



The County
Connection

KCET Celebrates Caregivers

First 5 California joined KCET-TV of Los Angeles, KVIE-TV of Sacramento and BP April 29 in celebrating nine California childcare providers at the Fourth Annual Childcare Provider of the Year Ceremony at the State Capitol. They were recognized for their commitment to improving the quality of childcare in the state.

Executive Director Kris Perry flanked by hosts of *"A Place of Our Own"* and *"Los Niños en Su Casa,"* Elizabeth Sanchez and Alicia Rosario, with the nine awardees. The nine awardees were all previously nominated as a "Childcare Provider of the Week" on the KCET series *"A Place of Our Own"* and *"Los Niños en Su Casa."* Each caregiver received certificates of recognition from their legislators. Recipients include Pat and Jeannette Witz, Sacramento; Julia Ready, San Francisco; Olga Anderson, Fresno; Rose Moore, Redding; Karen Gillentine, Eureka; Barbara Loveless, Orange County; and Maria Lena Davo and Jade Stanford, Los Angeles.



First 5 California Executive Director Kris Perry saluted the caregivers and told them "their place in society is just beginning to receive the national attention it deserves, with early childhood

education taking the stage as one of many important campaign issues."

Jade Stanford, one of the caregivers, began her "Get a Life Childcare" organization when her husband, Robbie, became ill and she couldn't find quality part-time childcare. Jade was ecstatic about the award as was her husband. "It's just so wonderful to see your wife get recognized for who she really is, someone who just loves other people," Robbie said.