

For Immediate Release
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CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH – AUGUST 2019

Eastern Sierra Department of Child Support Services is reaching out to the community and sharing information about its services through many activities in August. These activities are part of the annual national celebration of Child Support Awareness Month, or CSAM, in August. CSAM highlights the crucial role that child support services play in improving the lives of families and children throughout the State and nation.

The agency will be asking the Inyo County Board of Supervisors to help kick off CSAM 2019 by adopting a proclamation declaring August Child Support Awareness Month and honoring the professionals who work to support the families and children of Inyo and Mono County. “Children need their parents’ support and we help make that a reality by working with parents to establish paternity, obtain medical health insurance orders, and child support orders,” Regional Director Susanne Rizo, states. “Child Support Awareness Month gives us an opportunity to share information about our services and connect with the community and families that we serve.”

Child Support staff will be available at several events to celebrate CSAM in August including:

- August 9, 2019 Owens Valley Career Development Center’s Back to School Event from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. located at the Bishop Paiute Cultural Center.
- August 11, 2019 Healthy Communities and RCA Church Back to School Event from 10:30 -1:30 p.m. located at the RCA Church in Lone Pine.
- August 23, 2019 Child Support Financial Workshop from 11:00 a.m.to 1:00 p.m. located at the Bishop City Council Chambers. Child Support staff will provide a financial workshop for anyone owing past due child. “This opportunity will assist persons owing support in making payment plans or developing strategies top help them reduce the child support debt they carry,” Rizo states. Payment plan samples, mediation services available, and information and assistance with applying to the Compromise of Arrears Program (COAP) for forgiveness of past due support owed to the State of California will be provided.

The family services community is also invited to attend a Paternity Opportunity Program Training on August 28th from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the U.S. Forest Service Office, Main Conference Room. Presenter Tori House, POP Analyst with the State Department of Child Support Services, will provide training to health providers, social services agencies and

other community partners about the importance of establishing paternity for minors born out of wedlock. The public is welcomed to attend with a RSVP. Light refreshments will be provided. To participate please contact Amy Weurdig at (760)872-1153.

For more information, call 866-901-3212, view our website at www.inyocouny.us/css

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