



FACTS ABOUT SKYLINE COLLEGE'S CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER



Fall 2009 Fact Sheet

Skyline College Child Development Center

The Skyline College Child Development Center is an asset to Skyline College and the local greater community because it is a vital resource for many educationally and economically disadvantaged families, serving a population of student parents who strive to better their lives and the lives of their children by returning to school to further their education and/or retrain for job skills. The CDC strives to provide quality child care and experiences that will promote later academic success and give young children a head start in their early years. The CDC serves as a part of an intricate web to promote the field of Early Childhood Education. The campus location makes it accessible for students who are interested in learning about the development of young children. Many Early Childhood Education and Psychology students perform regular observations and other child-related class assignments at Skyline's Center.

Which Students Would Be Affected Most by the Closure of the CDC

- Of the 50 parents who have one or more children enrolled at the Child Development Center, 5-8 percent use public transportation to get to school
- Of the 50 parents who have their children enrolled at the Child Development Center, 50 percent of them are single parents
- Of the 50 parents whose children are enrolled at the Child Development Center, 80 percent of them live on incomes under the state poverty level

Child Development Center Staff

- ***Judy Heldberg***, Director since January 2002, holds a B.A. in Music Education and an M.A. in ECE from SFSU. She has 35 years of experience in the ECE field having taught all ages of children from infants to college-age. She has 3 grown daughters and 10 grandchildren.
- ***Nataliya Gamburg***, Head Teacher of the Butterfly Room, has been a teacher at the CDC for the past 11 years. She is a Mentor Teacher for San Mateo County and has had as many as 4 mentees each semester placed under her supervision. She holds a B.A. in ECE from Moscow University. Nataliya enjoys working with children and ECE Skyline students.

- **Kristina Brower**, Head Teacher of the Caterpillar Room, has been a teacher at the CDC for the past 11 years. Kristina has an A.S. in ECE from Canada College and is currently working towards her B.A. at SFSU, with plans to graduate in fall 2010. She enjoys the family-like environment at the Skyline College CDC.
- **Martina Center**, Teacher in the Butterfly Room, has worked at the CDC for the past 11 years and graduated with an A.S in ECE from Skyline College. Martina has had two children graduate to kindergarten from the CDC and currently has two children attending the Center.
- **Vicky Feng**, Teacher in the Butterfly Room, has taught at the CDC for 9 years. She has an A.S. in ECE from Skyline College, and holds a Nursing Degree from Taiwan. Vicky has become the CDC's in-house expert on children with challenging behaviors. Vicky enjoys getting to know the families and sharing her knowledge and experience with them.
- **Michelle Amaral**, Teacher in the Caterpillar Room, has been working at the CDC for 7 years, first as a volunteer, then a Teacher's Aide and now as a Teacher. She has a B.A in Child and Adolescent Development from SFSU. Michelle's two boys have graduated from the program. She enjoys watching children grow and develop and likes working with families.
- **Rayna Rodriguez**, Teacher in the Caterpillar Room, has been working at the CDC for 5 years, first as a practicum student, and now as a Teacher, and has a foster child enrolled in the program. She has an A.S. in ECE from Skyline College. Rayna's passion is to work with families and her dream is to work with children.

College Involvement

- Work in coordination with the Early Childhood Education Cooperative Education program to place students at the CDC to earn units while gaining job experience working with young children.
- San Francisco State University has placed Child and Adolescent Development (CAD) students for internships at the CDC.
- The Financial Aid Department places work-study students at the Center to not only provide jobs but also experience in the classroom, where regardless of

race, color, creed, gender or skill level, the students will learn to be better teachers in the field of ECE.

- The Child Development Center has supported and been supported by a variety of services and programs on campus. EOPS and CALWORKS send students to the Center who need childcare. The only way many of these students achieve academic and life success is to place their child in a quality program while they attend classes or work. Most of these parents are on subsidized care, and their fees, if any, are based on their income level. Other Skyline instructional programs, such as the Biotech program, have sent students to do research and experiments. The Skyline Basketball Team has volunteered their time to come and interact with the children. Student-parents come from all over the campus including the Automotive and Cosmetology programs as well as many other departments.
- Other students from the greater community have come to visit the CDC. School Age Mothers, which includes teenage moms from South San Francisco, Daly City, and San Bruno School Districts, have visited the Center to observe the program. Students from Mills High School enrolled in concurrent Child Development classes visit the program annually.

Parent/Community Outreach

- Each semester the CDC facilitates workshops for students, parents and community members. Past workshops have included ***Discipline Series, Raising-A-Reader, Potty Training***, as well as individual workshops for parents with personal family issues. Many of these workshops were conducted by CDC staff members.
- Since 2001, the CDC has sponsored an annual ***Week Of The Young Child*** festivities held each April. This event promotes the importance of Early Childhood Education programs and services.
- A Mental Health Consultant from Parent's Place, based in San Francisco, is an on-going resource helping teachers and parents understand the many different behaviors of young children.

Continuity of Care

- The national average for turn-over in the ECE field is 50 percent per year. The staff retention at the CDC is phenomenal. All the staff has been at the CDC for five years or longer. With reliable staff, the CDC is able to provide the children and their family's trustworthy continuity of care. Research shows children who receive such care are more likely to stay in school and be successful later in life.
- Many families are pleased with the program, and continue their education even with the addition of new family members. They believe and trust in the quality care at the CDC and continue to bring their children to the us. The multicultural staff of the CDC mirrors the families and the goals of Skyline College, promoting diversity and equality for all people.

Fundraising

- Each semester various fundraisers are held at the Center to provide for activities such as field trips to the SF Zoo, Coyote Point Museum, Chuck-E-Cheese and theatre tickets for the California Theatre Center stage plays presented at Skyline College several time each year. The CDC also funds holiday parties for the children and their families as well as supplies for the classrooms from these fundraising efforts.

Child Development Center Financial Facts

As of October 22, 2009, the CDC has 50 enrolled children (including 2 sets of siblings) which includes 48 families, of whom 7 are staff families (both contract and full pay), and 41 are college student families (2 are full pay and the rest are on State contract). There are 6 more college student families who will be enrolling later in the month. All the new families will qualify for the State contract.

