



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Kidango Receives Grant from East Bay Community Foundation**

**May 26, 2009** - Kidango, a Bay Area Leader in Early Childhood Education and Development, received a grant for \$17,075 to provide training and support to teachers and mental health clinicians at Kidango.

The East Bay Community Foundation is a leading resource for mobilizing financial resources and community leadership to transform the lives of people in the East Bay with pressing needs. One of the foundation's goals is to support children to succeed: preparing children at both pre-school and school-age levels to succeed with a focus on the critical period of birth to third grade.

Kidango shares the East Bay Community Foundations passion for supporting children during their most critical years in life by providing quality services to children that prepare them for future success. Kidango has been a Bay Area leader in child development since 1979 and serves 2,500 children in our quality preschool, school age, infant care, Head Start, early intervention, mental health and family child care home education programs.

This grant will allow Kidango to provide training and support to the teachers and mental health clinicians on their staff. Kidango will provide *Incredible Years Teacher Training Program* and the *Incredible Years Dina Curriculum* training and support to Kidango teachers and mental health clinicians in Union City, Fremont and Newark.

The *Incredible Year's Teacher Training Program*, a 32 hour workshop, emphasizes classroom management skills such as the effective use of attention given to children, praise and encouragement, incentives for difficult behavior problems, proactive teaching strategies, and ways to manage inappropriate classroom behavior and build positive relationships with students. The *Dina Curriculum*, the *Incredible Years* structured curriculum for children, emphasizes communicating feelings, empathy for others, friendship development, anger management, interpersonal problem solving and obedience of school rules.

Through the new partnership between the East Bay Community Foundation and Kidango, Kidango will be able to provide support, focus groups, refresher training and supplies to approximately 248 teachers and clinicians in Union City, Fremont and Newark. They will also provide new training to 35 – 44 new teachers and clinicians. These trainings will benefit approximately 1,333 children annually in these three cities.

For more information please contact Leigh Corrigan-Owens, Kidango Development Coordinator; 510.897-6920 or [lcorrigan@kidango.org](mailto:lcorrigan@kidango.org)

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**About Kidango**

Kidango began as Tri-Cities Children's Centers in 1979. At inception there were only 90 children and families being served at one center in Fremont. Today more than 2,500 children and their families benefit from the Kidango programs in Alameda, Santa Clara, and San Francisco Counties. As a leader in early education, early intervention, mental health, and before and after school services, this public benefit organization has a long history of working closely with the California Department of Education Child Development Division, Regional Centers and Head Start programs to provide quality services for children ages 0-10. For further information about the agency contact Kidango at 1-800-262-4252 or visit us on the web at [www.kidango.org](http://www.kidango.org).