

2002 Small Grants—Funded Applicants

At its May 6, 2002 meeting, Children and Families First of Mendocino County (CF1st) approved the projects listed below for funding, contingent upon successful contract negotiations.

Sixty high quality applications were received for Small Grants funding, and 22 were approved for full or partial funding. To determine which organizations to award Small Grants funding to, CF1st formed an Advisory Committee of community members from different parts of the County. Committee members, each with extensive experience in children's and/or parenting issues, based their recommendations on criteria such as how well the project was organized, how much the project was needed, how well it linked to CF1st's goals, and how much of a long-term impact the project would have.

Children and Families First is very pleased to make these awards (in the amount of \$77,090) and congratulates those applicants receiving funding. We are confident that these projects will help complete our vision statement--

**That all Mendocino County children will be born healthy,
thrive in a supportive healthy, nurturing and loving environment,
enter school eager to learn,
and become capable, contributing members of our community.**

The organizations below are listed according to the region of Mendocino County in which children and families benefiting from the project live.

Multiple Regions	\$ 17,354
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FORD STREET PROJECT

Shelter Play Area

\$ 5,000

As part of its new shelter, a 900 sq. ft play area for children will be built this fall. Funding will be applied to cover the cost of materials and labor to prepare the site, and to install fencing and gates. The Shelter Play Area will be used for exercise and interaction by homeless children residing at the Shelter.

PROJECT SANCTUARY

Equipment & Supplies

\$ 2,500

Project Sanctuary will apply this grant toward play equipment and furniture for its licensed daycare facility, which primarily serves children 0-5 who are at the shelter because of domestic violence situations in their homes.

Mendocino County Inland SIDS Peer Support Group/
MENDOCINO COUNTY INLAND COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS CHAPTER

Snuggle Nests **\$ 980**

To prevent suffocation of newborns due to co-sleeping or bedsharing, this group will purchase and distribute 20 “Snuggle Nests” to homeless and low-income populations in Mendocino County.

MENDOCINO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Carseat Distribution Program **\$ 5,000**

This program will increase carseat distribution in Mendocino County, provide for presentations to parent groups (in Spanish and English) on the correct use of carseats, provide carseat distribution sites with information, and collaborate with the California Highway Patrol in organizing and conducting a carseat check-point.

MENDOCINO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ENT Clinic for Children **\$ 3,874**

Funding will be used for an Ear, Nose, and Throat specialist to provide eight ENT clinics at public health departments in different areas of the County. Clinics will target children enrolled in MediCal and other public health programs who are currently unable to obtain local ENT care.

Inland Central **\$ 22,618**

UKIAH UNIFIED PRESCHOOL VILLAGE

All Weather Playground Space **\$ 2,848**

Ukiah Unified Preschool Village will create a covered outdoor gross motor playspace and art area, and covered areas in their yard for meals and special activities. Both areas, which will be wheelchair accessible, will serve 80 children in morning and afternoon sessions.

HOPLAND PRESCHOOL

Cooking for Healthy Families **\$ 3,420**

Through six structured cooking classes, parents of Hopland preschoolers will learn cooking skills, nutrition, and how to include children in the kitchen, thus providing children with healthy meals while encouraging parents to spend quality time with their children.

PINOLEVILLE NATIVE AMERICAN HEAD START

Garden and Cultural Library **\$ 2,050**

Involving Head Start 3-5 year olds, their families, and Elders, this organization will prepare and plant a garden. Special consideration will be given to indigenous plant species. The garden will also serve as a context for Native American history to be passed on.

UKIAH VALLEY PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE GROUP, INC.

Reach Out and Read \$ 5,000

Improving literacy and school readiness, this program aims to distribute 2000 books to children at each well visit from six months of age through Kindergarten. Books are age and language-appropriate.

SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS AND CULTURAL EDUCATION

SPACE's Young Child's Scholarship Program \$ 5,000

This program will provide scholarships for 25 low-income children to participate in the Young Child's Program during the Summer and Fall of 2002. The Young Child's Program will train children in the performing arts while enhancing their social and emotional development.

