



EVENT RELEASE

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Public Forum Addresses Shortage of Infant and Toddler Care in Santa Fe

Santa Fe, NM, May 20, 2010 — A public forum to discuss access and availability of infant and toddler care and education in Santa Fe takes place at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 25 in the Community Room at the Santa Fe Public Library Southside Branch, 6599 Jaguar Drive.

The town hall-style forum is part of a study on the state of infant and toddler care in Santa Fe County. The study is funded and initiated by the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department, coordinated by SFCC's Early Childhood Training and Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) and is being conducted by Coop Consulting of Santa Fe.

Families who are having difficulty locating childcare are particularly encouraged to attend. Caregivers, directors of home-based and center-based programs, early childhood teachers and advocates, members of the business community and policy makers are also encouraged to share their voices.

The first three years of a child's life are the most important for cognitive, social and physical development. Children without high quality childcare and education in these years start preschool and kindergarten already behind – and often remain that way for the rest of their lives.

The forum will provide light refreshments, children's activities and Spanish translation.

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About Santa Fe Community College

For more than 27 years, Santa Fe Community College has been the gateway to success for individuals and the community by providing affordable, high quality educational programs that serve the social, cultural, technological and economic needs of a diverse community. The college serves more than 14,500 students per year in its credit, noncredit and adult basic education programs. For further information, visit www.sfccnm.edu or call (505) 428-1000.

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