Holiday Greetings to all:

On behalf of the board of directors, the Women's Civic Improvement Club extends its thanks to our Executive Director Edenausageboye Davis for her hard work in securing a grant from the federal government to make improvements and repairs to the center at 3555 Third Avenue in Oak Park. The grant will allow updates to the building that will allow our Playmate Head Start affiliate to educate children in the future on an all day basis. This will allow us to more fully utilize all of the rooms in the building. It is our aim to serve the people of Oak Park in every way that we can, now and far into the future. The Head Start program at Playmate is at 100% enrollment and educating our children is our number one goal.

WCIC also wants to recognize Loke for her hard work in administering the Ann Land Bertha Henschel fund emergency grants for low-income individuals. We have again applied for funds in the coming year.

WCIC recently handed off its interest in the low power FM radio station that William Boyer worked so hard on. Hopefully the Dre Will Foundation can successfully see the project to fruition to provide Oak Park with quality local radio programming.

We also want to thank Dorothy Benjamin for her hard work in revitalizing the WCIC newsletter to better communicate with our members. Our mailing lists are old and we need to update our contacts with all of our members, so hopefully we can learn all of our members current electronic addresses in addition to their physical addresses.

Please attend our December 16, 2017 general membership meeting at the center at 3555 Third Avenue in Oak Park at 10:00 a.m. with Vice President Pastor Alice Baber Banks presiding, so that all can participate in our governance. If interested, you can also attend our monthly board meetings, generally held the first Monday of each month.

Finally, WCIC is always interested in your financial support. Tax deductible donations are always cheerfully accepted.

Peter Brixie
Board President
Greetings from WCIC’s Diverse Workforce Team,

Women’s Civic Improvement Club (WCIC) Team members bring with us diverse cultures, languages, perspectives, work experiences, life lessons and life styles in order to serve, as well as relate to our customers in a quality and professional manner in pursuit of delivering excellence in human services programs, resources, and groups; such as, Head Start, Senior Assistance, NA/AA Group, and Rainbow Youth Leadership Coalition. Our Motto was created decades ago by Mr. Vincent Harris, Past Administrative Assistant to Mrs. Callie I. Carney as following: “We’re Caring, Involved, and Committed”! WCIC’s Diverse Team Members are grateful as servants in continuing WCIC’s Founding Mothers Legacy of 81 years!!!

WCIC/Playmate Child Development Center, Head Start Program is the oldest and only program under the administration of WCIC. WCIC/Playmate Child Development Center, Head Start Program was the first Head Start Program in Sacramento, California and has been in operation for over fifty years plus, originally founded as a private effort in the self-help tradition of the African-American community.

WCIC/Playmate Head Start Program opened as a federally funded Head Start Program on July 5, 1966 by the following Co-Founders: Ms. Nelwyn G. England and Mrs. Elizabeth Garner. Ms. Nelwyn G. England personally gave Ms. Edenausageboye Davis, MPA; Executive Director/Head Start the Torch thirty-six years ago to carry on the legacy!!! Still today, Ms. Davis and Team operate a quality Head Start Program in STAR status!

Ms. Dorothy Benjamin and Ms. Sarah Richey, WCIC Life Members continue to take the lead on submission of the Annual Ann Land Bertha Henschel (ALBH) Funding Application process. They are to be saluted for their successful grant writing to help ensure seniors’ assistance is provided via (ALBH) funding assistance for rent, utilities, food, etc.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) Group #16 meets every Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Women’s Civic Improvement Club (WCIC), 3555 3rd Avenue.

Amos Nugent III, Board Treasurer/Youth Representative heads up the WCIC Rainbow Youth Leadership Coalition.

We welcome your visit to the Women’s Civic Improvement Club (WCIC’s Administrative Facility), 3555 3rd Avenue and WCIC/Playmate Head Start Program, 3930 8th Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95817. You may contact us at the Head Start Office # (916) 451-8870 for a visit appointment.

Happy Holidays and Blessings,
Ms. Edenausageboye Davis, MPA
Executive Director/Head Start
Women’s Civic Improvement Club (WCIC)
Office # (916) 451-8870
W.C.I.C. Teaching Team Joins Lesson Planning Pilot!

WCIC/Playmate Child Development Center, Head Start Program is currently housed in the Oak Park Community Center Campus, City of Sacramento Facility since 1988. The program provides a stimulating environment for learning and focuses on the intelligent, emotional, social and physical development of the child. WCIC’s Head Teacher, Mrs. Janet Wong-Acorda, MA and the entire teaching team hold BA Degrees in Early Childhood Education.

WCIC/Playmate Child Development Center serves 100 diverse families in Sacramento County. The majority of the children are from the Oak Park Community. WCIC’s team members are bilingual in the following languages: English, Spanish, Hmong, Mien, Lao, Chinese, Japanese, Thai, Hawaiian and American Sign Language.

