

How the Bay Area *Early Childhood Funders* (ECF) makes a difference for young children and their families

ECF provides a valuable resource for funders that allows us to better understand and respond to the challenges facing young children and their families. This timely information informs our early childhood funding in all areas, including child care, health, family support, education, social services, special needs, diversity, and policy advocacy.

LYDA BEARDSLEY, PH.D., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
TRIO FOUNDATION

When our family foundation began, joining the QCCI grantmaking process helped me to connect with and learn from other funders in this field. The collective expertise around the table was invaluable in helping us to become more effective, strategic grantmakers. MARY WILLIS,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MORRIS FAMILY FOUNDATION

ECF participants represent a wide range of funders – from individuals to California’s largest foundations, some with specifically focused interests and others whose approach is comprehensive and community-wide. ECF encourages networking and relationship building, and we all benefit from each other’s perspective on the significance of funding in early childhood. Our foundation is pleased to be part of this fascinating coalition. THOMAS PETERS, PH.D.,
PRESIDENT & CEO, MARIN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

ECF has made the difference in facilitating strategic alliances among foundations dedicated to early care and education issues in the Bay Area. It’s a smart, strategic, and gutsy group of competent leaders and professionals who value critical thinking, candor, and inclusive decision-making. The David and Lucile Packard Foundation is extremely proud to be a participating member. CARLA P. DARTIS, PROGRAM OFFICER,
DAVID AND LUCILE PACKARD FOUNDATION

EARLY CHILDHOOD FUNDERS

P.O. Box 2306
El Cerrito, CA
94530-2306

BAY AREA
early childhood
funders



THROUGH EFFECTIVE GRANTMAKING

BAY AREA
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What is the *Early Childhood Funders* group?

Founded in 1994, the *Early Childhood Funders* (ECF) is an informal association of Bay Area foundations, public funders and private donors. The *Early Childhood Funders* focus on improving the lives of young children and their families by improving grantmaking effectiveness in the early childhood field. Membership is voluntary, meetings rotate from foundation to foundation, and a leadership team oversees the activities of the group and plans for future meetings.

The *Early Childhood Funders* Mission

The *Early Childhood Funders* seek to enhance grantmaking effectiveness in the early childhood field by providing an opportunity to share information, engage in dialogue, and participate in joint activities to improve the lives of young children and their families.

The *Early Childhood Funders* will accomplish this by:

- Holding meetings at least three times a year, bringing in speakers, and providing up-to-date information and materials on significant early childhood and related issues;



- Convening the early childhood community, policy makers, and/or other groups as appropriate to further the policy or program agenda of the *Early Childhood Funders*; and
- Developing joint funding opportunities or public policy positions in response to emerging issues.

Early Childhood Funders Membership Support

The annual budget for the *Early Childhood Funders* is used to provide staffing and resource support for its activities including planning and conducting meetings, providing follow-up between meetings, convening the early childhood community, supporting policy work, and assisting with joint funding opportunities. Contributions range from \$500 to \$10,000.



Early Childhood Funders Accomplishments and Activities

- Created the Quality Child Care Initiative – a unique collaborative pooled funding effort to address the need for quality childcare in light of welfare reform. During QCCI's duration, from 1997-2002, 26 foundations contributed over \$4 million, and 80 grants were issued aimed at: building a sustainable workforce; strengthening advocacy; improving facilities; and improving access to child care.
- Produced and distributed a policy brief for policy makers and educators, "Play in the Early Years: Essential Foundation for Learning."
- Provides support for public education campaigns to educate policy makers on the impact of the state budget on early childhood issues.
- Partners with the business community to identify advocates for early childhood issues and promote policy change to improve the lives of young children and their families.



Current Members

Bella Vista Foundation, The California Endowment, Community Foundation Silicon Valley, East Bay Community Foundation, First 5 Children and Families Commissions in the Bay Area, David B. Gold Foundation, Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund, Mimi and Peter Haas Fund, Susan Lyon Educational Foundation, Marin Community Foundation, Morris Family Foundation, Oakland Fund for Children and Youth, David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, Peninsula Community Foundation, Rogers Family Foundation, San Francisco Department of Children, Youth and Their Families, The San Francisco Foundation, W. Clement and Jessie V. Stone Foundation, Morris Stulsaft Foundation, Trio Foundation, United Way of the Bay Area.



Join the Bay Area *Early Childhood Funders* and make a difference for young children and their families!

YES! I'd like to become a member of the *Early Childhood Funders*. Membership is free and entitles me to attend ECF meetings as well as to receive all ECF information and materials distributed throughout the year.

I'd like more information.

Name _____

Title _____

Foundation _____

Address _____

City _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Areas of interest:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Care and Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare | <input type="checkbox"/> School Readiness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Needs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

YES, I prefer to receive all information about the *Early Childhood Funders* by email.

NO, I would like to receive my *Early Childhood Funders* agendas by mail and all else by email.

For more information, please call 415-733-8576 or email ECF@4children.org or visit www.4children.org/ecf.htm.