



California
Department of
Child Support
Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AUGUST 2009 PROCLAIMED AS “CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH” BY GOVERNOR

***Keeping Children And Families On The Road To Financial Self-Sufficiency –
California’s Child Support Program Helps Parents Support Their Children***

SACRAMENTO – Today, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger proclaimed August 2009 Child Support Awareness Month, serving as a reminder to parents that child support is crucial to the financial security and well-being of 1.8 million children and families statewide.

“Being a parent is a wonderful gift, but also a tremendous responsibility,” stated Governor Schwarzenegger. “Our youth will be the leaders of tomorrow for our state and the world. We must strive to build a strong foundation for our children’s future. One way both parents can have the opportunity to contribute to their kid’s success is through child support.”

“During Child Support Awareness Month we are taking the opportunity to reach out to parents who are having difficulty making child support payments,” added Jan C. Sturla, Director of the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS). “California’s child support program is an important resource for parents who pay child support and those receiving child support.”

DCSS in partnership with local child support offices statewide and the Child Support Directors Association (CSDA) are promoting, the “Get Back on the Road Again” campaign during the month of August. Individuals who have had their driver license suspended for nonpayment of child support may be able to buy it back through their local child support office. Getting individuals back on track to paying child support consistently is the major focus of the “Get Back on the Road Again” campaign.

To learn more about the program, individuals are encouraged to contact their local child support office by calling toll-free (866) 901-3212 or on the web at www.childsup.ca.gov. The California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is helping to promote the program by posting “Get Back on the Road Again” information in 169 DMV field offices statewide.

Children have the right to be supported by both parents – financially, medically and emotionally. State and local child support program staff are committed to ensuring that California’s children are given every opportunity to obtain these rights uniformly throughout the state. In 2008, the program collected \$2.3 billion and served more than 1.8 million children.

Child support program services are delivered through a network of county and regional child support agencies that offer many services to parents at no cost, 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. For more information or to view DCSS’ strategic plan, log on to www.childsup.ca.gov

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PROCLAMATION

Being a parent is a wonderful gift, but also a tremendous responsibility. Our youth are the next leaders of our state and world, and we must strive to build a strong foundation for our children's future. One way both parents can have the opportunity to contribute to their kids' success is through child support.

California's child support program is the largest in the nation, with more than fifty separate local agencies throughout our state forging strong partnerships with their communities. These organizations assist more than 1.8 million youth each year, while also connecting parents to valuable resources and helping many families achieve financial stability. By collaborating with parents and guardians, the Department of Child Support Services ensures that kids' basic needs, living expenses and health coverage are provided for so that they can thrive.

Child support plays an important part in the lives of many families. This month, I join Californians in recognizing the coalition of parents and child support professionals who are committed to putting our children first.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim August 2009, as "Child Support Awareness Month."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 27th day of July 2009.

Handwritten signature of Arnold Schwarzenegger in black ink.

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor of California

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of Debra Bowen in blue ink.

DEBRA BOWEN
Secretary of State