UKIAH COMMUNITY CENTER

With Kids in Mind \$ 4,300

Serving families in crisis and transition, the Ukiah Community Center will purchase equipment and books for children who accompany their parents to the Center, which house's Ukiah's Food Bank. A year's supply of diapers will also be purchased to improve the health and hygiene of client's babies.

Inland Northeast \$ 4,235

ROUND VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Young Parent Program \$ 4,235

This project will enhance the level of child care by providing equipment and educational/motivational toys and supplies for children while their parents attend school and learn about parenting and early childhood development.

Inland South \$ 4,265

ANDERSON VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Anderson Valley Elementary School Renovation Project \$ 4,265

As part of a larger playground renovation project, funds will be used to have more, new equipment for young children, including a children's exercise course, handicap access, and a covered shelter where families can gather after school hours.

Inland North**\$ 10,250**

MELVILLE MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Parent/Child Growth Workshops**\$ 2,500**

Aiming to empower parents with skills in communication and child development, two, six-week workshops will be held at the Willits Library. In addition to teaching parents these skills, Athena Melville will facilitate discussion about parenting experiences.

BROOKSIDE PRESCHOOL

Preschool Play Equipment and Garden Shed**\$ 2,750**

Brookside Preschool will provide a safer child care environment by installing an 8' x 12' shed to house outdoor play equipment and to store garden tools. Because of the shed's benefit of easier access of materials, teachers will be better supported in planning more outdoor activities for children.

WILLITS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Daisy Days Nursery School Start-up Project**\$ 5,000**

Daisy Days Nursery School is being created to fill the gap from the closure of Magic Mornings Nursery School at the Willits United Methodist Church. Funds will be used for activities to create this new school, which include establishing a non-profit status, securing licenses, recruiting and training new staff and board members, and purchasing and repairing materials and equipment. Although the applicant has specified that the school will be interdenominational, funding is contingent upon a secular curriculum.

Coastal North**\$ 13,811**

MENDOCINO COAST CLINICS

Dental Outreach**\$ 4,200**

This program will provide oral health, hygiene education, and affordable health care to parents and children at preschools and daycare centers. Funds will purchase additional equipment for the Dental Van and equipment for a Community Health Advocate to screen and assist eligible parents in applying for Healthy Families or MediCal.

MENDOCINO COAST RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT

"Just for Kids" Preschool Dramatic and Water Play**\$ 1,500**

Funding for this preschool will support efforts to create a loft area to accommodate its increasing enrollment. The expansion will allow for a larger dramatic area, which will enhance children's exploration, creative and social development, abstract thinking, and language development.

MENDOCINO COAST CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL

Multi-Disciplinary Interview Team Training

\$ 2,500

Funds will help train a team of professionals to effectively and compassionately investigate, prosecute and provide services to children who have been sexually or physically abused and their families. Such training will prevent multiple interviews of children after a traumatic event, thereby facilitating the healing process.

CASPAR CHILDREN'S GARDEN

Small Playground Equipment

\$ 1,500

Caspar Children's Garden will use this funding toward the purchase and installation of a small, certified, and ADA-approved climbing area. This playground equipment will meet the State's new safety guidelines.

MENDOCINO COAST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Summer Preschool Program

\$ 4,111

Improving school readiness and literacy in the Coastal North region, Mendocino Coast Christian School will offer a summer preschool program, aimed at children from low-income families. Outreach will target Latino and Native American populations as well.

Coastal South

\$ 4,557

MANCHESTER-POINT ARENA BAND OF POMO INDIANS

Community Playground Upgrade

\$ 4,557

Manchester-Point Arena Band of Pomo Indians will replace damaged playground equipment with a Toddler's Choice PlaySystem as part of an effort to upgrade its community playground, which is centrally-located on the Pt. Arena Reservation.