



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

CONNIE BRUNN, DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department Plans Awareness Month Activities

The San Bernardino County Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) will observe Child Support Awareness Month during August with an expanded presence in the community.

Governor Jerry Brown issued a letter recognizing the month as Child Support Awareness Month. The focus of Child Support Awareness Month 2012 is the vital role parents play in providing a positive environment for their children. The theme this year is, "Child support provides security, instills confidence, maintains trust, and helps to make childhood dreams come true."

During the month of August, parents who are past due on their child support payments are encouraged to drop by their local child support agency to make a payment, modify their child support order, obtain a repayment plan, and/or find out whether they qualify for a compromise on the overdue balance.

DCSS will participate in a number of activities this month to educate the community about the department and services for families. Staff will be participating in community outreach events and in a radio broadcast, and the department will display street banners in the cities of Loma Linda and Ontario.

The highlight of the awareness month activities will be Wednesdays with DCSS. Each Wednesday in August, the department will host representatives from different community agencies in the Loma Linda office. While customers wait to meet with Child Support staff, they will have the chance to meet with staff from other San Bernardino County Departments and agencies that also provide family services.

Visit the department's website at hss.sbcounty.gov/DCSS or its Facebook page at facebook.com/SanBernardinoCountyDCSS to learn which agencies will be represented at the department.

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“These events allow us to more effectively meet the needs of customers by providing them with additional resources that may assist them in meeting their families’ needs,” said Director Connie Brunn. “I am so proud of this department and the work we do. Child Support Awareness Month is a time for us to educate the community about the many ways we are here to serve families.”

DCSS operates the County’s local Child Support Enforcement Program. DCSS locates absent parents, establishes paternity, establishes orders for monetary support and medical support pursuant to state guidelines, and enforces those obligations. Department offices are located in Loma Linda, Victorville and Ontario. The department is responsible for a caseload of approximately 117,000 cases with annual collections exceeding \$160 million.

DCSS is doing its part to help the community achieve the Countywide Vision by ensuring residents have the resources they need to provide the necessities of life to their families. Information on the Countywide Vision can be found at www.sbcounty.gov/vision.