



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

For immediate release  
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### **Bi-county event will discuss the barriers, importance of engaging immigrant communities in early learning**

**SAN JOSE, CA** – Immigrant communities are the heart of Silicon Valley. Not only do they help fuel the economy here, but they also represent a large share of the young child population. Nearly 75 percent of low-income children under the age of 5 in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties come from immigrant backgrounds. The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE), the San Mateo County Office of Education and the Heising-Simons Foundation will host an event about the challenges and opportunities of engaging immigrant communities in early learning opportunities on Thursday at Educare California of Silicon Valley.

The conversation will begin with Gina Adams and Erica Greenberg, who will discuss demographic and early learning participation findings from the Urban Institute's series of reports about early learning and immigrant communities in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. It will be followed by a moderated discussion with the researchers and a question-and-answer session about countywide early learning initiatives from Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, Deputy Superintendent at the SCCOE, Anne Campbell, Superintendent of the San Mateo County Office of Education, and Avo Makdessian, Director of the Center for Early Learning at the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

**What: A Bi-County Conversation: Engaging Immigrant Communities in Early Learning**

**When: Thursday, April 21, 2016**

**Time: 5:30 - 8 p.m.**

**Location: Educare California of Silicon Valley (located adjacent to Santee Elementary School)  
1399 Santee Drive  
San Jose, CA 95122**

**For more information:**

- Contact [Matthew Tinsley](#), (408) 453-6807, with questions about the agenda.
- Contact [Shannon Carr](#), (408) 453-6824, for information about attending as a member of the press.