

# THE COLLECTIVE EXPRESS

## A Non-Profit Organization

Spring 2023

#### **Caring for Kids Since '72**



#### Jackie Kimbrough, Ph.D. Executive Director



## **Mission Statement:**

To improve life outcomes for children, youth and their families in South Los Angeles by providing high quality, comprehensive, educational and support services.

The Children's Collective, Inc. continuously enrolls for infant, toddler, full-day and part-day preschool programs. Call 310-352-4486.

## Locations

The Children's Collective, Inc. has 14 locations in the following communities:

- Greater Crenshaw
- Exposition/Los Angeles
- Manchester/Vermont
- Hawthorne

We serve approximately 5,000 children, youth, and families each year.

## BIH HOSTS CENDER-REVEAL BABY SHOWER

Earlier this year, BIH hosted a baby shower for prenatal and postpartum women. The prenatal women were treated to a Gender Reveal through free 3D Ultrasound provided by Baby's 1st Pic Mobile services.

These moms-to-be were delighted to learn the genders of their babies. All moms and moms-to-be received client support services and gifts for themselves and their infants. Gifts included diaper bags, baby clothing, receiving blankets, bassinets motivational books, and spa sets.





The Child and Adult Care Food Program promotes adventurous palates by encouraging children to taste new foods. To celebrate Read Across America, the Food Program created a hands on activity which visually represented two books the children were reading: Dr. Seuss' Cat in The Hat and Green Eggs and Ham.

The activity encouraged creativity and confidence as the children measured, counted and followed a sequence in assembling the snacks, which were a delicious treat!



## VITA - VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE



The Children's Collective, Inc.'s FamilySource Center (FSC) is operating a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program for the 2023 Tax Season, offering free tax preparation. Eligible community members don't pay to have their taxes prepared but can still claim tax credits, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). For the community's convenience, tax preparation services are available for extended hours on Monday and Wednesday evenings, as well as Saturdays.

TheFSCalsoprovides additional support services, such as case management, financial literacy classes, and access to free or low-cost bank accounts, to help clients become financially selfsufficient. If you or anyone you know is interested in receiving free tax preparation assistance or would like additional information, please contact us at (323) 789-4717.

# CALFRESH HEALTHY LIVING: CROW IT, TRY IT, LIXE IT?



In February, health educators from the CalFresh Healthy Living program began teaching gardening lessons at all TCCI childcare sites using the Grow It, Try It, Like It! curriculum for preschoolers. Each set of lessons contains hands-on activities, planting activities, and nutrition education activities that introduce MyPlate.

We encourage children to explore fruits and vegetables: to plant them, harvest them, learn how they grow and how they taste. And the health benefit is that increased consumption of fruit and vegetables is associated with the reduced risk of many chronic diseases, including heart disease, obesity and some types of cancer.

## PRESCHOOLERS CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY

Preschoolers each child at development site celebrated Black History Month, as instructional staff taught children about notable African Americans from the past and present, and celebrated their many accomplishments.

Pictured to the right are children from Casa Dominguez site representing Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman and other key figures and professions.

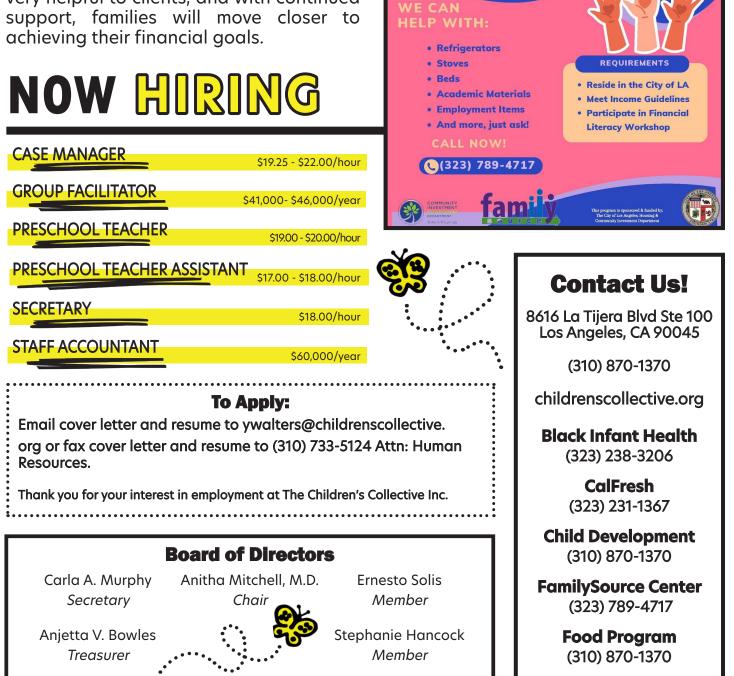






Through its new Essential Items program, clients meet with a Financial Coach to learn about budgeting, reducing debt, and credit repair. Within 2 months, TCCI has provided financial literacy workshops and assisted 27 households with obtaining refrigerators, dressers, beds, school uniforms, and shoes for youth.

The Essential Items Program has been very helpful to clients, and with continued



Help Guidance

Service Support

Advise

Essential

Support

Program

receive help with essential

Items