Community & Family Services (C&FS) employees Yolanda Shepard, Leticia Murillo, Maria Solis, and Yolanda Contreras travelled to Sacramento to participate in the Child Care Resource & Referral Day in the Capitol 2013 on February 12th.

The California Child Care Resource & Referral (R&R) Network invited all R&R member agencies to attend its biennial Day in the Capitol event. The event connects participants with their legislators and their staff in order to educate them about the value of R&Rs and how R&Rs make a difference in the community.

The day started with hearing from Assemblywoman Susan Bonilla, Chair of the Budget Subcommittee on Education Finance, and also from the Legislative Analyst’s office and former CDE Child Care & Development head, Camille Maben who is now the Executive Director of First 5 California. CAPMC staff members learned about how the legislative process works in California and how to communicate with legislators.

Armed with all of these advocacy tools, the CAPMC C&FS staff teamed up with R&R staff from Merced and met with Senator Anthony Cannella where they discussed child care issues of working families and the economic impact that child care has in the counties of Madera and Merced. Then Yolanda Shepard and Yolanda Contreras met with the staff of new State Assemblyman Frank Bigelow; they introduced themselves and had a productive discussion of the importance of quality child care availability in Madera County.
**CATCHING PEOPLE... DOING THE RIGHT THING**

The following CAPMC employees volunteered their help in setting up the employee store. They were wonderful and the room was set up in half an hour: LUPE LOPEZ, MARIA CASTELLANOS, and MONICA MARTINEZ from Fairmead Head Start and NORMA BLANCO, Area Manager for Madera Head Start. ROSANNA ZABEL, Family Advocate, and LINA BOJORQUEZ, Center Director, secured donations of books from Kohl’s, which benefitted children at three migrant Head Start centers.

Based on the best selling book from Stephen M.R. Covey, *Speed of Trust* training has been provided to several agency programs and continues to be offered agency-wide.

Pictured above are members of the APP/R&R Team: Sandra Cevasco, Carol Chavez, Leticia Murrillo, Maria Solis, Yolanda Contreras, and Liz Delano.

**CAPMC EMPLOYEE STORE**

Friday, March 22
May 31 • July 26 • September 20 • November 22
2:00—4:00 pm in Conference Room 1/1a

*If you have any questions, please call Jeannie at 675-5716.*

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR...**

Thursday, March 14: CAPMC Board of Directors Meeting

**The International Men's March to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault & Gender Violence.**

*When: Friday, April 19th, 2013*

Registration Opens at 5:00PM
Opening Ceremony Commences at 6:00PM

*Where: Madera Court House Park*

**Free Walk A Mile t-shirt! Free tri-tip meal!**
Awesome prizes, music, and much more!

It’s easy and it’s free! Just register, collect donations, and literally walk the walk!

For more information contact:

Angie Lopez @ (559) 675-5750 — alopez@maderacap.org

Find us on Facebook @ Capmc Victim Services

“Kid’s Day” is a benefit for Children’s Hospital of Central California and this will be the 26th year fundraising by selling the Kid’s Day edition of the Fresno Bee.

Sandra Cevasco of CAPMC has been volunteering for 10 years. Please join your fellow CAPMC staff members and thousands of other volunteers all over the valley on Tuesday, March 5th. Contact Sandra at 661-0779 or ext. 5822 to sign up or for more information.

**RELAY FOR LIFE**

Our CAPMC Relay team is expanding! We currently have 11 team members but we’ve got room for 24. The Madera Relay for Life is scheduled for May 4 beginning at 9 am. It’s a family-fun event at Lion’s Town and Country Park. The proceeds support cancer research, patient services, advocacy, and education. Contact Tina Gomez at 675-5761 to sign-up.

