



What is LINCC?

Recognizing that child care is an essential part of the California economy, LINCC seeks to stimulate public and private investments and policies to meet the child care needs of all children and families in California.

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation began funding the Local Investment in Child Care (LINCC) project in 1997 to address critical child care facilities development needs in eight California counties. Currently, the LINCC counties involved in the learning community include: Alameda, Kern, Monterey, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and Ventura.

LINCC is an innovative project that brings community economic development perspectives and practices into child care. A recent SRI International Evaluation found that among other accomplishments LINCC has:

- Brought child care considerations squarely into an area from which they traditionally have been excluded: city and county economic planning and decision making.
- Leveraged the \$1.93 in local dollars for child care facilities for every \$1 the Packard Foundation provided
- Educated substantial numbers of child care providers in the business aspects of operating child care centers and homes.
- Greatly surpassed comparison counties in the creation of center based child care spaces between 1996 and 2000.

Why LINCC Works

The LINCC approach is based on the theory that framing child care as a set of independently owned and operated businesses that make important contributions to the local and state economy will lead to the same kinds of supports and protections available to other key businesses and industries, most notably in the area of capitalization in facilities.

The implementation of four key strategies listed below leads to a specific set of intermediate outcomes that, in turn, results in facilities development, renovations, expansion, and ultimately, to improved access to quality child care.

The four key LINCC strategies are:

1. Influencing land use policy,
2. Integrating child care interests into economic development,
3. Supporting child care facilities development and improvement, and
4. Enhancing the business skills of child care providers.

The LINCC Symposium on June 23rd

LINCC will be sponsoring its first-ever statewide symposium on Wednesday, June 23rd to share the LINCC experience, and learn about other similar efforts in California to connect child care and economic development. LINCC partners will share the LINCC methodology and lessons learned. There will be a series of workshops designed to share knowledge and resources and discuss ways to leverage this set of knowledge with others.

We hope to see you at the symposium.