Revenue:

The CDC earns money from several sources:

1. State contract money where the CDC bills the State for days of care for subsidized children (those who qualify as low income) at a reimbursement rate of \$37.12/child/day
2. Fees from full-pay parents (\$38-\$55/day) depending on the age of the child and time used
3. Child Food Care Program money in which the CDC is reimbursed partially for food costs (breakfast, lunch and snack each day)
4. Fundraisers held throughout the year sponsored by the parent group, S.P.A.C.E. (Student Parent Association for Children's Enrichment)
5. District contribution to cover staff benefit packages
6. Skyline College contribution to cover overages (\$0 – \$50K – traditionally \$25K/year)

Staff Benefits:

Benefits for the staff at the CDC have been paid by the District since the State contract was agreed upon over a decade ago. At that time, the District agreed to pay benefits for the workers at the CDC and salaries were to be generated by the money earned from the State contract. Over time the cost of benefits for staff have increased dramatically, and this past year the cost of benefits for the 7 full-time staff members at the CDC amounted to \$168K. To imply that the \$168K is an expense that should be covered by revenue generated by the CDC is incorrect. It is a cost to the District, but it is not a cost under the control of the CDC.

Staff Salaries:

The CDC is able to generate \$285-\$300K annually from the State contract. A decade ago, the numbers worked, but because of salary raises and other rising expenses, the salaries of the 7 employees at the CDC now amount to at least \$250K+/year. Add to that the cost of required subs and salaries easily exceed contract revenues. **Reimbursement rates from the State have remained basically the same** while expenses—primarily

salaries—have increased significantly. The CDC is required by State law to maintain mandated ratios of staff to children in the classrooms, so decreasing staff is not an option.

Maintenance and Cleaning:

This past year the amount for maintenance cleaning for the building was \$38K. This includes \$10K for work orders submitted for the CDC. The building has extensive use each day. There are 45 children who attend the Center each day, 7 full-time staff, and 15-20 college students acting as student assistants, work-study students, mentors, practicum placements, students performing class observations and class projects, as well as parents of the 45 children who come and go all day long. The CDC is housed in two 22 year-old portables which require a substantial amount of maintenance to remain safe and acceptable for use.

October 27, 2009

Dr. Victoria Morrow
Program Viability Committee
Skyline College

Dear Dr. Morrow and Committee:

I am writing this letter of support for the Child Development Center of Skyline College. As the Program Coordinator of the Early Childhood Education Department for the last three years, and full-time Instructional Faculty since fall 2005, I have seen an expansion in the use of the Center for academic purposes. I feel that the presence of the CDC on campus signifies to both students and the greater early care and educational community of San Mateo County that Skyline College supports quality care for children and families and offers an educational laboratory for students to learn about children, development, and appropriate educational practices.

The mission of Skyline College includes providing student-centered education leading to transfer, career advancement, and personal enrichment. The Early Childhood Education Program is designed to meet those goals by assisting students in their personal career goals, offering on-going early care and education job training, fostering positive parenting skills, and increasing the understanding and appreciation of childhood. The Program interfaces with the Child Development Center (CDC) in several ways:

- students are given assignments to observe children,
- classes visit and conduct evaluations and other assignments on site, and
- students are given practicum placements (supervised field experience/student teaching)

Children's growth, developmentally appropriate practice, and professional development within the child care community are major aspects of the Early Childhood Education Department. The Child Development Center supports the ECE Program in several ways:

- The Center's educational philosophy encourages *each child to develop to their full potential physically, socially, emotionally, creatively and cognitively, and to develop awareness and respect for self and others in a diverse community*, which parallels the ECE's professional focus on all developmental domains, taught directly in the many sections of Child Development offered in ECE and Psychology Departments.
- The CDC creates safe environments offering fun, challenging, unbiased choices of developmentally appropriate (DAP) activities that promote each child's love of learning and a positive self-image. The curriculum is play-based where teachers regularly observe each child to create an emergent curriculum that teaches basic skills in meaningful and exciting ways. Each semester, the courses of ECE Principles, Curriculum, and Observational Skills have assignments for students to observe children and learn to evaluate programs and to witness DAP in action.
- The Center staff is highly educated and trained and devoted to creating the program for the whole child, as well as role modeling for the parents and the college students. With a Center on campus, students can witness how development and current research are applied in an

educational setting. Both sections of the ECE 366 student teaching classes place students for their fieldwork every semester, and students regularly volunteer at the Center after their student teaching experience.

- The grants and community partnerships with the ECE Program have fostered the development of specialized training in the areas of Mentor Teaching and Early Childhood Special Education. Currently one of the County's fifteen ECE Mentors is a Head Teacher at the CDC, which garners Skyline a professional reputation in the community. The Department has just received a renewal of the CA Department of Disabled Services' CCPPP (Community College Pupil Personnel Preparation: Early Intervention) grant in which the scope of work includes working with the campus Children's Center to include children with special needs and support staff and students in making accommodations for all children. Additional possibilities include working with the San Mateo County Office of Education to provide unit-bearing coursework in work with Challenging Children and Social-Emotional Learning, which key staff from the CDC are getting trained in this academic year.
- The Early Childhood Education program prepares students for transfer through its core course requirements, aids in career advancement with its alignment to the CA Child Development permit matrix, and offers a range of courses that invite personal enrichment in child development, early care and education practices, parenting/family support, and diversity awareness. The Child Development Center is a contributor to a robust and growing ECE Program, and its academic functions clearly support its work.
- The Childcare Development Center provides quality care and education to the children of students who otherwise would find a Skyline education difficult if not impossible to achieve. The presence of the Center- indeed, the enhancement of it over time- adds both student support and student education. I hope that Skyline College can continue to have a Children's Center on campus for all these reasons, and would be happy to talk with you further at any time.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Williams Browne
ECE Program Coordinator/Faculty
San Mateo Region Mentor Program Coordinator

Summary of both classrooms. 37 surveys returned – not everyone answered every question.

Desired Results for Children and Families — Parent Survey

This survey asks for your feedback about the child care and development program your child attends. The California Department of Education is very interested in how the program helps you to support your child's learning and development and meet your family's needs. Your responses will be completely confidential and will help us to improve the services provided to you. If you have more than one child who attends this program, please answer the following questions about your *youngest* child in the program.

