



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kidango Receives Community Benefit Grant From Kaiser Permanente

April 4, 2011 (Fremont, CA)- Kidango, a nonprofit child development agency, was awarded a grant from the Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Program in Southern Alameda to implement a series of workshops for parents.

Through *The Pyramid Model: Promoting Social and Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children* workshops, parents/caregivers who are struggling with multiple stresses in their lives and who need support in handling child behavior issues will learn positive, non-violent approaches to promote their children's optimal social-emotional development.

Though this project, Kidango anticipates that the young children whose parents/caregivers participate in this program will also show an increase in their capacity to empathize with others, show greater impulse control, and an increased ability to utilize conflict negation techniques in their interactions with others. Their children will benefit as their parents/caregivers teach them peaceful conflict resolution skills that will impact their relationships for the rest of their lives, helping to end cycles of abuse and violence.

Every day, Kidango's mental health therapists provide services to children with developmental delays, behavioral disorders and other known risk factors throughout the Tri-City Area. These developmental and behavior problems can place additional stress on already stressed families. Prevention is most successful when children are identified early and families are included in the assessment process.

"Many parents and caregivers are overwhelmed by their children's behavior and do not know the best ways to support them. In addition, families are often reluctant to seek services through outside agencies. That's where we come in. Kidango is a trusted presence within the community. We are one of the few agencies with noted expertise in early childhood mental health, early intervention services and early childhood education. Through these workshops, we hope to be able to provide parents with a solid foundation of their roles as caregivers and providers to developmentally at-risk children," said Paul Miller, Kidango Executive Director.

"The value that Kidango provides to the community is immeasurable and we are thrilled to contribute to their mission to empower families and children," said Sylvia Jimenez, Community Benefit Manager for Kaiser Permanente's Community Benefit Program in Southern Alameda County.

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About Kidango

As a leader in early care and education, Kidango offers a wide variety of programs to meet the diverse needs of children 0-12 years of age and their families. Currently, Kidango operates 41 child development centers and serves more than 2,500 children and families in Alameda and Santa Clara Counties. Please visit the Kidango website at <http://www.kidango.org/>.

About Kaiser Permanente

Kaiser Permanente is committed to helping shape the future of health care. We are recognized as one of America's leading health care providers and not-for-profit health plans. Founded in 1945, our mission is to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve. We currently serve 8.7 million members in nine states and the District of Columbia. Care for members and patients is focused on their total health and guided by their personal physicians, specialists, and team of caregivers. Our expert and caring medical teams are empowered and supported by industry-leading technology advances and tools for health promotion, disease prevention, state-of-the-art care delivery and world-class chronic disease management. Kaiser Permanente is dedicated to care innovations, clinical research, health education and the support of community health. For more information, go to: www.kp.org/newscenter.

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