The Changing Face of Child Support

Strengthening and Supporting Families

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The child support program was initially established in 1975 to recover welfare benefits paid to families on public assistance. In the past three decades the original goals of the child support program have changed and evolved into a powerful anti–poverty program.

Just as child support has changed over time, so has the structure of the American family. Families today look very different when compared to their counterparts of 1975 in composition, needs and goals. One thing hasn't changed though, and that is the value of the family to the healthy development of children.

In hosting The *Changing Face of Child Support*, the County of Los Angeles Child Support Services Department will bring together experts from a variety of disciplines to answer the question: "*How can child support be a catalyst to help families?*" Federal Child Support Commissioner Vicki Turetsky will start the day sharing her vision relative to this question.

The agenda will provide ample opportunity for discussion among over 200 representatives from academic institutions, social service organizations and governmental entities. Collaboration between forum participants should lead to the development of additional interventions to help families across California and the nation.

Lastly, from a logistical perspective, forum participants will be treated to an oasis in the heart of downtown Los Angeles. The California Endowment is a state-of-the-art facility that opens its doors to organizations focusing on improving the quality of life for children and families.

We invite your participation. For additional information, please contact Forum Chair Lori Cruz at (323) 889-3410.