



# LATINO TODAY

Santa Maria Santa Barbara "The Newspaper for Today's Latino" San Luis Obispo Ventura



Latino Today • 517 E. Chapel St. • Santa Maria • CA • 93454 • Ph 805-348-1308 • Email: ads@latinotoday.net

<a href="#">CONTACT US</a>	<a href="#">LOCATIONS</a>	<a href="#">AD RATES</a>	<a href="#">ABOUT US</a>
<a href="#">NEWS VIA EMAIL</a>			

Wednesday, MAR 12, 2008

### NEWS

- [Front Page](#)
- [Headlines](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Society](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Culture](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Family](#)
- [Entertainment](#)
- [Politics](#)
- [CASA Photos](#)
- [LBCC Photos](#)
- [Horoscope NEW](#)

### SERVICES

- [View Classifieds](#)
- [Place Classifieds](#)
- [View Events](#)
- [Submit Events](#)
- [Yellow Pages](#)
- [Subscribe Today!](#)
- [Birth Announcement](#)
- [Weddings](#)
- [Buy Tickets](#)

### SEARCH ARCHIVES

Keywords:

Issue date:

## Hispanic Families Key for Expanding Foster Care Agency

By Nadia Gutierrez 11.MAR.08

The fast-expanding Family Care Network says Hispanic families play essential role in its mission to enhance the well being of children and families on the Central Coast.

FULL ARTICLE STARTS HERE

By Nadia Gutierrez  
Latino Today Staff Writer

Foster children's lives are highly impacted by the many changes that occur to them after they are removed from their unsafe home.

The fear of having a new family is scary in itself, but how about relating to them? Children might panic because they are unsure of how safe the new family will be and about their interests, their rules, and their behavior.

The Family Care Network is a private, nonprofit children and families services provider. "Of our individual placements of foster children during 2006-2007 on the Central Coast, more than 200 children were identified as Hispanic/Latino," said Lauren D. Burleson, the group's public relations and event coordinator. "This means that more than 20 percent of the clients served during the last year were Hispanic/Latino."

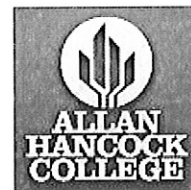
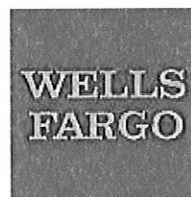
Established in 1987 for the purpose of creating family-based treatment programs as an alternative to group home or institutional care for children and youth, the agency now operates 17 accredited programs designed to strengthen and preserve families and individuals.

The agency served Northern Santa Barbara County for the last five years and recently expanded into the south county as well. To accommodate growing staff and training needs, the agency has leased a new, larger facility at 1660-B S. Broadway, Suite 101, in Santa Maria, where it held a recent open house.

The middle-class Hispanic community on the Central Coast plays an essential role in the Family Care Network's mission to enhance the wellbeing of children and families in our community. There is no better way for a child who only speaks Spanish to be comfortable and find security in a home than when they are paired with foster parents who speaks Spanish as well, according to the agency.

Only Spanish-speaking foster parents may be able to effectively communicate with that child about their basic needs and help them process their feelings. Without Hispanic foster parents and staff, the

**This Week's Highlights**  
**Front Page**  
· Influential Latino Awards...Get Your Tickets!




**Diane Adams**  
Quality & Experience  
**Foxenwoods Realty**  
1765 South Broadway  
Santa Maria Ca, 93454  
(805) 570-9099

- partnership opportunities?
- Make Meetings More Valuable
  - Outreach with Workplace Visits, Training
  - Conduct More Bilingual Meetings
  - Create Training Sessions for Start-Ups
  - Create Better Networking Opportunities
  - Make No Changes: It Will Happen Naturally Over Time
  - Give up, It Will Never Happen

**vote**

MARY KAY®  
celebrate  
being a Woman





Jennifer Childs  
Independent Beauty  
Consultant

Family Care Network could not appropriately serve our Spanish-speaking clients, which would result in our Spanish-speaking clients feeling more fearful, Burleson said.

Family Care Network offers three programs, Therapeutic Foster Care, Emergency Foster Care and Transitional Housing Services, which are all provided with bilingual Spanish services.

"In 2006-07 fiscal year, 23 percent of our master level therapists were bilingual and 11 percent of our entire clinical staff were bilingual. Currently, 3 out of our 5 social workers (60 percent) based at the Family Care Network's Santa Maria office are bilingual as well as two members of the administrative team there. Additionally, many of our foster families are Latino and are bilingual," explained Burleson.

If you are interested in learning more about the Family Care Network or about how you can become a volunteer or foster parent, please visit fcni.org or you may contact Vince Giordano at (805) 801-7265 or email him at vgiordano@fcni.org.

 EMAIL THIS STORY  PRINT THIS STORY

**more . . . Front Page**

- 12.MAR.08 Influential Latino Awards...Get Your Tickets!
- 11.MAR.08 Latinas in Business to Talk Leadership and Outreach in SLO
- 11.MAR.08 Bilingual Rep Seeks to Educate Families About Sexual Assault
- 11.MAR.08 Guys Responsibility Program Expands to Lompoc
- 05.MAR.08 Strawberry Queen Contest Ripens Up
- 05.MAR.08 Connecting with Hispanic Community is Aim of Assemblyman's New Aide
- 05.MAR.08 Local Hispanic Biz 'Exploding' But Could Benefit from Partnerships
- 28.FEB.08 Popular Latin Fusion Band to Play Santa Maria on Eve of New CD Release
- 26.FEB.08 MultiCultural Fair: Changing the World, One Student at a Time
- 21.FEB.08 Big Show Features Everything from Folkloric Dances to Modern Latin Tunes
- 21.FEB.08 Judge Garcia Honored for Service to Children
- 21.FEB.08 Free Citizenship Preparation Classes
- 15.FEB.08 Feel Good at Tax Time - Become a Volunteer Tax Assistant
- 15.FEB.08 Latino Business Leaders Hear All About Taxes
- 12.FEB.08 SLO Film Fest Screens Latino Filmmakers' Documentary about Mental Illness
- 06.FEB.08 Serving Up Smiles with Menudo Festival Photos
- 06.FEB.08 Sly Super Delegate Capps Says She's Not Endorsing in Primary
- 05.FEB.08 Don't Switch Out Your Old TV Just Yet
- 30.JAN.08 Bilingual Workers Needed at the Polls
- 30.JAN.08 Chocolate and Art Come Together at Valentine's Benefit
- 22.JAN.08 Making Santa Maria A Better Place to Live is Goal of New Planning Chairman Lopez
- 22.JAN.08 Are U.S.-Born Hispanics Silently Against Illegal Immigration?
- 22.JAN.08 Date Set for Influential Latino Awards 2008
- 16.JAN.08 Leadership Program for Older Workers Starts Up

**search archives**

Keywords:

Issue date:



**KELLY SERVICES**

Search our **JOB POSTINGS** Today!

**SEARCH**

Learn Office Skills Today!



**CET**  
click here