



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Educare California At Silicon Valley To Close Classrooms and Suspend Family Resource Center Programming Through April 3

Action taken in accordance with county-wide precautions to stop spread of COVID-19

SAN JOSE — **Educare California at Silicon Valley** will close its classrooms and suspend Family Resource Center programming from March 16-April 3 to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

The move comes in accordance with today's announcement by the Santa Clara County Public Health Department and the Santa Clara County Office of Education that all public schools in Santa Clara County be closed.

"Protecting the health of our children, families, staff and community is always our top priority," said **Shawn Gerth**, executive director of Educare California at Silicon Valley. "We understand the difficulty this causes for many families, and we will work with you as best we can to mitigate the impact of this closure."

Santee Elementary School, located next to Educare, as well as all sites in the Franklin-McKinley School District, will offer a curbside grab-n-go breakfast and lunch service during the school closure. This service will be available from 11 am – 1 pm, Mondays through Fridays, to anyone 18 years or younger. Visit <https://www.fmsd.org/> for more information about this program.

Drew Giles, director of Educare programs, reminded all Educare stakeholders to follow Educare social media channels. "We will continue to closely monitor the situation and share updates through our social media channels and email," Giles said.

"We recognize these actions will have a significant impact on the lives of our citizens, but we believe they are necessary to protect the well-being of our community," said Dr. **Sara Cody**, county health officer and director of the Santa Clara County Public Health Department, at a news conference held today.

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Educare California at Silicon Valley is an innovative early learning school that narrows the opportunity gap by providing high-quality, full-day, year-round early learning and community resources to low-income children ages 0-5 and their families and caregivers. All services are free and many services are offered in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Educare serves over 1,400 children and families each year.