



PRESS RELEASE

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Economic Vitality Corporation
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501(c)(3) non-profit

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Economic Vitality Corporation Launches COVID-19 Supply Drive to Benefit SLO County Child Care Providers

The Economic Vitality Corporation (EVC) of San Luis Obispo County, in collaboration with First 5 SLO County, Child Care Planning Council SLO County and the Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County (CAPSLO), is establishing a COVID-19 relief supply drive that will commence with immediate effect and run through January 27, 2021. This supply drive is intended to and will benefit more than 290 local child care programs, licensed to serve over 6000 children, that are experiencing devastating losses and mounting costs due to the pandemic.

The EVC's goal for the supply drive is to provide each of our local child care programs, regardless of size, with critical resources they need to effectively and safely run their child care operations during the pandemic. Top priority items are:

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|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| disinfectant | hand sanitizers | glue | non-contact thermometers |
| disinfectant wipes | toilet paper | child safe paint | cloth masks |
| gloves | paper towels | paper of all types | |
| hand soap | | | |

Donations can be dropped off at one of the community partner locations listed below or you may call Shana Paulson at 805-440-2082 or email her at spaulson@capslo.org to make arrangements. All donations are tax deductible and will be distributed to SLO County child care programs through CAPSLO. Those interested in making a monetary contribution in addition to or in lieu of making donations of supplies can visit <https://capslo.org/donation-ccrc/>.

“Childcare is a two-generation workforce issue, essential to support the workforce of today and vital to develop our workforce of tomorrow. Parents rely on childcare to help them enter, re-enter, or remain in the workforce, but access to affordable, quality childcare is hard to come by. Now due to the COVID-19 pandemic, families are experiencing additional challenges and finding childcare is nearly impossible.... For those [child care] businesses that are open, they now have increased operational costs to keep children and

staff safe but greatly reduced revenue due to capacity limitations. Parents are trying to balance childcare and work, childcare providers are trying to stay open or re-open with an unsustainable new business model, and employers are trying to determine how and when their working parents can return to work.” US Chamber Foundation. www.uschamberfoundation.org/reports/covid-19-impact-childcare

“The support of the business community is meaningful and contributes to the viability of child care programs as well as the health, safety, and education of our community’s children,” Shana Paulson, Children Services Manager, Community Action Partnership of SLO County.

One of our board members, Z Naccasha, who is passionate about the availability of child care in SLO County, observed that “our community has always been a caring and responsive one! Our businesses all have employees/parents with children who have struggled with balancing work and family obligations with safety protocols and remote learning. More than ever, these business leaders now profoundly understand the impact that the availability of child care has on their and their employees’ families, our local economy, and our Central Coast quality of life. The pandemic has only intensified our child care needs, and we at the EVC, in collaboration with First 5 SLO County, Child Care Planning Council SLO County and CAPSLO, have been working closely with local government agencies, non-profits and private sector companies in order to brainstorm new paths and opportunities toward assisting child care programs in our community. Anything that you can do to help with this supply drive will help address important needs in the child care sector, and will be incredibly appreciated by these great people who care for our children. Thank you for your consideration and for your help!”

Drop off locations:

CAPSLO –CCRC Office 805-A Fiero Lane San Luis Obispo M-F, 9am-4pm	SLO Chamber of Commerce 895 Monterey Street San Luis Obispo 7 days a week, 10am-5pm	SESLOC Federal Credit Union 380 El Camino Real Atascadero M-F, 10am-4pm
SESLOC Federal Credit Union 1399 Grand Ave. Arroyo Grande M-F, 10am-4pm	SESLOC Federal Credit Union 705 Golden Hill Rd Paso Robles, CA 93446 M-F, 10am-4pm	SESLOC Federal Credit Union 3807 Broad Street San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 M-F, 10am-4pm

ABOUT US -- Established in 1994, the Economic Vitality Corporation (EVC) serves all of SLO County as a non-profit economic development organization. We are committed to stimulating the region’s economic vitality by creating jobs, fostering investment, and promoting business. (805) 788-2012 www.sloevc.org