



Contact: Lucy Raglin
Tel: 925-634-4445
Email: lrugin@familias-unidas.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OPEN HOUSE IN BRENTWOOD FOR NEW PROGRAM PROVIDING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO CHILDREN

An open house is being hosted Wednesday, October 17 at Families Forward, a new collaboration between Familias Unidas and Asian Pacific Psychological Services (APPS) in cooperation with the Contra Costa Health Services' Mental Health Division.

The event is scheduled from 3-6 p.m. October 17 in the program offices, 1191 Central Blvd., Suite A in Brentwood.

Funded by the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), Families Forward is contracted to provide services to children in unincorporated communities throughout Far East Contra Costa County, specifically Oakley, Bethel Island, Brentwood, Knightsen, Discovery Bay and Byron.

Families Forward's vision is to provide underserved/uninsured children up to age 18 and their families with culturally sensitive services based on the Wraparound Process, a collaborative approach to mental health. It is open from 8:30-5 weekdays.

Far East Contra Costa County was selected for MHSA implementation because presently there were no comprehensive mental health or support services for addressing the complex needs of those children and their families whose cultural differences and financial limitations have historically precluded them from accessing mental health services.

Families Forward is a wraparound program for children and involves active community supports and service teams. Services are designed to be strength-based and family-focused and will be provided by multidisciplinary teams, made up of multilingual/multicultural staff from each of the collaborative partners. The mission is to promote self-sufficiency through a family-focused service approach.

For more information about the program or to schedule an interview with the director, Bernie Sanabria, please contact Lucy Raglin at 925-634-4445 or email at lrugin@familias-unidas.org

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