



# PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT – R

Presented by Donna Sneeringer

CCRC cultivates child, family and community well-being.



# Why Resource & Referral in California?

- Initial purpose was to **form agencies to help families** find childcare and be counseled on how to find care best suited to their needs.
- Started in the mid 70's, supported by the state since 1978 at the same vouchers were **provided to parents to increase enrollment**/reduce cost of care for families.
- Now there are 59 R&R agencies in CA, 58 also administer the voucher programs (Alternative Payment Program or APP).
- Child Care Resource Center, Inc. is the largest R&R/APP servicing Northern LA County and most of San Bernardino County. Service area includes urban, suburban, exurban and rural areas.



# SERVICES OF RESOURCE & REFERRAL AGENCIES

**R & Rs are the glue in the communities because they:**

- Coach childcare providers and help to improve their quality
- Engage with parents conducting parent cafes and other ways to engage families.
- Educate and engage with the community.
- Provide data on the childcare system.
- Recruit new providers.
- Administer child care vouchers.
- Coordinate and advocate for improvements in the childcare system.
- Collaborate with others

***During COVID pandemic R & Rs distributed food, personal protective equipment, diapers, cleaning supplies, stipends, as well as coordinate vaccine distribution for providers, with financial support from the state.***



# PDG-R CONTRACT DELIVERABLES

- Support the development of Regional R&R Hubs to convene PDG Parent Cafés
- Design Early Childhood (EC) Cafes model to increase home visitors (HV), family, friend and neighbor (FFN) and family child care providers (FCC) implementation
- Expand Parent Café model to include additional content including Zero to Three- Growing Brain and ACT – Raising Safe Kids and Milestone Tracker App
- Coordinate with Quality Counts California
- Coordinate with Tribal and California County Superintendents of Educational Services Association (CCSESA)
- Design and implement parent feedback sessions (Parent Consortia)



# What is a Parent Café?

Parent cafes are an opportunity for parents and caregivers to come together to engage in meaningful, reflective conversations that promote collaboration, peer to peer engagement and empowerment.





# Be Strong Families Vitality Cafes

A healthy family is a strong family.

## 6 Vitality Themes:

- Physical
- Mental & Emotional
- Spiritual
- Financial
- Environmental
- Social

A screenshot of a Zoom meeting. The main window displays a presentation slide titled "Physical Vitality" in blue text. The slide features a photograph of a man and a woman jogging on a beach at sunset. To the right of the photo, there is a bulleted list: "The focus on how you want you look and feel. It also addresses attitudes and habits regarding exercise, sleep and mindfulness." Below this, there are two discussion prompts: "What healthy habits have to make adjustments to, a COVID-19 crisis?" and "What is one single thing you could do to ensure you could your physical vitality, while staying home?". On the right side of the Zoom window, there is a vertical stack of four video thumbnails showing participants. The bottom thumbnail shows a man with glasses. At the bottom of the Zoom window, there is a control bar with a play button and a timestamp of 26:04.



