba Counties

530/749-3276 x108

Alta California Regional Center

916/978-6249

Special Education Local Plan Areas

Sutter County SELPA

530/822-5158

Yuba County SELPA

530/741-6231 x116

Yuba County Family Resource Network

530/749-3276 x105

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Children's Home Society of California

800/552-0400

COUNTY-FUNDED INITIATIVES

The following projects have been funded through the Children and Families Commission of Yuba County to support children with disabilities and other special needs and their families:

Information not available to WestEd at the time of printing.