CAPMC has been actively fundraising! Much thanks to the Madera and Fresno Head Start programs for donating money raised at their warehouse sales to the CAPMC Relay team. Also, thanks to FMHS for the Valentine fundraiser. Community & Family Services is selling cinnamon rolls today, February 22. The Fiscal Dept will be hosting the annual Potato Fest in March. The agency has raised over $7,500 to date so keep fundraising! Our team goal is $16,000.
EMLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Name: Carrie Lynn Chapman
Job Title: Human Resources Assistant II

How long have you worked for CAPMC?
6 weeks

Where were you born and raised?
Born in Fresno, raised in Madera

What do you do in your spare time?
Hang out with my family.

Family: Three daughters: Eight year old twins and a two year old. Oh, and my husband!

Pets: Two Dogs, (½ English Bulldog, ½ Boxer) Margalo and Murphy

Travels: I have been all over the place! Europe, Bahamas, Canada, Florida, Wyoming, Oregon, Nevada...

Favorite Junk Food: I LOVE chocolate!
Favorite Holiday: Christmas
Favorite Color: Blue
Favorite Song: Anything Lee Brice!
Favorite Board Game: Monopoly
Favorite TV Show: My girls have me hooked on Wipeout!

If you were stuck on a desert island and could only have three things, what would they be? My dog Murph, a radio and chocolate!

Greatest Achievement: Obtaining my Master’s Degree with twins under two years old.

Best Advice Ever Given: Growing up, whenever I was upset my dad used to say, “This too shall pass.” I always think of that now, when things are out of sorts...and it’s true!

A fun fact: I love going Archery hunting with my husband.

“I am really new to CAPMC, but everyone here is AWESOME! I am excited to be a part of such a great team!”

Welcome to CAPMC!
New Employees & New Positions

AMELIA ORTIZ
Support Services Manager – Fresno Migrant Head Start

ANDREA GUERRERO
Executive Administrative Aide — Fresno Migrant Head Start

MARIA ARZATE
Associate Teacher—Madera Migrant Head Start

OPEN POSITIONS

For more information, contact the HR Department at 673-9173 or at www.maderacap.org. The following positions are open until filled:

■ ASSOCIATE TEACHER
  Madera/Merced Migrant Head Start

■ CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE TECHNICIAN
  Community and Family Services

■ FOOD SERVICE WORKER (SUB)
  Fresno Migrant/Seasonal Head Start

■ FOOD SERVICE WORKER
  Madera Regional Head Start

■ HEALTH SERVICES CONTENT SPECIALIST
  Madera Head Start

■ INSTRUCTIONAL AIDE II / JANITOR (PART-TIME)
  Fresno Migrant Head Start

■ INSTRUCTIONAL AIDE II / JANITOR
  Madera/Merced Migrant Head Start

■ MASTER TEACHER / HOME VISITOR (FAMILY CONNECTIONS)
  Fresno Migrant Head Start

■ SUPPORT SERVICES MANAGER
  Madera Head Start

■ VAN BUS DRIVER—CLASS B LICENSE (LONG-TERM SUB)
  Community & Family Services Department

ING REPRESENTATIVE AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

This is a friendly reminder to save for retirement – the sooner you start, the better. The savings decisions you make today may define how secure you feel about retirement tomorrow. Take a little time to learn a few strategies that may benefit you and your family later.

Our new ING Representative, George Brown, will be here **Friday, March 22, 2013 from 9:00am to 1:00pm** (by appointment only and space is limited) in the HR Conference Room. If you wish to meet and would like to begin contributing to an account, review, or have questions on your current account, please let me know so an appointment can be scheduled.

For an appointment call Renee Lopez at (559) 675-5767 or email rlopez@maderacap.org.
**KOHLS’ BOOK DONATION OUTFITS CHILDREN AT THREE CENTERS**
*Submitted by Rosanna Zabel, Advocate III at Sierra Vista Head Start*

This month, Sierra Vista Migrant Head Start received a donation of books through a local Kohl's retail store. Center Director, Lina Bojorquez, prompted me to see if we could secure donations for our end of the season Parent Activity. After her suggestion to call Kohl’s and trying at a few of their locations, I requested educational materials from the Alluvial Kohl’s. Through persistent follow-up, I was able to secure a donation of 342 hardcover books and 91 stuffed animals that accompany the stories. As Lina and I drove to the store we had no idea of the generosity that was about to be bestowed on us, as we had only requested enough materials for our current families—86. As I stood behind the camera trying to take a few snapshots of this amazing sight, I could not help but well up with tears at the mounds of books, such as *Wizard of Oz* and *The Velveteen Rabbit*, and boxes of stuffed animals that were being loaded into the car. We had so many books donated that we are able to donate to our sister Migrant Centers Los Niños and Mis Angelitos for their currently enrolled children. This donation totaled a whopping $2,165!

