

MAY Newsletter



Budding Businesses

Over the past year, SELF and the Southwest Washington Child Care Partnership (SWCCP) have worked with multiple individuals helping them carve out a path to entrepreneurship. We are excited to highlight two individuals who have completed their requirements and now have bilingual child care businesses of their own, right here in our community. Both women were motivated and determined to reach their goal of owning their own child care business. We want to extend a warm round of applause to both Lucero Zárate and Gloria Soto Martinez, for their unwavering efforts to follow their dreams. Learn more below about these amazing women.

With Gratitude

Debbie Ham
Executive Director

Lucero Zárate

"This program had a positive impact on me. SELF and SWCCP have taken me by the hand to guide me through the process, step by step, to get my child care license. They connected me with the right people, organizations, and resources. They supported and motivated me to complete the process. With the advice and economic resources of the program, I was able to validate my studies carried out in Mexico and obtain a valid university degree in the United States, allowing me the opportunity to offer quality services to children in my community. I am going to stop being an employee to become an employer and offer a service that is in high demand. At the same time, my business will allow parents to be able to attend their jobs so everyone can contribute to the economy of our community."

Tiny Angels Daycare opened its doors in May 2022. They offer bilingual child care in Vancouver, serving ages 2 to 12 years old. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday 7 am - 5 pm.

For more information, call Lucero Zárate at 360-356-1757 or visit their website by clicking the link below.

[Learn More](#)

Gloria Soto Martinez

"I was interested in opening a child care business. I had a friend who gave me information about the program, and I am so happy they did because SELF and SWCCP helped to support me through the entire process. We had the opportunity to study at Basin College where we took the Early Childhood Education short certificate in Spanish.

I'm doing this because the work matters, whether you are an employer or an employee, the kids are what matter the most. I want to help my community and my family. I love my family very much, that's why I'm doing this. I would encourage others to do it too."

Day Care Mi Familia opened its doors in May 2022. They offer bilingual child care in Vancouver, serving ages 12 months to 12 years old. Hours of operation are Monday - Thursday 7 am - 5 pm and Fridays from 7 am - 4 pm.

For more information, call Gloria Soto Martinez at **971-274-9620**.

More Than A Job...

What I do for a living makes a significant impact. I get up each day knowing that my role will directly influence the children that I support. This is more than a job, it is a way to give back to my community, uplift the next generation and nurture the life of a child.

Will you join us? Apply today.

[Learn More](#)

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Grows Fast

Since SELF launched Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in Clark, Skamania and Klickitat counties in September, nearly 5,000 children, age birth to five, have signed up to receive a free hardcover book each month.

It starts with "The Little Engine that Could," and ends with "Look Out, Kindergarten, