

Parents tell their stories

“I began with Crystal Stairs during a time when my children were placed with (my) mother due to my drug addiction. Crystal Stairs relieved my mother’s burden of having my children and allowed me to focus on my recovery. My children (got) an awesome education during a traumatic time of our lives, which made my process of getting my life back much easier. (Since) recovery, I’ve completed a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree... I’m able to maintain the well-being of my children... and am on my way to financial freedom.”

“It has helped me for the last seven years for my three children to have good child care. When I started, I was working part-time, receiving welfare and going to college. We were just moving from a housing project into a Section 8 house. Now, I’ve graduated from college and work full-time with benefits. I believe I should let someone less fortunate get the program now ... I believe I’m self-sufficient.”



WHAT WOULD PARENTS DO IF THEY HAVE NO CHILD CARE?

45% of our parents currently working full-time said they'd have to quit working if they didn't have child care.

64% of our parents currently attending school or training said they would have to quit if they didn't have child care.

“Would have to work two jobs to get the quality of care my kids are getting and forget about finishing school to get a better job.”

“It would take away all my self-esteem and independence to keep striving for a better career in order to raise my family.”

“I would just have to be unemployed. I have no family or friends who could care for my five children who are young and close in age.”

Source: Crystal Stairs' Budget Impacts Parent Survey, February 2010.

HOW WOULD CUTS IN CHILD CARE FUNDING AFFECT OUR COMMUNITY?

Annual loss of over \$11 million in child care provider payments that support jobs, housing, and purchase of goods and services in local stores and businesses.

Over 3,000 enrolled children would no longer be eligible for subsidized child care.

Over 1,600 licensed providers would experience a reduction in their income, forcing closure of their small businesses and a reduction in the supply of child care available to all families.

Over 8,400 children would remain on the waiting list for child care payment assistance.

Reduction in market rate ceilings that determine what we can pay providers may require them to request higher co-payments from low-income parents, forcing parents to leave care of their choice for more affordable options.

Source: Crystal Stairs Service Area Child Care Profile, February 2010.

Community Child Care Advocacy



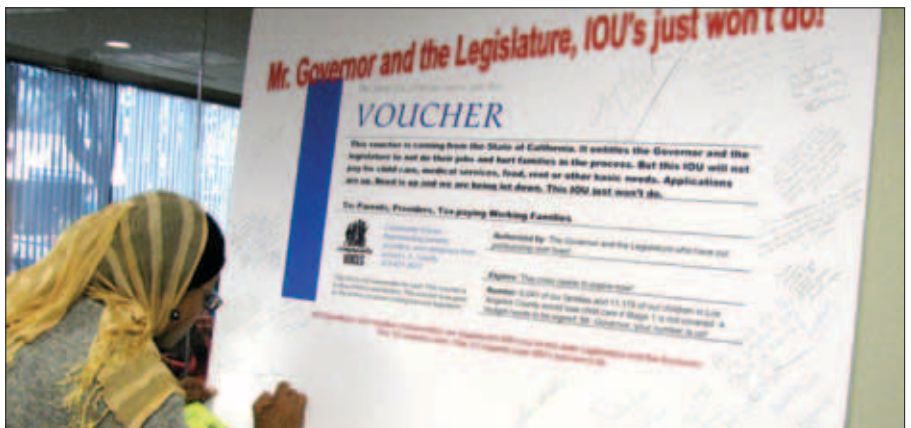
Lack of Funding

Protest the lack of funding for child care.



Get Involved

Providers sign vouchers in protest of proposed budget cuts.



Stand Up for Children

Families march at the 2009 Stand for Child Rally in Sacramento.

