



# NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Social Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 14, 2016

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## **Federal Funding is Now Available for Parent Leadership Program**

SACRAMENTO- The California Department of Social Services' (CDSS) Office of Child Abuse Prevention recently announced the availability of more than \$600,000 in grant funds, that will be allocated over three years, for a qualified nonprofit organization to enact a Parent Leadership Program.

The Office of Child Abuse Prevention is seeking applicants with the capacity and ability to create meaningful systemic change through the training and development of parent leaders. The goal of this funding is for a qualified nonprofit organization to recruit, train and support a statewide team of parent leaders, including those previously involved in the child welfare system, to actively participate in program planning, development of policies and procedures, evaluation of systems and other facilitative projects, in the area of child abuse prevention at the statewide and local levels.

“Parents are a vital voice in shaping policy and building communities to avert the major risk factors of child abuse and neglect,” says Will Lightbourne Director of the California Department of Social Services. “This is an opportunity for a training provider who has a passion for empowering and supporting parent advocates and leaders to more effectively respond to the conditions of child maltreatment throughout California.”

The Office of Child Abuse Prevention is committed to preventing child abuse and neglect and its lasting effects by strengthening families and empowering parents to take an active role in building stronger and healthier communities. The desired outcome of participation in this grant program is effective engagement and empowerment of parents to influence systems and the policy decision-making process.

The funding will be allocated in three annual installments of approximately \$200,000. The Request for Application process is now open for Fiscal Year 2016-19. Qualified nonprofit organizations are encouraged to apply.

The deadline for applications is April 11, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. (PST).

For more information on this and other grant opportunities with the Office of Child Abuse Prevention you can go to <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/ocap/PG4742.htm>.

For information or questions pertaining to this Request for Application, please contact Marja Sainio, Analyst, by email at [Marja.Sainio@dss.ca.gov](mailto:Marja.Sainio@dss.ca.gov).

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