

Ensuring quality care and education leads to healthy, achieving children. Research shows that children who receive quality early care and education are more likely to graduate high school, go to college, and own a home; and are less likely to need special interventions, and experience juvenile delinquency. Make a commitment to choose the best care for your children!

QUALITY CARE MATTERS!

▶ HEAD START

Head Start has four sites in Lake County: Lakeport, Upper Lake and two in Clearlake, serving children 3-5 years of age in full- or part- day preschool settings, depending upon location. The program is free for income-qualifying families.

For information: 462-3403, ext. 121

Migrant and Seasonal Head Start is located in Kelseyville and provides services to children 0-5 who have parents that work in agriculture. They have extended hours of service and are open May-November.

For information: 279-1022

▶ STATE PRESCHOOL

Lake County Office of Education Child Development Division offers part-day educational preschool programs - Early Connection Preschools - on the campuses of several elementary schools throughout the county: Middletown, Lakeport, Kelseyville, Lower Lake, Clearlake, and Lucerne, serving children 3-5 years of age in a part-day preschool setting. The program is free to those who qualify or there is a sliding scale for parent fees based on parent income.

For information: 263-4563 or www.lakecoe.org and search for "Child Development"

The Learning House offers a full-day preschool program in a park-like setting in Clearlake. The program is free or reduced for income-qualifying families.

For information: 995-2076

Yuba Child Development Center offers a part-day preschool program conveniently located onsite at the Yuba College Clear Lake Campus, open to students and non-student families alike. The program is free or reduced for income-qualifying families.

For information: 995-7909



▶ FAMILY CHILD CARE

There are many licensed family child care homes throughout Lake County, serving children from 6 weeks through school-age, depending on the program. Rates and services vary per location. Many family child care homes offer excellent programs and flexibility for families.

For a list of family child care homes that meet your needs, contact North Coast Opportunities, Resource and Referral at 263-4688, ext. 13.

▶ EARLY HEAD START

Early Head Start is located in Lakeport and provides care for children 6 weeks to 3 years of age in a full-day, year-round child development center. This program is free for those who qualify. A home-based option for children ages 0-3 and expectant mothers is also available. Weekly home visits are provided to assist parents with educational information, activities, community resources and services.

For information: 279-0563 or www.lakefrco.org

▶ HILLCREST HOUSE/TODDLER HOUSE

Located in Clearlake, these programs offer specialized state-funded programs for children age 6 weeks through 3 years. The program is free or reduced for income-qualifying families.

For information: 995-2076



▶ PRIVATE CENTERS

There are a number of private programs available throughout Lake County as well, including:

Coyote Valley Preschool in Hidden Valley Lake, Alphabet Soup Preschool in Middletown, Sugar Pine Preschool in Cobb, Lakeport Christian Center Preschool in Lakeport, Big Valley Rancheria in Lakeport, Tribal Health in Lakeport, and Robinson Rancheria in Nice. Additionally, ASPIRE offers a program for children ages 0-3 at the Hance Education Center in Lakeport. Programs and services vary depending on the center.

To find out more about the private centers listed above or other programs in your area, contact the center directly, or call North Coast Opportunities, Resource and Referral at 263-4688.

▶ AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Lake County Office of Education Child Development Division offers after school programs at school sites throughout Lake County. These programs offer special activities and homework support, and are free or reduced for income-qualifying families.

For information: 263-4563 or www.lakecoe.org and search for "Child Development"

Lakeport Unified School District offers after school programs for Kindergarten-3rd grade, and 4-6 grade located on the school campus.

For information: 262-3015

Lake County is also home to several Tribal After School Programs. Use the contact information below to find out specific information and eligibility requirements:

Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake 275-0737 x15 | Big Valley Rancheria Education Center 263-5277

Middletown Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians 987-3670 | Native American Education Center 263-8382