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LOCAL FOUNDATION AWARDS 10 PRESCHOOL GRANTS

LOS ANGELES — Imagine this: parents in underserved communities, working multiple jobs and trying to learn English, realizing the importance of preschool to help their kids do better in school. They take the time to read picture books to their kids every day, teaching them to count, teaching new words by labeling household items and actively calling for better preschools.

That's the vision behind \$340,000 in grants awarded to 10 nonprofit organizations by the California Community Foundation as part of its Los Angeles Preschool Advocacy Initiative. Grants will support parent engagement and public policy advocacy for preschool care and education. The awards range from \$15,000 to \$45,000.

"These grants will help parents support their children's learning and also help develop preschool-related policy," said Melina Sanchez, field director of the initiative. "Having parents and other members of the community advocating for the children of Los Angeles will lead to increased local involvement in preschool reform efforts."

Grant recipients include provider of early care and education and advocacy organizations throughout Los Angeles County. A complete list of grantees is below.

The Los Angeles Preschool Advocacy Initiative is a multiyear effort to increase access to high quality preschool education for underserved communities. CCF, in partnership with the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, is leading a countywide grassroots campaign to build support for quality preschool through stakeholder engagement, community organizing and public policy reform.

Founded in 1915, the California Community Foundation is one of the leading philanthropic organizations in Los Angeles County, managing more than \$1 billion in assets. Each year, it gives out more than \$100 million in grants to invest in the future of our local communities. The foundation partners with individual donors and actively supports nonprofit organizations to address diverse and dynamic needs of our communities. The expertise and commitment of CCF enables individuals, families and organizations to fulfill their charitable goals and dreams. To learn more, visit the foundation's Web site at www.calfund.org.

SUMMARY OF GRANTS

Organization	Area Served	Grant Amount	Purpose
Alliance for a Better Community	Los Angeles County	\$45,000	To facilitate development of preschool policies and increase awareness, interest and support for these policies among policymakers and other key sectors.
Asian Pacific Islanders California Action Network	Los Angeles County	\$45,000	To facilitate development of preschool policies and increase awareness, interest and support for these policies among policymakers and other key sectors.
Child Development Consortium of Los Angeles	Los Angeles County	\$15,000	To develop a work plan for training early childhood educators and providers in public policy advocacy around preschool.
Holy Trinity	Inglewood	\$35,000	To develop and facilitate a series of monthly parent engagement sessions that increase public awareness and build momentum toward community action around preschool.
Long Beach Early Childhood Education Committee	Long Beach	\$45,000	To facilitate development of preschool policies and increase awareness, interest and support for these policies among policymakers and other key sectors.
Mar Vista Family Center	Culver City	\$15,000	To cultivate parents as advocates for preschool.
Mexican American Opportunity Foundation	Los Angeles County	\$35,000	To develop and facilitate a series of monthly parent engagement sessions that increase public awareness and build momentum toward community action around preschool.
Norwood Elementary	Los Angeles County	\$34,816	To develop and facilitate a series of monthly parent engagement sessions that increase public awareness and build momentum toward community action around preschool.
Proyecto Pastoral	Boyle Heights	\$35,000	To develop and facilitate a series of monthly parent engagement sessions that increase public awareness and build momentum toward community action around preschool.
South Bay Center for Counseling	South Bay	\$35,000	To develop and facilitate a series of monthly parent engagement sessions that increase public awareness and build momentum toward community action around preschool.

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