

March 27, 2018

Long Beach Hosts First Celebration of The Young Child

On April 14, 2018, the City of Long Beach will host its first Celebration of the Young Child as part of the Department of Health and Human Services' Early Childhood Education Program (ECEP). This free, one-day event will be held at Long Beach State University ([1250 Bellflower Blvd.](#)), from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. A focus will be placed on children up to age six. However, all families from across the City are welcome to attend.

Attendees are advised to enter the event from Atherton Street. Parking is free for the first 200 cars in Lot E1. After the first 200 cars, the fee for parking is eight dollars per car.

"Nothing is more important than helping young children get a good start in life," said Mayor Robert Garcia. "The Celebration of the Young Child is one of many ways the City is working with its partners to promote early learning and healthy development in our community."

According to recent Census data, over 34,000 children up to age six, live in Long Beach. This event celebrates the importance of the early years of life by providing children who attend with various educational and fun hands-on activities, while also providing their families with information on how to support their learning and overall well-being. Over 50 different City and County departments, and local organizations and agencies will be hosting resource and activity booths.

"We know that when kids do well in their early years, they are much more likely to be successful in the future," said Kelly Colopy, Director of the Department of Health and Human Services. "The Celebration of the Young Child provides great, hands-on fun and learning to help children dream up possibilities."

This event is made possible through partnerships with The Mayor's Fund for Education, The College Promise, the Long Beach Early Childhood Education Committee, and through generous sponsorships from The Port of Long Beach, Boeing, and The Children's Clinic.

The Celebration of the Young Child kicks off the local observance of national Week of the Young Child. Various early childhood education locations throughout the City will host activities associated with National Association for the Education of Young Children's yearly celebration. This year, the City's ECEP has collaborated with other departments and organizations to host events across the City.

For the listing of other Week of The Young Child activities, please visit the ECEP's Facebook page at, <https://www.facebook.com/LBHealthECEP/> or call [562.570-4000](tel:562.570.4000).

About Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services

The mission of the Long Beach Department of Health & Human Services is to improve quality of life by promoting a safe and healthy community in which to live, work and play. Long Beach Health is one of only three city-run health departments in California, allowing for better engagement with its people, neighborhoods, businesses and community partners, and a greater understanding of the City's strengths and needs. For more information, visit us at www.longbeach.gov/health, "Like" us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