1. How satisfied are you with the overall quality of this program?

Very Satisfied 23
Satisfied 8
Not Satisfied 0

2. Do you feel that

	Yes	No
A. Your child is safe in this program?	36	0
B. Your child is happy in this program?	32	0

3. Have you received information from the program about the following?

	Yes	No
A. How children develop at different ages (e.g., walk, talk, etc.)	27	7
B. How your child is growing and developing	31	3
C. How your child is doing in the program	34	0
D. Schedule of daily activities	34	1
E. What you can do to help your child learn and develop	30	5
F. Parenting skills	31	4
G. How to find other services in the community (e.g., employment and training opportunities, parenting classes, health care)	29	6
H. Where to report health or safety concerns and complaints	32	2
I. Experience and training of program staff	28	6
J. Discipline procedures	30	0
K. How you can get involved with your child's program	32	1

4. Would you like more information about any topics related to your child's care and development?

Yes 2 1.) Whatever you have for me. 2.) Potty Training
No 23

5. Has your child's enrollment in this program made it easier for you to:

	Yes	No	Not Applicable
A. Accept a job?	12	7	9
B. Keep a job?	17	8	6
C. Accept a better job?	11	7	9
D. Attend education or training?	35	0	0

6. How satisfied are you with these characteristics of your child's program?

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Satisfied
A. Hours of operation	31	5	0
B. Location of program	32	3	1
C. Number of adults working with children	32	8	0
D. Background and experience of staff	29	7	0
E. Languages spoken by staff	29	7	0
F. How program staff communicate with you	31	5	1
G. Meeting the individual needs of your child	32	5	0
H. Interaction between staff and children	33	4	0
I. Interaction with other parents	25	11	1
J. Parent involvement	27	9	1
K. Equipment and materials	22	14	0
L. Cultural activities	27	10	0
M. Daily activities	31	5	1
N. Environment	29	7	1
O. Nutrition	32	4	0
P. Health and safety policies and procedures	31	6	0
Q. How the program promotes your child's learning and development	31	5	1

7. Is there anything else you would like to say about how this program meets your family's needs?

1. Excellent - love communication between staff and me.
2. Since my daughter started attending this program she has far surpassed all of my expectations of development.
3. It is really a help to us.
4. Yes, I would like to thank all of the teachers especially.
5. They make it possible for us to get what we need done and work and go to school.
6. Everything is good.
7. The staff is amazing. They are like an extension of my family, but more funding is needed for improvement and expansion.
8. Great program. My kid loves the teachers.

8. Do you have any suggestions about how this program could be improved?
1. Maybe if the program had a bigger new building it would benefit more children.
 2. I believe the program is on target with its goals and the only thing I can suggest is for more parental involvement and activities. Thank you for everything CDC.
 3. I think the children should be learning more A B C's and how to count.
 4. Wish to help other families too.
 5. Thank you for all the help.
 6. Environment – playground needs trees, grass, bushes with flowers. Nature is so important in a child's life. I would love to see an aquarium of tadpoles and frogs, so kids see how they change. A butterfly tank with caterpillars so kids can observe metamorphosis.
 7. More space, new building.
 8. You are all great.
 9. Capital improvements with outdoor playground updated and modernized building. Teachers need more office space to meet with parents and prep for classes.
 10. Satisfied with general location of childcare program on campus. Dissatisfied has not after 8 years given CDC permanent building on campus.
 11. More funding
 12. Bigger space. Play area
 13. Everything is perfect.
 14. Skyline CDC is great.
 15. More materials, bigger space, new building. Outdoors more balls shovels, new ride-on toys.

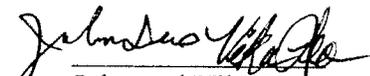
Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. This information will be used to help improve the services provided to you.

3460 Carter Drive Unit 203
South San Francisco, Ca 94080
October 22, 2009

To Whom It May Concern;

My wife and I are currently student at Skyline College in San Bruno, Ca 94066. This can be possible because our son Penisimani Leo who is going to the Child Development Center in Skyline College. We pay for him to attend in this Development Center because the teachers in this particular take care are doing good job in everything that our son needs. We see a major improvement and progress in our son as the outcome of this Development Center. We are doing well at school due for the time our son is at the take care center we have time to work and study. We are looking forward for him to graduate in two year form now and pursue his goal in the future.

Sincerely


John and Vika Leo.



October 23, 2009
skyline
COLLEGE

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter with great concern about the recommendation for elimination of the Skyline College Child Development Center. I found it very astonishing when I heard that the CDC was on the list of possible cuts. I have been a teacher here at the CDC since 1998. I have an ECE degree from Skyline College and have put it to great use working at the CDC. I enjoy the family style environment the CDC offers to its family, children and staff.

I was a teen parent and at the time I was attending Skyline College there was no childcare center. I remember thinking how much more easy it would have been for me to attend classes if I didn't have to travel so far to put my child in daycare. When I later returned to Skyline I saw that a childcare center had been built, I thought that was wonderful. I know from first hand experience how hard it can be to be a parent, student and an employee all at the same time. When obstacles often get in our ways we sometimes feel discouraged and I know that be what will happen for parents that want to get an education and make sure there child is ok at the same time.

I have had two children graduate from the CDC fully ready for kindergarten, and I currently have two twin boys attending the CDC right now. The CDC to them is like a home away from home. They enjoy the friendly environment, the welcoming teachers, and the nurturing classrooms. As an SMCCCD employee I find it very helpful, reassuring, and comforting that I am able to go to work and know that my children are well taken care. I know I am a teacher at the CDC, but if I was just a regular employee of Skyline I would feel the same way.

I personally think that having a childcare center on the Skyline College Campus is an asset, and there would be much regret on who's ever part is in making the decision to eliminate it. We have served over hundreds and hundreds of families since 1996 when the CDC first opened. I often run into past parents, and they always tell me how they would have not been able to get a job, get a degree and take care of their family if they didn't have childcare while attending Skyline. I think that this is major decision that is going to affect many lives, and should be thought through completely. I hope that all involved will take time to meet with us, and come and see the parents first hand and talk with them, to see how closing the center will effect them, there educational goals, and life.

