



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Veronica Medina, Development Manager
(562) 692-0383 ext 268

Intercommunity Child Guidance Center Receives \$348,000 Annually for Expansion of Foster Care Program

Whittier, CA - In response to the increased need for mental health services for foster care children, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) has granted \$348,000 to Intercommunity Child Guidance Center (ICGC) to implement Enhanced Specialized Foster Care services that provide foster families with inclusive services required to meet their unique needs. The objectives of the program are to provide foster families with support and access to mental health services; to expand the availability of specialized services tailored to the needs of the high risk foster care population; reduce placement disruptions; and improve day-to-day functioning of foster children and youth in school, home, and the community.

Recent data from the Department of Mental Health indicates there are approximately 23,000 children in out-of-home placement in Los Angeles County. About 31% (7,130) are currently receiving mental health services through DMH directly operated and contracted programs. Research indicates that 50% of children in foster care require mental health services. Currently, DMH is serving 62% of the children in foster care believed to require mental health services leaving 4,370 children who are not receiving the mental health treatment they desperately need.

Enhanced Specialized Foster Care will serve an increased number of foster families with children 0-18 years-old who reside in Whittier, Santa Fe Springs, Pico Rivera, La Mirada, La Habra Heights, and Montebello. If you would like information on how to access and enroll in these services, please call Adam Grindlinger at (562) 692-0383 extension 251.

Established in 1957, Intercommunity Child Guidance Center, a (501 (c)(3)) non-profit organization, has been providing comprehensive mental health and social services to children and their families. Developing healthy alternatives to abuse and violence, addressing emotional and behavioral challenges, results in healthy children, families and communities. ICGC is a professionally staffed mental health center for children and adolescents who experience psychological, developmental, behavioral, social or family problems. ICGC is located at 10155 Colima Rd., Whittier, California.

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