Thanks to Lina for the great suggestion and Go Team Kohl's, especially Victoria, the Kohl's Associate in charge of donations.

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**A SPECIAL STORY**
*By Diann Bostick, Center Director at Chowchilla Head Start Center*

Pictured below is Dennis Hayward, Mayor of Chowchilla, taking time out of his busy schedule to read the story "The Napping House" to the Head Start children during group-time.

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**CAPMC HEAD START STAFF PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECT**
*By Maru G. Sanchez, Area Manager for Madera Head Start*

The PATHS (Providing Alternative THinking Strategies)® Curriculum is a program for educators and counselors that is designed to facilitate the development of self-control, emotional awareness, and interpersonal problem-solving skills.

Patricia Vasquez, Martha Navia, and their teams, participated in a Migrant/Seasonal Head Start CARES PATHS research project. They began by attending in a two-day training. A coach, Angela Cowger, provided support and guidance. Representatives from the research team also visited the center on several occasions to observe the classroom. Parents learned about PATHS at Parent Orientation, and then also participated in other meetings to learn about what their children were learning. The research project ended October 2012, but it continues to be used through the Winter Program.

Master Teacher Patricia Vasquez demonstrates the Turtle Technique to talk about feelings.

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Do you know of an Agency event that you would like to see covered in the Action Connection? Do you have input about the newsletter? Would you like to contribute an article or pictures? All submissions are welcome and appreciated!

Please contact: Kim Lopez, Madera Head Start Department at: klopez@maderacap.org  Phone: (559) 675-5752  Fax: (559) 661-8459
Plan ahead before lifting: Knowing what you’re doing and where you’re going will prevent you from making awkward movements while holding something heavy. Clear a path, and if lifting something with another person, make sure both of you agree on the plan. Test the load before you lift by pushing the object lightly with your hands or feet to see. A small size does not always mean a light load.

Hold the object close to your body: You will be more stable lifter if the object is held close to your body rather than at the end of your reach. Make sure you have a firm grip on the object you are lifting, and keep it balanced close to your body.

Feet shoulder width apart: A solid base of support is important while lifting. Holding your feet too close together will be unstable, too far apart will hinder movement. Keep the feet about shoulder width apart and take short steps.

Bend your knees and keep your back straight: Practice the lifting motion before you lift the object, and think about your motion before you lift. Focus on keeping your spine straight—raise and lower to the ground by bending your knees. Never bend your back to pick up loads.

Tighten your stomach muscles: Tightening your abdominal muscles will hold your back in a good lifting position and will help prevent excessive force on the spine.

Lift with your legs: Your legs are many times stronger than your back muscles—let your strength work in your favor. Again, lower to the ground by bending your knees, not your back. Keeping your eyes focused upwards helps to keep your back straight.

Don’t twist or bend: Face in the direction you are walking. If you need to turn, stop, turn in small steps, and then continue walking. Looking slightly upwards will help you maintain a better position of the spine.

If you’re straining, get help: If an object is too heavy, or awkward in shape, use a dolly or forklift if you can, make sure you have someone around who can help you lift. Avoid hurting your back.

Reminders:
- Safety Poster competition is coming. Watch for details to enter.
- Please submit your Safety Suggestion Forms to earn Safety Bucks when the ideas are chosen.
- Don’t forget to spend your Safety Bucks by visiting CAPNet to view and purchase.