# Virtual Parent Cafés by the numbers



- **32** R&R agencies across California hosted Virtual Parent Cafés



- **80** Virtual Parent Cafés from October 2020-January 2021

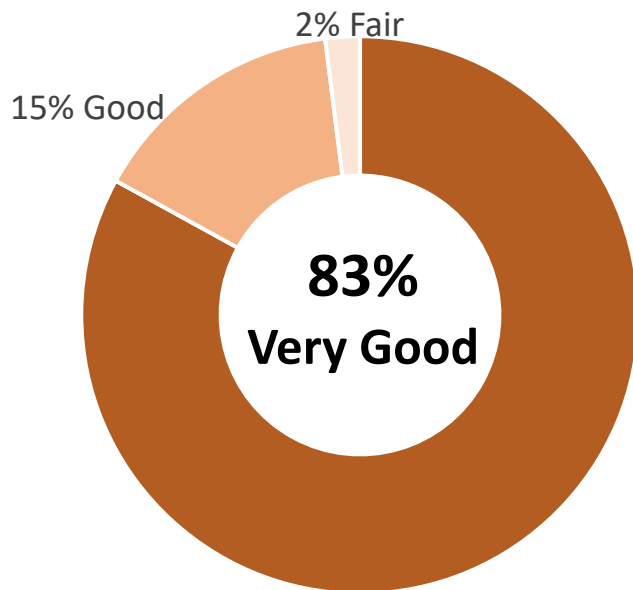


- **704** participants attended PDG-R Virtual Cafés

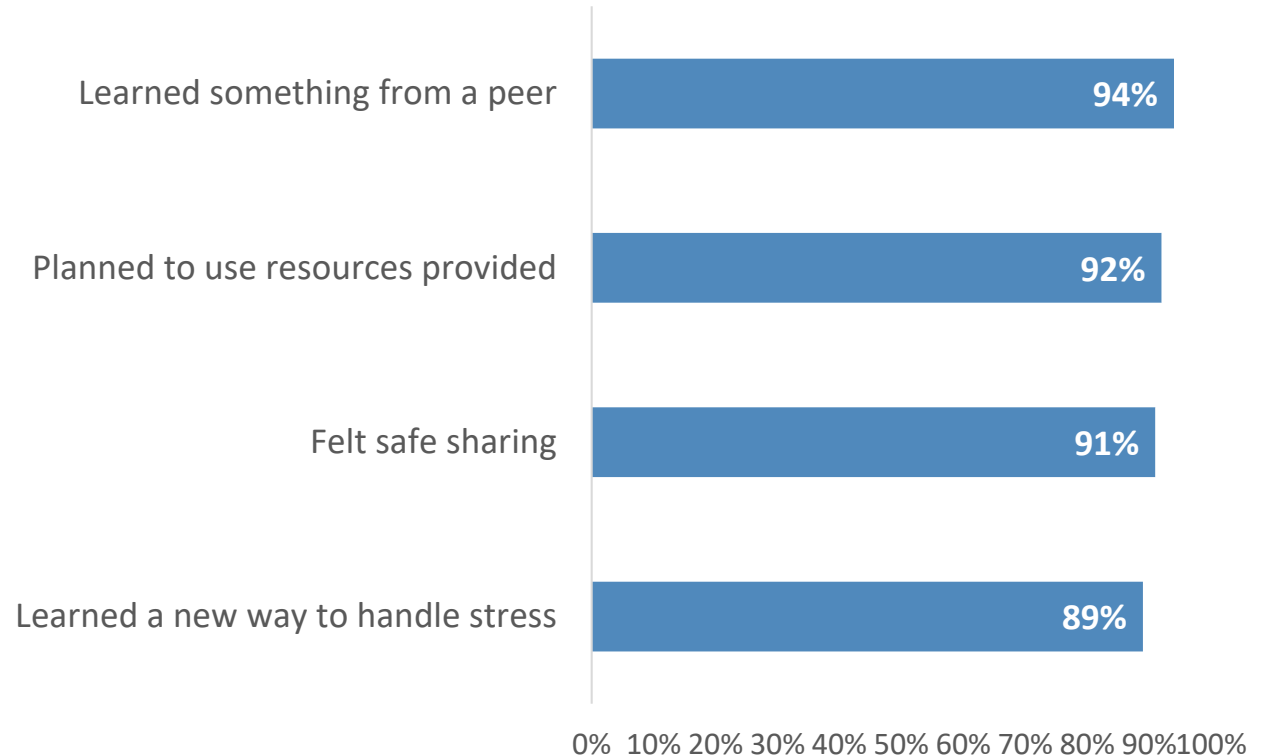


# Virtual Parent Cafés Outcomes (Year 1)

**98% rated their Virtual Parent Café experience as good**



**Parents learned from each other and felt safe sharing their experiences**







# Meaningful moments from virtual cafés...

*Really felt a sense of community. It was nice to not feel alone and to get ideas on so many things. It was a wonderful experience. Very heart and eye opening.*

– San Bernardino parent

*I recognize that what I felt as mom guilt during pandemic was something that other moms were experiencing as well. It made me ease off on myself and be kinder to myself. This has made it easier to navigate through quarantine with a toddler and being a full-time employee.*

– Los Angeles parent

*We're all doing okay. We're all doing our best. We are valuable and worthy of being taken care of and thought of as highly as we treat and think about others. We need to prioritize self-care.*

- Contra Costa parent

*Today I remembered that I am not alone in regards to parenting during these difficult and stressful times. It was a huge sigh of relief remembering we are in this together.*

-Humboldt parent



# Zero to Three: Growing Brain Cafes (Year 2)

Parent Cafes are in the process of integrating information from the Growing Brain Curriculum.

## 4 Café Themes:

- Social Emotional Development
- Understanding Behavior
- Everyday Play
- Communication & Language Development





## Parent Feedback Sessions (Consortia)

- **Bi-directional pathways to engage parents** from existing local parent councils and from Parent Cafés from across geographic regions.
- Engaging **linguistically diverse** groups of parents, parents experiencing trauma including **homelessness and disasters**
- Gather **feedback on the B-5 system, inform system reform** efforts to meet family needs, and provide input to **ECPC PAC**
- Serve as **peer-to-peer network** to develop parent **leadership and advocacy** skills and connect parent leaders and advocates across the state



# Video

[Parent Feedback Video](#)



## Findings from Equity Feedback Session:

- **Cultural/racial match:** Parents felt they had to leave their community to find quality OR leave the school (pre-k and k-12) to find culturally competent adults because of student harassment
- **Parent advocacy is key:** few programs encouraged parent participation; helping staff see children as people; and little to no change based on their advocacy/input, resulting in some parents choosing to leave
- **Social justice conversations:** Schools acknowledged but did not put into practice; Parents preferred to have these in the home
- Parents want: 1) more high quality subsidized programs in communities of greatest need and 2) continual ant-bias training to build cultural competence in adults in child care and k-12.



# Goals of Regional R&R Coordination

1. Tribal Connections
2. Building relationships
3. Messaging across the state

## Regional Hub Partners

- Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County
- Valley Oaks Children's Services
- Placer County Office of Education
- BANANAS
- Go Kids, Inc.
- Family Resource & Referral Center
- A.C.C.E.S.
- Child Development Resources of Ventura County
- YMCA Childcare Resources Service



HUB	REGION	COUNTY	AGENCY
1	Region 1	Sonoma	Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County
2	Region 2	Butte	Valley Oaks Children's Services
3	Region 3	Placer	Placer COE
4	Region 4	Alameda	Bananas
5	Region 5	San Benito	Go Kids, Inc.
6	Region 6	San Joaquin	Family Resource & Referral Center
7	Region 7	Merced	A.C.C.E.S.
8	Region 8	Ventura	Child Development Resources of Ventura Co.
9	Region 9	San Diego	YMCA Childcare Resource Service
10	Region 10	L.A.	CCRC
11	Region 11	S.B.	CCRC



# Questions?



# Child Care Resource Center™

Quality · Support · Development · Education

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