Sincerely,

Martina Center
CDC Teacher and Parent

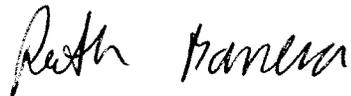
October 23.2009

To whom it may concern,

I am concerned that the Child Care Center may be close. I understand that now the budget is very tight. But the Child Care is very important because I feel that my daughter is safe there and the teachers are friendly and care about the children. Also they have a good program that helps children develop and it is convenient because it is in the campus.

I ask you to please consider carefully how important the Child Care Center is and please do not close it. Many students may not be able to take classes here without it .

Sincerely, Ruth Barrera

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ruth Barrera". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

October 22, 2009

Dear Skyline College Administration:

My name is Jenny Szeto and I graduated from Skyline College in Spring 2009. I got my certificate and Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education.

I did my mentoring program here at Skyline College Child Development Center Spring 2008. It was a great experience for me to know how to work with the staff and children. I learned a lot with this mentoring program without it I wouldn't have graduated and transfer to San Francisco State University to study in Child Adolescent Development (young children and family).

Also I have volunteered from Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 to help the children and staff. I love helping out because we build a strong relationship and connection.

I came back to the Child Development Center at Skyline College to do my homework and my observation for my school at San Francisco State University.

Please keep the Child Development Center open.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jenny Szeto". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jenny Szeto

600706232

10/23/2009

To whom it may concern,

I am a current student at Skyline College and also a transferring student. I recently graduated with an A.S. in Early Childhood Education. It has come to my attention that The CDC is planning to close their doors due to the budget cuts. Yet, we as educators and student feel that the CDC should not close because it has helped many of us in many different ways. For example, I as a student would not have been able to complete my 96 hours of Practicum if it was not for this Center. I was an easy way for me to transition from class to the Center. I did not have to worry about catching the bus or missing class. For those students who will take the Practicum class and do not have transportation to get to other centers, this is one of the center that could provide the hours as well as hands on experience.

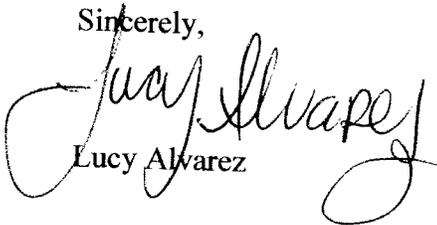
Another reason why the CDC should not close is because due to this center I was able to full fill my educational goals. I need to get hands on experience as well as doing observations which I still do. Also I am able to volunteer without having a problem.

I enjoy working the children as well as the staff. They have supported me through my studies as well as my personal goals. Closing the Center will be a big lost to many student and families. This well also affects those who are parents and are attending classes that cannot find care for their child. The CDC is a safe net and a second home to many of the children. The teachers and parent as well as the children have a well attach bondage with the CDC. The lives that will get affected more is the children, they will not be able to understand why the CDC is closing, all they would see is the lost of a family that cares and loves them for who they are and their cultural backgrounds.

Please keep the center open, we do not want another child left behind and not full fill their educational goals the same way they have help me.

Thank you,

Sincerely,


Lucy Alvarez

10/23/2009

To whom it may concern,

I am a current student studying ECE at Skyline College. We had done couple observation at the CDC site for our homework and papers. Without the CDC, we as a student will not had the easy access to a child care center, which we could just walk over to do our observation.

At the same time, it added big value to a lot of students at skyline college, which allow them to study worry free as they know their child are getting the care they need nearby.

This is sure to be a EVA (economic value added) services to a lot of the student at skyline college, not just for our ECE students to have our observation and our practice, but also to the other students who needs to find child care while they are going to school.

Please keep the door open for the students, and most important, the children in the center.

Thanks

Rita

Vicky Feng – Childcare Teacher

I enjoy working with children, and the children enjoy having me as their teacher. From my professional training I know children need an early stable foundation that provides them with developmentally appropriate care. That will help them be more successful in the future.

My specialty is helping high-risk children to adjust to school life as early as possible. I communicate with children in ways they can understand, about such topics as sharing, taking turns, caring, respect others and themselves, solving problems and conflict resolution.

We are a child development center, rather than a day care center. We provide a child-centered curriculum, which means the environment is not passive, such as you might find in a typical daycare.

We provide high-quality child care as a model for the community. Our student-teachers are headed for careers in the community where, they will apply what they have learned, by observation and by doing, at our center.





October 23, 2009

To SMCCD Administration,

I am not only a student of Skyline College, I am also an instructor in the Skyline Cosmetology department. My daughter began attending the child development center this Fall semester. I learned of all the great services, care and education they provide from the many students in my program that benefit from their services. I have found them not only to have met but exceeded my expectations. The care/education providers in our CDC are beyond dedicated and really make a lasting impact on all the young children they care for. It would be detrimental should this program be cut due to our ongoing budget crisis. Not only would it displace these wonderful educators but it would hurt the young students of the care center and make it harder if not impossible for many parents to attend classes here on campus. I pray that you will really reconsider any and all thoughts of cutting this program in anyway. If you have not experienced what these dedicated ladies due for all of us I urge you to visit the center and see the smiles of the children, the many educational games they play, and perhaps speak with the many campus students they help on their ongoing path to higher learning. My daughter has blossomed in just the short time she has been exposed to this excellent program, she gets excited for school and constantly talks about all the things she learned from her teachers. I also have been able to take time to focus on my classes knowing that she is well cared for and learning long side me. Please don't let this vital program be a casualty of these hard times, the ultimate result would be devastating on so many levels to so many members of our Skyline community. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Saenz
Skyline student/parent
Instructor of Cosmetology
ex 4169

October 23, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

Please take into consideration the impact you would have on my daughter, Annabella, my family and our future if you were to close the Skyline College Child Development Center.

My husband is a full time student at Skyline. He is working very hard to finish his degree in Chemistry, which he put on hold when we started our family. I work full time and we live on one income and any financial aid Skyline provides. We live on a very limited budget and if it wasn't for CDC, we could not afford childcare.

Besides the monetary relief this program provides, we are also grateful for the outstanding care and attention our daughter receives. The growth and intelligence Annabella has gained in these few months have been beyond our expectations. She wakes up every morning eager to go to class; I only hope her excitement to go to school at CDC carries on to her teen years!

