Highlights of the statewide impact of **CARES**

Comprehensive Approaches to Raising Educational Standards

2000 – 2008

**CARES** is a financial incentive program designed to promote, reward, and encourage educational attainment and professional development among early educators through financial rewards, support programs, and efforts to address systemic challenges faced by early educators.
The CARES initiative is having a direct impact on educators by providing a pathway to institutions of higher education. It is a workforce development program designed to support early educators in their professional development. CARES has not only encouraged and helped finance formal education for many in the workforce, but it has also helped us as a field to recognize the need for a professional development system which requires investment.

Early Educators (Center-based, family child care, Family, Friend and Neighbor)

- Incentives to pay for ongoing professional development
- Support to complete higher education
- Individualized educational planning services
- Access to coaching and mentoring programs
- Leadership and advocacy training
- Connection to local, state, and national resources

Data Highlights
- 70,798 stipends were issued (2001-07)
- 2,625 ECE students received support for textbooks (2006-08)
- 673 ECE students received tuition support (2006-09)

California Child Development Permit

- Dramatic increase in the number of permit holders
- Increased funding to support permit processing
- Pilot programs to streamline the application process
- Increased support to apply for or renew a Permit

Data Highlights

Number of early educators who upgraded their permit to higher level:
- 2005-06 = 522
- 2006-07 = 1,051
- 2007-08 = 859

The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing issues the Child Development Permit. There are six permit levels from the Assistant to Program Director. Permit levels are based on formal education and experience in the field.
Higher Education (Community Colleges, CSU’s, UC’s)

Enhanced support systems
- Instituted new onsite advisors to support students
- Individualized education planning
- Linkages to campus support programs
- Foreign transcript evaluation services

Data Highlights
- 91% of CARES counties provide specialized advising and/or educational planning services

Increased Access
- New course offerings
- New models for English-language learners
- Onsite bilingual support positions
- Monetary support to pay for classes
- Increase in Baccalaureate, Master’s, and Ed.D Programs

Data Highlights
- 2,625 ECE students received support for textbooks (2006-08)
- 673 ECE students received tuition support (2006-09)
- In 2005, 11 counties funded unit-bearing courses
- In 2007, 27 counties funded unit-bearing courses

Increased Articulation
- Regional articulation efforts among community colleges
- Curriculum Alignment Project
- Baccalaureate Pathways to Early Care and Education

Data Highlights
- 72 of the 101 community colleges are participating in the Curriculum Alignment Project
- 18 of the 23 California State Universities are participating in BPECE

Regional and Statewide Coordination (R&Rs, LPCs, Offices of Education, First 5 Commissions)

Regional Coordination
- Regional CARES/AB212 meetings
- Enhanced linkages to Local Child Care Planning Councils
- Increase in local conferences and seminars
- Integration of CARES and AB212 funding streams

Data Highlights
- 100% local Resource & Referral Agency
- 98% community colleges
- 89% local Head Start
- 23 regional CARES meetings were conducted from 2003 to 2008

Statewide Coordination
- Statewide CARES conference calls
- CARES email systems
- CARES conferences
- Coordinated data collection

Data Highlights
- 12 Statewide conference calls were conducted from 2003 to 2008
- 5 statewide CARES conferences were conducted from 2003 to 2008
- Data on wages, retention, educational obtainment and training has been collected on over 13,000 early educators
- Bi-monthly ebulletins sent to over 700 people connected to CARES
**CARES programs** are supported by a multiple of funding sources, including:

- CA Department of Education (AB212 funds)
- First 5 California
- Local First 5 Commissions
- Local Funding

In the majority of CARES counties these funding streams are brought together to create a seamless system of professional development for early educators.

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For further information about the California Child Development Permit, please contact:

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For further information about CAP, please contact:

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Curriculum Alignment Project (CAP)  
The California Community Colleges Curriculum Alignment Project has engaged faculty from across the state to develop a lower-division program of study supporting early care and education teacher preparation. The Lower Division 8 represents evidence-based courses that are intended to become a foundational core for all early care and education professionals. Offering a consistent educational core throughout California’s Community College EC/CD Programs will better prepare students with the skills and abilities that best support the success of young children.

Baccalaureate Pathways in Early Care and Education (BPECE)  
BPECE is a project of the California State University Child Development Faculty to define core competencies for upper-division coursework across programs that build recursively on students’ earlier coursework and experiences. A project funded by the Children, Families, and Communities Program of The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Los Altos, California 94022.

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