WCIC/Playmate Head Start Program’s Teachers have joined the lesson planning pilot currently being implemented at twenty Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA) sites. We are currently piloting the Creative Curriculum Studies for the 2017-2018 School Year. These helpful lesson planning tools are being designed with input from Teachers for Teachers. The research based Creative Curriculum is “WHAT” we use and SETA’s Lesson Planning Guide is “HOW “we do it. WCIC/Playmate Head Start program is the first partner agency to join the pilot.

The Head Start Performance Standards and the Creative Curriculum provide the “blue-print” while the lesson planning process is what brings it to life. There are meaningful experiences in the classrooms that include brain-storming, problem-solving, team-work, an increase in language and more conversations with children during the school day. These are types of quality interactions that promote learning and school readiness.

This ongoing collaboration with the teacher will play a critical role in future development of the Lesson Planning Guide. The studies are hands-on, project-based investigation of topics that are relevant to children’s everyday experiences. Studies are exciting and engaging. They tap into children’s natural curiosity, resulting in a learning environment that is both fun and intentional. The study approach is a method of integrating content learning through children’s in-depth investigations of a meaningful topic. Children raise questions about the topic, and through exploration and discovery they find answers to their questions. The study approach not only allows children to gain a deeper understanding of the topic but also encourages them to develop skills across all domains as they apply the investigative process. The studies for each month are:

- Me and My School
- Me and My Family
- Neighborhood
- Our Garden
- Paint
- All About Me
- Friends
- Clothing
- Recycling

Happy Holidays,
Mrs. Janet Wong-Acorda, MA
Head Teacher
WCIC/Playmate Child Development Center, Head Start Program
Office # (916) 451-8870

Visit us on the web at: www.wcicinc.org
My Story

Maria Garcia, 1997 Alumni at WCIC/Playmate Head Start Program

My story begins approximately 20 years ago in 1997 when as a small child my parents enrolled my brother, Jesus and I in WCIC/Playmate Head Start Program. At that time, my family and I were living in a house across the street from the Head Start program where today, my children, MaryJane, four years old and Ariana, three years old and I are still living in the same house!

As a child, I have very fond memories about WCIC/Playmate Head Start Program. Jesus and I both attended Playmate. We had the same teacher, Ms. Janet. What I liked most about Playmate, was my teachers, Ms. Janet, Mr. Ricky, and Ms. Leticia. I remember singing songs, circle time, learning my ABC’s and playing on the playground. Thinking about it now, I’m pretty sure I was the cry baby in my class. Sometimes at Head Start, they would have a taco day or burrito day, which I remember plates and food were set up and we would walk around the table and select items to make our own taco or burritos.

After leaving Playmate, I attended Father Keith B. Kenny Elementary School, which is located near Playmate and when my friends and I would walk past Playmate on our way to Father Keith B. Kenny Elementary School, I would point at Playmate and say to my friends “I use to go there!” My favorite teacher at Father Keith B. Kenny Elementary School was Mr. Eagans and at that time, I thought he was very strict, however, later in life when we ran into each other and spoke, I realized he was just enforcing the rules. From his class, I learned that rules are important and we must follow them.

When I graduated from Father Keith B. Elementary School, I attended Kit Carson Middle School where I had to take the bus daily and in 8th grade I met my children’s father. After middle school, I attended Hiram Johnson High School and in 2011 I graduated from American Legion High School.

As mentioned, I currently have two children and when I needed childcare, I immediately decided to enroll them in Playmate, because it is trustworthy, provides a safe environment and has outstanding staff and teachers, namely: Ms. Davis, Ms. Janet and Ms. Leticia. At Playmate my daughter MaryJane is currently enrolled in Head Start and my youngest daughter Ariana will be enrolled in Playmate in 2018.
For the last 11 years, W.C.I.C. has received a Grant from the Ann Land Bertha Henschel Program, to assist low-income seniors pay their rent, utilities and purchase food. Through this grant W.C.I.C. has been able to help many low-income seniors throughout the City of Sacramento.

WCIC recently helped Ms. Gloria Thomas pay her SMUD bill, she remarked, “This is a great program; it reaches out to help families. I am on SSI and sometimes I don’t have enough to cover utilities, because my rent is so high”- Thank you.

Good News! On November 30th, W.C.I.C. was informed that its 2018 grant request was approved! This news allows us to continue our outreach efforts to assist low-income seniors to pay their rent, utilities and food.

If you need assistance or know someone who needs assistance, please contact Loke at (916) 457-2524 for additional details.
WCIC’s Youth Program Message

WCIC’s Rainbow Youth Leadership Coalition Forum is scheduled for Tuesday, February 27th, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at WCIC, 3555 3rd Avenue. The purpose of the forum is to listen to youths/young adults issues, ideas, suggested programs/events, etc. Therefore, please accept this communication as your invitation to attend and participate.

Contact us at WCIC: (916) 451-8870