Please do not take this amazing experience from my child or future from my husband.

Respectfully,

Christina Zsolnay
Mother to Annabella Zsolnay, 3yr
CZsolnay@hotmail.com
650-219-6110

To whom it
may Concern,

I am a student taking Para-legal courses at Skyline College. I also work part time at the admissions and records department under Dean Sherri Hancock.

I love my job (even though it doesn't pay much, someone has to do it!) and my classes (even the hard ones) and currently hold a 4.0 GPA!

Two years ago my life had no purpose. I was miserable, suicidal, and it was Not a good environment for my kids. I Never want to return to that place! Ever!

I have a 4 year old daughter attending Skyline Child Care Center. If it wasn't for the Center I could not attend classes, or work.

Please take into
consideration people
like me!!!

Thank You!

Kirstina D. Andersen

707 Circle Ct
South San Francisco, CA
94080

(415) 588-6712



S.P.A.C.E. SCCDC <space.sccdc@gmail.com>

ATTN: SKYLINE COLLEGE ADMIN

1 message

Irene Aviles <imaviles@sbcglobal.net>
To: space.sccdc@gmail.com

Tue, Oct 20, 2009 at 9:36 AM

My name is Irene Aviles, I was a single mom and a former graduate at Skyline College and Canada College. When I attended Skyline College my son Thomas was only 2 years old. I only had a GED and I was living in a hotel in San Francisco. I traveled two and a half hours on the bus each way everyday because Skyline was the only school that had space for my son at there center. My son Thomas had a great time there and was well prepared when he started kindergarten. Having the childcare available was a tremendous help to me. I would have not been able to go to attend school at all if the childcare was not available.

After I graduated from Skyline College I was able to get a job but I still didn't make enough money to get off of welfare, so I went back and enrolled in the medical assisting program at Canada College. Since I was still under the poverty level I was able to enroll my daughter Theresa who was 18 months at the Skyline College Children's Center. This was a great blessing for me because I was not able to take care of my family on the amount of money that I was making, before I got my billing and coding certificate. I was able to find a job while I was still taking courses at Canada in the medical field. I was still able to work and go to school only because I was able to have childcare for the daughter for both when I was working and finishing up my program.

I am now working as a medical biller for a 5 physician practice. I have been working for San Francisco Orthopaedic Surgeons Medical Group for over three years now and I am finally earning enough money that I was able to get off of welfare and move out of the hotel and move into a 2 bedroom apartment. I can finally say that I have become a productive member of society.

I would not have been able to accomplish all of this without the assistance of the Skyline Children's Center. They have me a chance to help myself so I can take care of my family with the assistance of the state. Please keep the Skyline Children's Center open so they can help families who want to help themselves

If you have any questions or would like to speak with me you can contact me at 415-794-1557 or by email at imaviles@sbcglobal.net

Sincerely

Irene Aviles

October 19, 2009

Dear Academic Senate, President Morrow, and Other Fellow SMCCD Colleagues,

I am writing this letter in regards to the recent budget cuts that are happening within our San Mateo County College District. I realize that during these troubled economic times there will always be the need to cut back on some programs. A short while ago there was an article in the Skyline Shines that talked about the Skyline College Children's Center as being a program that would possibly be cut. I was very saddened by this article not only for myself and my other five permanent full-time colleagues (that have been working together at the center for the past eleven years) but also for the families that we serve, and the students that we mentor.

Since I began at the center in April of 1999, I have seen hundreds of families utilize the services and obtain degrees because of the quality childcare that we provide. I love my job and feel good that I am able to provide such a valuable service to parents that are trying to improve their lives and their children's lives through education. I too, was a young single mom, who was able to get AS degree from Canada College by having my child attend the daycare center. Now I am working on my BA degree at San Francisco State. If it wasn't from the help and support from the childcare center, I may never have been able to stay in school.

Aside from the parents, the childcare center has also been used as a tool for many Early Childhood Classes, Psychology Classes, Environmental Design Classes, and ESL Classes. We have had hundreds of volunteers, mentees, and co-op students that have benefitted from hands on learning at the Children's Center. I see our entire program as a community of learners, children and adults learning together.

I would feel very sad for the countless number of families that have no childcare if our program was shut down. As it is every year we have to turn countless parents away because of our limited space. Many of these parents come to us desperate because they need an education, but have nobody to care for their children. Many of these parents are single parents and come from low income families.

As our economic crises continues and more and more families become affected by the shrinking community resources, I hope that we can survive and help those that have been laid off or are unable to find employment with the opportunity they need to get an education, and be able to transfer or receive the necessary training to gain employment.

Thank You,

Kristina Brower (Childcare Center Aide II)

October 22, 2009

To whom it may concern,

My name is Jan Gotera. I attend Skyline College as a full time student. I am a single mother seeking to better further my education. I have received my Certificate in Early Childhood Education and plan to complete my Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education in Spring 2009. At the present time I hold two jobs, one of which was awarded to me this year through the Federal Work Study. My desire to work at Skyline's Child Care Center is simply because it has given me an opportunity for hands on experience. The convenience of having the center on school grounds is a plus. I am able to attend my daily classes and go to work at the center without having to commute. Not only is it convenient but allows me to interact closely with staff members, teachers, and parents who are on the premises to discuss news and concerns. I have volunteered at a local school and also at a family daycare in the past, but working at the Skyline's Child Care Center is much more beneficial. Working at Skyline's Child Care Center has opened the door to a real life experience with a paid salary. As we all know when students complete their degrees, it is the experience that counts when seeking for work. Having the child care center available to students and parents is essential. Many students and parents seek opportunities to advance, without the child care center many will struggle for other means. I hope the closure of Skyline's Child Care Center will be reconsidered for further evaluation because it will definitely have a great impact for many. I hope there will be more students who can have the same opportunity as I have been given this year with the Federal Work Study program.

Thank you.
Jan Gotera
G00516887



October 21, 2009

To The Administration of Skyline,

My name is Nataliya Gamburg. I have been working as Head Teacher in Child Development center of Skyline College since 1998. In this role, I have supervised all teachers, students, and volunteers as well as still participating in every child's life and education that goes through our center. I've mentored students for nine years, averaging three students per semester. In my work with these students, I have observed and taught them. Some have had experience and some only knowledge and education. It has been my job to provide them with practical experience in their profession, and ethical and moral guidance to lead them to better understanding of their jobs.