Safety Committee Coordinators

**Administration**  
Melisa DaSilva  
673-9173 x 5748

**Community/Family Services**  
Jeannie Stapleton  
673-9173 x 5716  
Sandra Segobia-Cevasco  
661-0779

**Fiscal**  
Bill Frame  
673-9173 x 5711  
Belinda Javius  
673-9173 x

**Fresno Migrant Head Start**  
Yolanda Shepard  
277-8641 x 5841  
Conrad Palacios

**Madera Migrant Head Start**  
Victoria Mendoza  
673-9173 x 5721  
Croshoun Austin  
673-9173 x

**Madera Regional Head Start**  
Amelia Ortiz  
673-9173 x 57  
Rosie Gonzales  
673-9173 x 5754

**Human Resources:**  
Carrie Chapman  
673-9173 x5771

**Victim Services:**  
Beryl Raviscioni  
661-1000 x 5708  
Norma Alvarez  
661-1000 x
SUMMARY: The grant funding from the Community Grant Program of the Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians and the County of Madera is a $1,000,000 grant offered as part of a 10 year agreement offered between the County of Madera and the Rancheria.

BOARD ACTION: Approved

RECOMMENDATION F-6: Authorize the Executive Director to sign and submit the Application for the Community Grant Program of the Picayune of Chukchansi Indians and the County of Madera.

SUMMARY: The Community Grant Program supports several agencies, schools, and organizations in Madera County by providing funds to improve community efforts of education, health, housing, and various needs to improve the lives of those living in Madera County.

BOARD ACTION: Approved

RECOMMENDATION F-7: Authorize the Executive Director to sign and submit the Application for the Sexual Assault Services Culturally Specific Program. The grant period beginning October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014, including any extension or amendments.

BOARD ACTION: Approved

RECOMMENDATION F-8: Approve the following Budget Revision request for the 2012-13 MMSHS Program, which has been submitted to SCOE pending Board approval: Budget Revision request for the Non-Blended, Training & Technical Assistance, and Non-Federal Share Match Programs.

SUMMARY: The agency’s contract with SCOE requires written approval if a budget revision from one federal category to another exceeds 10% of the federal category to be increased or decreased or 50% whichever amount is smaller. The deadline for submitting budget revisions is January 15, 2013. The program’s spending patterns have been analyzed and projections made through the end of the contract period of February 2013. There are a few areas that require a budget revision.

BOARD ACTION: Approved

RECOMMENDATION F-9: Review and approve the FMSHS revised action plans. The plans are in response to the CAPSLO Monitoring Report dated November 8, 2012.

SUMMARY: FMSHS fully revised its action plans to support the newly adopted area plans of CAPSLO.

BOARD ACTION: Approved

RECOMMENDATION F-10: Review and approve the FMSHS School Readiness Goals (SRG13). SUMMARY: FMSHS developed innovative handouts with the SRG13 to incorporate and motivate staff, children and their families to use them.

BOARD ACTION: Approved

RECOMMENDATION F-11: Review and approve the budget reallocation of $29,000 and additional One-Time funding request of $32,000 from CAPSLO for the 2012-13 year.

SUMMARY: Staff is requesting Board approval of FMSHS 12-13 budget revision to address health and safety issues at the Huron Migrant Head Start playground and request additional funding to complete issues at the Mendota site identified on the 2012 site visit report.

BOARD ACTION: Approved

RECOMMENDATION F-12: Review and approve the job description for Customer Assistance Technician of the CFS Dept and make recommendation to the Board to approve the creation and the salary schedule at Range 14.

SUMMARY: The position is created to meet both the specific demands of energy assistance programs as well as general customer services.

BOARD ACTION: Approved

RECOMMENDATION F-13: Review and approve the AA/AS Degree Status Report submitted by the remaining seven Head Start Teachers required to obtain their AA/AS degree by September 2014. The status lists four teachers on course and three requesting an extension to obtain degree. Review and approve the extension requests up to September 1, 2014 under the stipulation of Head Start Performance Standards. Any extension beyond September 1, 2014 is to be discussed and determined.

