Referral

Children can be referred to the Special Education Infant and Toddler GROW Program by parents, physicians, public service agencies such as Central Valley regional Center (CVRC), California Children’s Services (CCS) and other professionals.

To make a referral call: (209) 381-6665

Let’s GROW Together!

For More Information Contact:

Merced County Office of Education
Special Education
632 West 13th Street
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 381-6711

Merced County School Districts

- Atwater SD 357-6100
- Ballico-Cressey SD 417-0288
- Delhi Unified SD 656-2000
- Dos Palos-Oro Loma SD 392-0230
- El Nido SD 385-8420
- Gustine Unified SD 854-5030
- Hilmar Unified SD 669-5463
- Le Grand Elem. SD 389-1032
- Le Grand High SD 389-9400
- Livingston SD 394-5428
- Los Banos Unified SD 827-0120
- McSwain SD 354-2711
- Merced City SD 385-6648
- Merced River SD 358-5679
- Merced Union High SD 385-8050
- Plainsburg SD 385-8440
- Snelling-Merced Falls SD 563-6414
- Weaver SD 725-7122
- Winton SD 357-6178

G.R.O.W.
Program for Families with Infants and Toddlers
Growing Relationships Opportunities With support

Merced County Office of Education
632 West 13th Street
Merced, Ca 95341

Steven E. Gomes, Ed. D., Superintendent
Susan Coston, Assistant Superintendent
OUR MISSION:
The GROW program staff is comprised of Special Education Infant and Toddler Specialists who provide relationship based, family centered services to support a child’s development.

The program serves families with children from birth to age three.

OUR VISION:
Families and their children grow and thrive together.

THE GROW PROGRAM BELIEVES:
1. Honesty, trust, and mutual respect strengthen the relationship process; therefore, we act with these principles in mind.
2. Nurturing relationships are the foundation of lifelong success; therefore, the first step in our work is to build strong relationships.
3. Children learn best through shared enjoyment in nurturing environments and everyday routines; therefore, we support families as the first teachers of their children.
4. All families are unique; therefore, Early Intervention is based upon each family’s strengths, needs, and priorities.
5. Teamwork is strengthened when we hear and value each person’s voice; therefore, we use a collaborative approach with each other, families, and community.

ELIGIBILITY:
A complete Health Assessment and Developmental Evaluation is conducted to determine eligibility including:
- Health History
- Vision and Hearing Screenings
- Social and Emotional Development
- Cognitive Development
- Communication and Language Development
- Motor Development
- Adaptive Skills

An infant or toddler is determined eligible for the GROW program services when:
1. Infant or toddler exhibits a significant developmental delay based on Early Start state regulations, or
2. Infant or toddler has a high probability of developmental delay due to an established risk condition including solely low incidence disabilities.

INDIVIDUALIZED FAMILY SERVICE PLAN (IFSP):
The GROW program staff joins with families in developing an IFSP. Together we will…
- Conduct a family assessment
- Identify family resources, priorities, and concerns
- Discuss present levels of development
- Identify individualized supports and services that will enhance the child’s development
- Formulate desired outcomes and next steps
- Review progress every six months

SERVICES:
As appropriate, the following services are available:
- Service Coordination
- Information regarding Child Development
- Family Training and Support by Infant and Toddler Specialists
- Specialist Consultation

With the support of GROW staff, families develop strategies to encourage their child’s development as they interact with them each day.

Services are provided in the home during the routines of daily living or in the GROW program facility, as desired by each family.