Hundreds of families have gone through the center and have allowed me and my colleagues to be a part of their lives and the lives of their children. Myself and other staff have taught these kids and have been taught many lessons by them. However, this reciprocation has not been the only component of our work with the families. Another important part of our jobs has been the education we've provided to the parents of these kids. Some have accepted these lessons without hesitation, however some have resisted against our assistance. I have persisted through this resistance by maintaining a point to view that I am here to plant seeds; in some cases I will see the flowering and in some I will not. However, that does not stop me from sending out my message.

The message is what is compelling me to write this letter. I have always felt that the center has been a small but an important part of this college. Everything that has affected the college has affected the center as well. The center grows with the college. The staff and I grow with the center. And the families and children grow as a result of that. That is after all the most important point of our jobs, and of this letter; our children. They are truly the most important part of this work, and we cannot abandon them by abandoning the center. Thus in this small, yet important letter I am hoping I can reach out to the ones reading and instill some understanding of the aforementioned important work. I am hoping I can show you how important it is to keep our center, our jobs alive by briefly describing our work. I am hoping you will hear me and will want to know more about the way we change lives; the way you change lives by supporting our center.

Sincerely,

Nataliya Gamburg



Oct. 22, 2009

To Academic Senate, Vicki Morrow, Regina Stroud & SMCCD Colleagues:

I am writing this letter in regards to the current recommendation to eliminate the Child Development Center. A do not wish for the removal of the CDC because it is a vital resource for the educational advancement of many students. Like many of the student parents here, I too, returned to school as mother and was part of the EOPS program. My son at that time was 18 months and was in safe and convenient environment that supported my needs as a parent and EOPS student. I had come back to school in hopes of finding a career for myself and my family. I started as a parent here and believed in the philosophy of the school and the curriculum.

As a parent, I found a comfortable place to learn and grow with my child. This center provided me with experiences on how to be a better parent and Teacher. I learned to balance parenting, work, studying and the other things that life throws at you. I began my student Teaching here while my child was cared for by highly qualified professionals.

If it wasn't for this school, I would have not been able to succeed as far as I have gone. Now that I am a Teacher here, I look to advocate for programs that work to help families. Eliminating the Child Development Center would hurt so many families in the community. We serve many diverse families, looking to bridge our differences in child rearing and coming to compromise for the better of our children.

Shutting down the center would be detrimental to the college and the community. The college would be losing an approximately \$300,000 contract to help serve the families in the college community. Once we lose this money, it will be very hard to try to get this money for contracts back. Please do not shut this center. It is a place that many parents come to further their education while their children have a quality preschool experience.

Both my boys have gone on to Elementary School and part of their success in their classrooms has been because of the Center and what it provides. I know that many other children have benefitted from the program here at the Child Development Center. Please do not close us down.

Sincerely,

Michelle Mariano Amaral

Preschool Teacher & Former Parent

To: Whom It May Concern

I am a parent here at Skyline College Children's Center. I am writing this letter in regards to the daycare center here at Skyline College. I would like to see the children's center stay open for many years to come. Especially this semester and next semester Spring 2010. My child has been going to skyline children's center since he was 2 years old he is now 4 1/2 years old. I would hate for his final year to end so early without pre school and graduation from pre school with cap and gown. My son talks about graduating all the time, because he saw last year the ceremony at skyline college auditorium. Plus he has gotten use to the other children and teachers here at skyline college children's center. It will be very difficult for ~~my~~ ^{the} children pre school to end like this. Do not let the economy play a part in children's education and growing capacity, we will be hurting the children the most, parents, and teachers jobless. By my son having pre school it allows me to work full time and take one class here at skyline college. Also it is very affordable I would not be able to take my son any where else, I could not afford it. Please do not close the Children's Center here at skyline college children's development program. Remember we will be hurting innocent children who enjoys coming to school every day.



3300 COLLEGE DRIVE SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA 94066
650.738.4100 skylinecollege.net

Sincerely,

Belinda Wright (mother)
parent

my son name is Eric Thompson

G# 00800131

October 22, 2009

Dear Skyline College:

I am writing this letter due to the recent discussions of closing the Child Development Center at Skyline College.

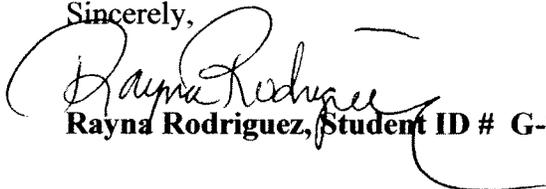
I have been a student at Skyline College since 1995. I have always considered Skyline College my "second home". In 2005, I was a full time student pursuing a career change from Real Estate to Early Childhood Education. I was a practicum student ECE 366 in 2005 and was placed at the Child Development Center at Skyline College. As a practicum student I was able to be part of the mentoring program at Skyline College CDC. I was able to apply my education with personally experiencing a "hands on" approach in the classroom. Skyline College Child Development Center helped me with child observations and classroom assignments by having the CDC on campus. In May of 2006, I completed my dream to achieve my AS degree in Early Childhood Education and graduated with honors.

In 2006 Skyline College CDC employed me full time as an Instructional Aide. I am a Teacher in the Caterpillar room teaching 2 and 3 year olds to begin their self help skills while their parent/s achieve their goals and accomplishments at the College. The parents are our clients and I feel the children are our lives.

As a parent of an adopted child at Skyline College Child Development Center, who lost her mother at the age of 18 months. I was able to bring my child to work with me and care for her under my supervision. It has been an enormous blessing to have Xochitl go to school on campus where I work. We have the greatest teachers here who actually care for the children with their hearts. The CDC offered counseling services and resources helping me deal with the death of my child's mother.

As an employee I feel if the CDC closes I would lose the concept of helping Skyline College's students achieve their educational goals and dreams. Parents and Students would not have to worry about transportation, as many of our parents and students are single and low income families. Having the Child Development Center on campus is a huge; I repeat a huge influence on the students of Skyline College's lives.

Sincerely,


Rayna Rodriguez, Student ID # G-00476272

October 21, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a parent of a 4 year old child currently attending SCCDC. This is his 3rd semester at the center. I also have a 2 year old daughter who will also be attending SCCDC in the spring semester of 2010.

