




Date: April 5, 2023

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager 

From: Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services 
Cathy De Leon, Director of Library Services 

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: 5th Annual Celebration of the Young Child

On Saturday, April 29, 2023, the City of Long Beach (City) will host the 5th Annual Celebration of the Young Child. The event will be held at Lincoln Park from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This free event will be hosted by the Health and Human Services Department's (Health Department) Early Childhood Education Program (ECEP) and the Long Beach Public Library, in collaboration with the Mayor's Fund for Education.

The event will focus on children ages 0 – 8 years of age, but families of all ages are welcome to attend. In previous years, more than 1,000 families attended the celebration. Over 40 organizations will be present to share resources and build relationships. Children will have many opportunities throughout the event to learn, explore and play through hands-on activities, sensory engagement, and age-appropriate games. Attendees will enjoy live performances by bilingual children's music artist, Nathalia, and a wealth of information will be available on keeping their children healthy and thriving.

During the event, free parking will be available at the Civic Center Parking Lot (332 W. Broadway, Long Beach, CA 90802) located next to the Billie Jean King Library. In partnership with LAZ Parking, the Health Department will provide free shuttle transportation from the Brett Harte, Mark Twain and Michelle Obama branch libraries to the event. Shuttles will run on the hour starting at 10:00 am. The last shuttle will leave the Billie Jean King Library at 2:00 pm.

In October 2018, the ECEP, in partnership with the Mayor's Fund and the Long Beach Early Childhood Education Committee, launched the City's Early Childhood Education Strategic Plan (ECE Plan). The ECE Plan was created to ensure that all families and young children in Long Beach have equitable access to the programs and supports they seek, and to provide a road map for Long Beach's early childhood system to continue to advance and promote access to high-quality services and supports for all families.

Recent census data reports that there are more than 34,000 children under the age of eight residing in Long Beach. The Celebration of the Young Child is just one way the City is working to support Long Beach's youngest residents and their families. For more information, please contact Gaby Acosta, Early Childhood and Education Program Specialist, at (562) 570-4333.

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