



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kidango Ohlone Center Receives Accreditation from National Association for the Education of Young Children

Fremont, CA (March 26, 2009) Kidango, Inc., one of the Bay Area's largest non-profit providers of early care and education, announced today that the Kidango Ohlone Lab Center, located on the Ohlone College campus in Fremont, received accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). "NAEYC Accreditation represents the mark of quality in early childhood education. To achieve NAEYC Accreditation, early childhood education programs volunteer to be measured against the most robust and rigorous national standards on education, health and safety (NAEYC.org).

"We are extremely excited about this honor," said Executive Director Paul Miller. "NAEYC Accreditation is a nationally recognized standard for excellence in early education, and to receive accreditation speaks to the excellent work of our staff and the on-going quality of our programs."

Founded in 1926, NAEYC is the world's largest organization working on behalf of young children with more than 100,000 members, a national network of nearly 450 local, state, and regional affiliates, and a growing global alliance of like-minded organizations. The *NAEYC Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation* administers a national, voluntary accreditation system to help raise the quality of all types of preschools, kindergartens, and child care centers.

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According to the Child Care Information Exchange, only 3.44% of centers in California are accredited by NAEYC. Forty-six percent of Kidango's eligible centers are accredited, with others in various stages of the accreditation process.

“NAEYC accreditation provides a powerful tool to evaluate early childhood education programs,” added Miller. “In preparing for accreditation, Kidango commits to ongoing evaluation and improvement, thereby strengthening program quality.”

About Kidango

Kidango began as Tri-Cities Children's Centers in 1979. At inception there were only 90 children and families being served at one center in Fremont. Today more than 2,500 children and their families benefit from the Kidango programs in Alameda, Santa Clara, and San Francisco Counties. As a leader in early education, early intervention and before and after school services, this public benefit organization has a long history of working closely with the California Department of Education Child Development Division, Regional Centers and Head Start programs to provide quality services for children ages 0-12.

For further information about the agency contact Kidango at 1-800-262-4252 or visit us on the web at www.kidango.org.