



DOWNTOWN SANTA BARBARA EMPLOYER CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP



NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2009

*“More than two
in three
Americans
favor
government
funded child
care to make it
easier for
people to
work*.”*

First 5
Santa Barbara County
Office of Early Care
& Education

1 East Anapamu St.
Suite 200
Santa Barbara, CA
93101

Tel: 805-884-8062
Fax: 805-564-8586

hgold@countyofsb.org
www.countyofsb.org/ce/ece/survey



Employee Child Care Project Update

Happy New Year Everyone!

The beginning of every new year is an opportune time to set goals and make resolutions for the up and coming year.

The timing couldn't be better for the Downtown Santa Barbara Employer Child Care Partnership! Now that the study is complete, all efforts are focused on determining the project's next steps.

The success of 2008 was in large part due to the overwhelming involvement of downtown employers. Participation and support from the local community will continue to be an essential factor in the project's development.

The Partnership looks forward to embarking on the steps necessary to establish downtown Santa Barbara as an economic and family friendly

place to live and work. Stay posted for project updates.



Importance of Quality Child Care

Quality child care can have long lasting affects on children's development, learning abilities, and the capacity to regulate emotions. The importance of high quality child care can not be over stated.

The National Association for the Education of Young Children compiled a comprehensive, easy to use list of research related to the benefits of high quality child care.

Research indicates that children in high quality programs demonstrate greater social skills, increased academic success, higher self-esteem, and better

nutrition and physical health. These children have enhanced cognitive functioning and intellectual capacity, show greater motivation to learning and school, are better behaved in the classroom, have better relationships with teachers



and classmates, have better school attendance rates, and lower school drop out rates. In addition, high quality care has been associated with multiple long term benefits such as less delinquent

behavior, fewer arrests during teen years, lower rates of unemployment, less dependency on government programs as a primary source of income and fewer or later teen pregnancies.

Quality care does matter. It makes a difference to children, families and society. Research supporting the claims within this article was retrieved from NAEYC's *What are the Benefits of High-Quality Early Childhood Programs* brochure.

For more information about research that examines the benefits of high quality child care go to www.naeyc.org.

* http://www.rockfound.org/index_CAW_bm.shtml