BOARD ACTION: Approved
The Julia Lopez Child Development Center in Orange Cove used teamwork and trust to increase school readiness success for children. The center serves upwards of 80 children daily in this state funded pre-Kindergarten program. Strategies of teamwork and success lead to improved child engagement in learning activities, increased collaboration of staff lesson planning, and happier teachers, children, and parents. Staff has worked as a team in a trusting partnership with the California Preschool Instructional Network (CPIN) to make changes to the physical environments, which in turn lead to improved emotional satisfaction.

Initially the 80 plus children were placed in five different teaching groups of nearly twenty children each. The room arrangements for the teaching groups of children consisted of only two large rooms for all children and staff. During this stressful time, teachers planned their curriculum in isolation from one another and children (although in the same large rooms) were not able to play with one another if they were technically in a different teaching group, and under the supervision of a different teacher. Structured in this way, children were confined to smaller quarters of the classrooms, causing frustration and challenging behaviors.

In December and continuing into this year, the Julia Lopez Child Development staff and the CPIN team have worked together to make improvements in the physical environment, including developing shared child interest centers and small group areas. CPIN provided the center staff support in aligning the newly created interest centers with the California Preschool Learning Foundations and the Creative Curriculum. Each of the interest centers now has posted relevant Foundations as teaching and learning objectives for children. These changes highlight improvements that support a balance between child-initiated play and intentional teacher-guided activities, which are indicators of high quality early childhood programs. According to the director Maria Garcia, “The changes have been positive. We thought it was going to be very hard, but the teachers now brainstorm together, using resources from the California Preschool Learning Foundations and the Creative Curriculum for planning activities. The parents also noticed that the classrooms were homelike too”.

To keep the momentum going, the center staff and CPIN will continue their partnership, working on increasing children’s concept development through coaching on teacher/child interactions and providing teacher guided lessons using a dual language format. CPIN coach, Diana Decker noted, “I was really impressed with the staff’s collaboration and teamwork spirit. This is good for children.”

Kudos to the Julia A. Lopez staff for their willingness to learn, and for their demonstrated teamwork! Pictured left to right: Joe Martinez, Maricela Chavez, Cassandra Nix, Adolfinia Cervantes, Maria Contreras, Cristina Reynosa, Amelia Prieto, Genoveva Figueroua, Gilbert Garcia, Ana Ramirez, Maria Gonzales, Rocio Velasquez, Maria R. Garcia, Estela Juarez, Melissa Villegas, Vanessa Bravo, Yolanda Peña
Not pictured: Gloria Bravo, Rosa Jimenez, Reyna Huerta, Anna Gutierrez, and Juana Bedolla.
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MADERA MIGRANT/SEASONAL YEAR

- The year began with preparation of a Federal Review. Parents and staff worked continuously to ensure the center was clean and ready for the Review. Maria Eugenia Castillo, Family Advocate at Sierra Vista, took the lead in organizing clean up days at her site on Saturdays and Sundays to prepare for the Review (pictured, right).

- Several training opportunities were provided to parents:
  - ESL Classes were offered to parents every Saturday and child care was provided by staff.
  - Lupe Jamie was invited to present training for the parents of infants and toddlers. She shared information regarding the development of children.
  - Parents participated in a Saturday workshop presented by Roberto Dansie, who talked about parent engagement (pictured, right).
  - Stanley and Yolanda Lucero visited Sierra Vista center on two occasions to share information with parents about the importance of music and movement and what children learn as they sing and dance.
  - Parents were invited to Open House at some elementary schools (Sierra Vista), where they had the opportunity to receive information about various agencies in the community.

- An additional classroom was added to Sierra Vista with 20 new preschool children enrolled. There are currently 85 children being served from ages of two months to five years old (pictured, right).

- Community helpers were incited to the classroom to present special topics for the children and in support of their activity plans. The following are a few of those who presented: CAPMC Victim Services Center (talked about “Your Body, It’s Yours”), Pistoresi Paramedics, Camarena Health Center, Eric and Michelle Johnson from the E&M Reptile Family (pictured, right), and Health Zone.

Once again, special thanks to all staff for being supportive and working together!