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August 13, 2010

Grant Recipients Announced for California’s Family Place Library Program

Sacramento – Thirteen California public libraries have been selected as 2010/2011 grant recipients for California’s Family Place Library Program, a statewide initiative that helps create family/early childhood space in the children’s areas of local public libraries. Equipped with toys, books, and comfortable furniture, these settings support early-learning interactions between young children (ages 0 to 3), parents, and caregivers, and encourage the use of public libraries by families with children.

Program participants for the coming year include:

Altadena Library District
Azusa Public Library
El Dorado County Library (Cameron Park)
National City Public Library
Orange County Libraries (La Habra)
Oxnard Public Library (South Oxnard)
Porterville Public Library
Sacramento Public Library (South Gate)
San Bernardino Public Library
San Mateo County Library (Half Moon Bay)
Santa Clara City Library
Sierra Madre Public Library
Sunnyvale Public Library

In September, two representatives from each of these libraries will attend a three-day Family Place Training Institute that focuses on family-centered services, child development, parent education, collections, space design, and community outreach. These libraries will then be eligible to apply for a federally-funded implementation grant, up to $15,000, to establish early childhood spaces in their children’s sections.

Modeled on a national Family Place project, California’s Family Place Program is administered by the California State Library and is funded by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

For additional information about California’s Family Place Library Program, please contact Bessie Condos at the California State Library, (916)651-0981 or bcondos@library.ca.gov.

About the California State Library: Founded in 1850, the California State Library is celebrating its 160th anniversary as the central reference and research library for the Governor's office, legislature, state employees, and the general public. The State Library administers federal and state grants for programs in historical preservation, library construction, civil liberties education, literacy, volunteering, and broadband connectivity in public libraries. For more information, please visit www.library.ca.gov.

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