



Maternal and Child Health Access

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Welcome, Baby! Early Childhood Educators/Home Visitors Level II and III

Welcome, Baby! is a five-year home visitation pilot program for pregnant women and their families near downtown Los Angeles, funded by First Five LA. It is one component of Best Start LA, a 5-year project focused on increasing the number of children who achieve appropriate social, emotional, cognitive, language, physical and motor development milestones to the best of their potential. Best Start LA will also focus on engaging all elements of a community in creating a "baby and toddler friendly" environment. Welcome, Baby! is a partnership among California Hospital Medical Center, providing administrative and technical support, Maternal and Child Health Access overseeing programmatic aspects and a coalition of community partner agencies.

Maternal and Child Health Access (MCHA) is a non-profit social service and policy agency whose mission is to improve the health of low income women and families through advocacy, education, training and direct services. We offer a case management program for pregnant and parenting women with an arts and sewing economic development project; health education and support classes, including breastfeeding support; outreach for enrollment into health programs and referrals to health services; trouble-shooting for problems accessing health care or using health programs; and training and technical assistance to agencies on health programs and services available to low-income people. We conduct policy work in areas of access to care and health issue based on our experiences with low-income women and families.

Position Description: The Early Childhood Educators/Home Visitors will visit families prenatally and in the home. Early Childhood Educators/Home Visitors are responsible for supporting families, conducting assessments and providing primary parent education in the areas of breastfeeding, child development and home safety and security. They refer families to community-based supports, if needed.

EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, TRAINING

Education: Bachelor's degree preferred in child development, social work, psychology, human development, or a related field.

Specialized Training: Child Development Associate (CDA) certification preferred. Prefer Certified Lactation Educator (CLE) or Certified Lactation Counselor (CLC) breastfeeding training at a minimum, or willingness to be trained as CLE.

Position Requirements:

- Ability to function as a member of an interdisciplinary team.
- Ability to promote bonding and attachment between infant-primary caregiver.
- At least two years administrative experience as a supervisor, for Level III position
- Ability to assess families across a broad spectrum of areas, recognizing professional boundaries and the need for consultation from other disciplines.
- Experience working with low-income families and families from diverse age, cultural and ethnic backgrounds.
- Empathy, warmth, and the ability to establish ongoing supportive relationships with an ethnically diverse population.
- Knowledgeable about local community resources and able to refer families to appropriate agencies.
- Knowledge of normal fetal, infant, and toddler development; prenatal and child health requirements; and early childhood education best practices.
- Familiarity with the effects of domestic violence and parental alcohol and/other other drug abuse on family health, parenting, and general functioning.
- Familiarity with the effects of perinatal depression on child development, parenting, and general functioning.
- Experience in making home visits to low-income families.
- Skill in organizing and maintaining accurate records.
- Skill in writing to articulate concepts and ideas in notes and reports.
- Bilingual preferred, with the ability to communicate in the language(s) represented in the community to be served.
- Preference will be given to applicants from the designated pilot community for the project, in and around the boundaries of Jefferson Blvd., Olympic Blvd., Normandie Blvd. and San Pedro Street.

Benefits include paid holidays, mileage and parking, health and dental insurance.

To apply, please send your resume to:

Lynn Kersey, MA, MPH, Executive Director
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Or fax to: 213-745-1040 or e-mail: lynnk@mchaccess.org

Start date: Home visitation staff will be hired in June, September and December, 2009

Maternal and Child Health Access is an Equal Opportunity Employer