



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Over 117,000 Individuals in California Receive Support from Family Resource Centers at Beginning of COVID-19 Pandemic

Family Resource Centers throughout the State of California distribute government aid to families in crisis

SACRAMENTO, Calif., August 13, 2020 – The California Family Resource Association (CFRA) has issued a report detailing how \$3 million dollars of State COVID19 emergency relief funds distributed to Family Resource Centers were utilized to assist families and communities. In partnership with the California Department of Social Services' Office of Child Abuse Prevention, CFRA distributed the relief funds to 349 Family Resource Centers in 54 of the 58 counties in California supporting over 117,000 unduplicated individuals from April 13 to June 30. This initiative was part of Gov. Gavin Newsom's investment of \$42 million to protect foster youth and families impacted by COVID-19.

Family Resource Centers are collectively the largest source for family support and child abuse prevention in California, serving one million people in California annually. Five hundred strong, they are mission critical for communities in times of crisis and are uniquely positioned for rapid response. They advance proven, community-based prevention and early intervention strategies that help families resolve issues before they become crises. Family Resource Centers strengthen families and communities so that all children have a chance to grow up in safe, nurturing environments.

"We are grateful to have been a part of supporting families in crisis during one of the most stressful periods in our nation's history. Family Resource Centers play a critical role in preventing child abuse and neglect, strengthening children and families." said Sheila Boxley, President and CEO of The Child Abuse Prevention Center. "Family Resource Centers are key to providing help and assistance to families in need and they have demonstrated their capacity through this funding."

The report detailed how the funds were utilized to support families, which included:

- Short Term Food Assistance
- Diapers, Cleaning and Hygiene Supplies, Cribs
- Employment Assistance
- Crisis Intervention
- Housing Assistance
- Virtual Home Visits and Case Management

- Adaptations of Parent Education
- Assistance with Accessing CalFresh/CalWORKS
- Physical and Mental Health Supports
- Virtual Academic Assistance for Students at Home

The report also disclosed the diversity of families served. Individuals served included 2,773 Tribal Beneficiaries, 6,401 Foster Family Beneficiaries, and 31,695 individuals served in the diverse, marginalized regions in the Central Valley, Imperial Valley and Northern California.

Family Resource Centers already needed resources for prevention services and supports for families before COVID-19 and it has been exacerbated by the pandemic. The funds distributed were utilized to fill that gap and address the added stressors and dangers to children and families under the current conditions of isolation, health risks and economic loss.

“We could not be more pleased with the result of this funding. During a time of great stress for families, the California Family Resource Association was able to engage its member network and provide relief to thousands of individuals in need of help. This is a great example of how Family Resource Centers can positively impact the lives of families and children in California,” said Angela Ponivas, Chief of the Office of Child Abuse Prevention.

ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA FAMILY RESOURCE ASSOCIATION

Founded in 2005, the California Family Resource Association (CFRA) is a statewide association representing 500 family resource centers. CFRA advocates for the programs, policies, and resources that help families and communities thrive and succeed. CFRA also builds the capacity of its member organizations to impact policy change, partner with local government and community allies and achieve sustainability. For more information, visit thecapcenter.org/who/agencies/california-family-resource-association.

ABOUT THE CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION CENTER

The Child Abuse Prevention Center is a statewide training, education, research and resource center dedicated to strengthening children, families and communities. For more than 40 years, The Center has successfully implemented its mission of preventing child abuse and neglect by training home visitors, and family resource instructors that support and strengthen more than 2,500 families each year. The Child Abuse Prevention Center has seen a 96% reduction in child abuse cases among the families they have served, a 92% increase in school readiness for children served and has seen 89% of foster youth served graduate high school or complete its equivalency. For more information about the services provided by The Child Abuse Prevention Center, visit thecapcenter.org.

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