



California
Department of
Child Support
Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**GOVERNOR PROCLAIMS AUGUST 2006 AS
"CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH"
*Kids + Parents = A Brighter Future***

SACRAMENTO – Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger today proclaimed August 2006 as Child Support Awareness Month, reminding Californians that children need the love and support of both parents.

"During Child Support Awareness Month, I urge Californians to consider how vital children are to our state's future and to work together to create a rich and nurturing environment that will benefit them for the rest of their lives," said Gov. Schwarzenegger.

Added Greta Wallace, director of the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS), "The well-being of California's children and families is our first priority. Child support dollars can provide the basics, but children also need our time and commitment. Every day child support professionals at the state and local levels are focused on one goal: helping children thrive."

Part of DCSS' Child Support Awareness Month celebration is the release of its strategic plan. Developed in partnership with local child support agencies and with input from various stakeholders and advocacy groups, the plan outlines the goals and objectives of the child support program over the next four years.

DCSS will also be airing radio public service announcements in English and Spanish throughout the month of August reminding parents that *"It's Simple: Kids + Parents = A Brighter Future."*

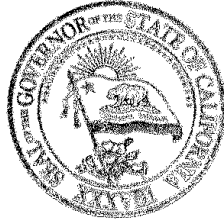
Children have the right to be supported by both parents—financially, medically and emotionally. The child support program is committed to ensuring that California's children are given every opportunity to obtain these rights in a fair and consistent manner throughout the state. In 2005, the program collected \$2.3 billion and served more than two million children.

Child support program services are delivered through 52 local child support agencies that offer many services to parents free of charge, including providing assistance in locating a parent; establishing paternity; establishing, modifying and enforcing a court order for child support; and establishing, modifying and enforcing an order for health coverage.

Together with county child support agencies, DCSS will celebrate Child Support Awareness Month at a series of locally sponsored events and activities promoting the positive impacts of child support upon the lives of more than two million California children. For more information or to view DCSS' strategic plan, log on to <http://www.childsup.ca.gov/>.

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PROCLAMATION

California's children are our most precious resource, and their well-being is essential to the state's continued strength. Ensuring a brighter future for our kids requires time, resources and most importantly, parental involvement.

Child Support Awareness Month serves as a reminder that California's child support program is not only about dollars and cents, but also about providing a firm foundation for our kids' well-being. By promoting positive relationships and providing support services, the program puts children first, helping parents make an investment in the lives of nearly two million children in 2005 alone. Last year, more than \$2.3 billion in child support payments were collected in California, providing greater financial security and stability for children and their families.

During Child Support Awareness Month, I urge Californians to consider how vital children are to our state's future and to work together to create a rich and nurturing environment that will benefit them for the rest of their lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim August 2006, as "Child Support Awareness Month."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have here unto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 16th day of August 2006.



Handwritten signature of Arnold Schwarzenegger in black ink.

Arnold Schwarzenegger
GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA
Attest:

Handwritten signature of Bruce McPherson in black ink.

Bruce McPherson
SECRETARY OF STATE