



IMPERIAL COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE PRESS RELEASE

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Child Support Directors Association honors Kern, Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino County Departments of Child Support Services with 2021 Positive Collaboration Award

July 23, 2021 – The County of Imperial is proud to announce that the Child Support Director's Association (CSDA) has honored the Kern, Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino County Departments of Child Support Services with the 2021 Positive Collaboration Award.

The four local child support agencies (LCSA) that oversee the establishment and enforcement of child support for their respected counties are being honored for their Southern Inland Region Child Support Collaborative (SIRC). The project began with a website to introduce SIRC to the public, and in November 2019, SIRC held its first joint employer workshop in San Bernardino County that saw over 25 employers in attendance.

In 2020, a second workshop was held virtually, and an email campaign was utilized to help market the event. The four counties advertised through their websites, county emails, digital billboards, and social media. The digital outreach was imperative to making the workshop come to fruition, as most businesses were closed due to the pandemic. The event was a huge success with several large companies and organizations attending virtually from other states and Mexico. Since its publication, employers have viewed the workshop over 1,200 times.

“The Imperial County Board of Supervisors is extremely proud of our Department of Child Support Services, Director Barraza, and her staff in continuing to serve the residents and families of our Imperial County despite the challenges we have all experienced over the past year,” stated Chairman of the Imperial County Board of Supervisors, Michael Kelley.

In the Fall of 2020, SIRC Learning Community Calls (LCC) was launched to focus on specific topics of discussion, such as best practices during COVID-19 and improving collections. The collaboration of ideas to help further their integration as a collective has been an excellent opportunity to continue to build upon the SIRC partnership.

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"We appreciate being recognized by the Child Support Directors Association for our efforts in forming SIRC along with the counties of Kern, San Bernardino, and Riverside," stated Liza Barraza, Director of Imperial County Department of Child Support Services. "Given that this is the first time Imperial DCSS has received an award from the CSDA, we feel deeply honored and want to reiterate our commitment to the families we serve."

"We are honored to celebrate the LCSAs that participated in the Southern Inland Region Child Support Collaborative," said Greg Wilson, Executive Director of CSDA. "This award is a testament to the dedicated staff of Kern, Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino County DCSS."

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About the Child Support Directors Association

The Child Support Directors Association, a membership organization, serves the 47 Local Child Support Agencies with more than 5,865 employees in all 58 California counties. In partnership with other agencies, the members enforce California's public child support program. There are more than 1.1 million child support cases in California distributing more than \$1.3 Billion each year to children and families. The Vision of the Child Support Directors Association is to transform the lives of children and assist families with safety net services moving toward family financial stability.

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