My husband is currently attending full time at Skyline College to complete his undergrad classes to transfer to a University to obtain a BS Degree. The SCCDC has been a great help and play a very important roll in allowing my husband to get a good education so he can get a good job later on. Because of SCCDC's program, I have been able to comfortably work full time to support my husband and 2 children and not worry about finding a babysitter for my son. My husband has been able to take on full time semesters to focus on his education and is holding a 3.70 GPA, thanks to the service at SCCDC.

SCCDC has a great program and staff which has taught my son to develop into a very intelligent and well behaved child. They not just teach and develop my child but also teach and develop my husband and me on how to be great parents to our children.

The staffs at SCCDC are extremely great people who are really passionate about their job. They work very hard to utilize everything they have at the center to make SCCDC a great place for the children. I really appreciate all their hard work and dedications. The teachers at the centers have provided my son so much love and care which has taught him to obtain those skills to practice in everyday life as he grows.

I can not express in words how important this child developing center is important to my husband and I and also the other parents at Skyline College. Please allow these teachers to keep this center open so the students at Skyline who have children can comfortably focus on their education and their children can have a safe place to develop their skills as toddlers instead of playing at a babysitter's home.

Please keep SCCDC open to help Skyline Student get an education and our young children have a safe developing center to attend while their parents are getting an education.

Parent of SCCDC,

Jennifer Le

To Whom It May Concern,

I've been going to Skyline for about 3 years and I'm taking Early Childhood Education (ECE). I took Practicum with Kate Browne and my Mentor Teacher was Kristina one of the teachers at the Child Development Center (CDC). I've been working with children for a while but I needed to be observed at a school or center. So I started to work with the younger children and I learned so much from the teachers. For me as a student trying to find a job or volunteer is difficult and trying to find child care. This is my second semester at the Child Development Center and I'm volunteering trying to get more experience for my field of work. When you walk in the room you hear laughter and see smiling faces. You hear your name from the children and they run up to hug you. That's what I love about CDC that everyone is loving and caring. For the parents to drop off their children and go to school is great because they don't have to worry about their children. The parents know where their children are and can come to visit to see how they are. The children are so happy and they're learning so much from the CDC. If you decide to close the Child Development Center it would really hurt the children, the teachers, student teachers, the volunteers, the students, and the parents because there will be no where else to go. The children will miss the teachers and the parents would have to find another place to put their children. As a student a benefit from it because I want to become a Pre-school teacher and get hand on experience. Learn from the other teachers and work with the parents. I really think that you should reconsider your decision or chose because the Child Development Center is great and everyone would really miss having it. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely Yours,
Shannon Mizbud
600689753

Michelle Raley
708 Crane Ave
Foster City, Ca. 94404
650-273-3194
michellr@juno.com

Victoria P. Morrow Ph.D.
President of Skyline College
3300 College Dr.
San Bruno Ca. 94066

October 12, 2009

Dear Dr. Morrow,

I am quite distressed to hear about possible termination of Skyline's Child Development Center (CDC) due to budget cuts.

I was ecstatic to find when looking for a preschool for my son to find that Skyline College fit my needs to a T. It was a goal of mine to return to school so that I might become a preschool teacher in the future. Finding that I could go back to school years sooner has been such a relief for my family and I.

Without Skyline having a child development center for Guy, I would have had to wait approximately three or more years until he attends elementary school. This is far too long for me to not be working toward becoming a productive member of society and financially contributing to my family.

Due to the Skyline CDC's exceptional quality of staff and educational program for the children, my son Guy has made remarkable progress in his language and social skills. This has been of immeasurable value to not only Guy but to myself, who without the CDC would be homeschooling him due to his language delays. The support and guidance from the CDC has been an immense blessing.

Skyline's Child Development Center has also been instrumental in educating me as a parent and an Early Childhood Education (ECE) student. As a parent the staff is always ready and able to answer questions and talk about any parenting issues.

As an ECE student having an onsite CDC has been academically exceptional, being able to first hand see programs happening. To see in practice what I am learning about in the classroom and to talk to trained staff and educators first hand is been very inspirational.

Mentally being able to return to school has been a blessing to my well being. As a stay at home mom, adult time let alone time for school is non existent. Because Skyline College has a CDC for my preschooler, it has given me the breathing room to become an exceptional student, a better person and a better parent.

closing of the Child Development center - attention Dr. V. Morrow

vivian romney [vivianromney@hotmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2009 11:17 PM

To: Heldberg, Judy; Morrow, Victoria P.

Cc: Meadows, Margery L.; Browne, Kathryn; Floor, Penelope

Dear Dr. Morrow and Ms. Heldberg, Penelope Floor informed us that due to budget cuts the Child Development Center at Skyline is in jeopardy. AS a child care professional in the San Mateo School District I am aware of how important child care facilities are to our community. The center at Skyline is needed even more than most. First, as an ECE/Psych major, a location to observe children for both instructors and students is essential for professional development. Furthermore, the child care that the center provides makes it possible for students to attend college: a safe, close and affordable place to leave their children while they focus on securing their joint future through education. Thus, although other departments may be loath to lose funding, the immense importance of the Child Development Center should make it impervious to contemplations such as budget cuts.
Sincerely, Vivian Romney

Keep your friends updated— even when you're not signed in.

October 21, 2009

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter in complete shock of the news of the possibility of the day care being closed due to the budget crisis. I am completely devastated and horrified over this decision it would be very damaging not only to my education but also the effect on my son and how much he has overcome well he has been attending Skyline college Child Development Center.

"The President of the United States of America urges mothers to return to school and we have! Without this daycare center what will happen to our grades? Being a college student is stressful enough without having to deal with finding a daycare that is in this area. Most of us have to take public transportation which most of the time takes one hour to get to one destination I could not imagine trying to get my child to a different facility and make to classes on time. This campus is out of the way of any main business areas it would be almost impossible for me to continue my education let alone keep my job on campus.

This is unfair for everyone involved the children, us the students/parents, and the staff! The relief of being able to have less pressure by being able to bring my son to the campus with me has help my education I am a good student who continues to be predictive in making a difference in my life and others by participating in clubs, speaking on panels, holding a job on campus, and being an Ambassador for the Learning Center without Skyline CDC it would not be possible for me to achieve these goals. My son has a loving and caring environment that has helped him build his confidence, social skills, and behavior being close to me helps him feel secure and that helps both of us in our education. It would be a tremendous tragedy that would affect my life in the worst way.

Please keep the students in consideration when making such a life altering decision. There are students who volunteer here for their ECE classes which will affect their attending our school as well. So as a parent, student, and school employee I ask that you remember the goal is "EDUCATION" closing this site would damage that.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gina Guerrero". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and "G".

Gina Guerrero

To whom it may concern:

We encourage the decision making body to consider leaving the Child Develop Center open. Our daughter goes to the center for the past year, and she really enjoyed the staff and other children. My husband takes classes, and I work full here on campus in the payroll department. It is really convenient to drop her off at the center and goes into work. Furthermore, we see the drastic improvement with our daughter development. Her social skills with other children are better, and her comprehension skills are much more develop. We believe the CDC program is valuable for my daughter and for us.

We understand that you have a difficult decision to make, and we hope you can weight all the options before shutting down the center. Many families like ours will be affected by the closure. Thank you for taking the time to read our concerns.

Best regards,

Vivian, Winkle, and Cheyenne Paw

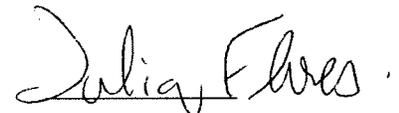
10-24-2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter because I want you to know how many lives of parents, children's and students would be affected if the Child Development Center would close, this decision would affect me to an extent that it would stop me from continuing my education.

I am a single mother of 5, and my youngest child is 4 years old and hopefully will graduate next May from preschool and go on to Kindergarten in the fall of 2010. If the center did not exist I can assure you that I would not be in school. The center is my only choice for my child to receive the adequate care he needs. My son has a speech delay and started in the center in January of 2008, his vocabulary was only 3 words. And now because of the social interactions he gets at the center and because of the help and love my son receives he now can talk in almost full sentences.

I could have never accomplished this without the Child Development Center; the teachers at the center are for me the only support that I have with my son. I am asking you to please keep the center open, it is vital for so many students and their families.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julia Flores".

Julia Flores

(650)271-7401

From: [vivian_romney](#)
To: [Heldberg, Judy](#); [Morrow, Victoria P.](#)
Cc: [Meadows, Margery L.](#); [Browne, Kathryn](#); [Floor, Penelope](#)
Subject: closing of the Child Development center - attention Dr. V. Morrow
Date: Thursday, October 22, 2009 11:17:51 PM

Dear Dr. Morrow and Ms. Heldberg, Penelope Floor informed us that due to budget cuts the Child Development Center at Skyline is in jeopardy. AS a child care professional in the San Mateo School District I am aware of how important child care facilities are to our community. The center at Skyline is needed even more than most. First, as an ECE/Psych major, a location to observe children for both instructors and students is essential for professional development. Furthermore, the child care that the center provides makes it possible for students to attend college: a safe, close and affordable place to leave their children while they focus on securing their joint future through education. Thus, although other departments may be loath to lose funding, the immense importance of the Child Development Center should make it impervious to contemplations such as budget cuts.

Sincerely, Vivian Romney

Keep your friends updated— [even when you're not signed in.](#)

From: [Floor, Penelope](#)
To: [Heldberg, Judy](#)
Cc: [Browne, Kathryn](#)
Subject: FW: Skyline CDC
Date: Friday, October 23, 2009 3:24:17 PM

From: LATIFA RASHID [latifarashid2506@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2009 6:10 PM
To: lalvar40@mysmccd.edu
Cc: Floor, Penelope
Subject: Skyline CDC

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to let you know how important the Skyline CDC is to me and what a big part of Skyline College I believe it is. The Skyline CDC has not only provided day care for my child, but it has also provided a place for me to observe children for several of my ECE classes and I am also doing my student teaching there for the semester.

First, I would like to say that the staff at the Skyline CDC is wonderful and they are running an excellent program for the children who are attending. It is terrific that such a great program is available for the children, especially because if it did not exist, the children probably would not be receiving any type of preschool education. From what I have been learning, I know that preschool education has been proven to be very important for children due to the requirements of Kindergarten these days. Children who attend preschool are more likely to succeed in Kindergarten because they will have learned the readiness skills needed to attend. Therefore, we have to keep the Skyline CDC available for the children that need it.

Second, I would like to say that if the Skyline CDC was not available this semester, I probably would not have been able to attend school. The reason for this is because it provided a place for my daughter to be while I attend my classes and complete my student teaching. Because of my busy schedule, I do not have time to do my student teaching at any other sight, so I put in my hours before and after my classes. What I am trying to say is that the CDC does not only provide care for the children of Skyline students and staff, but it is also a place for students to expand their knowledge in Child Development. If the center was not there, then many students would probably not be able to complete most of their assignments from their ECE classes. Due to the convenient location, we are able to complete many tasks that would be difficult to complete if the Skyline CDC did not exist.

Thankfully, the CDC is available to me this semester and I am able to go about my studies. Because of the fact that I am doing my student teaching there and because my daughter is able to attend, I will receive my degree by December and my daughter will have expanded her knowledge as well. Had the CDC not been available, I would have probably postponed my student teaching for another semester, which would have prolonged completing my requirements to receive my degree. Please do not close down the sight and let it be available for the many ECE students who will be attending Skyline College. The Skyline CDC is beneficial to the children attending, the parents of the children, and the ECE majors at Skyline. If the CDC is shut down, then many people will be negatively affected, and some probably will not be able to attend school.

Thank You,
Latifa Rashid

From: marirose_borgonia
To: floor@smccd.edu
Cc: jheldberg@smccd.edu; [Meadows, Margery L.](#)
Subject: Addressed to Dr. Victoria Morrow
Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2009 10:20:26 AM

To: Dr. Victoria Morrow

I hope we can still keep our class in Child Development.
We are so happy to have this class and we learn a lot about in this
class. and I am happy to recommend this class in our employer so that a lot of teachers
need this course and they get a lot of Ideas from Child dev.

Thank's

Marirose Borgonia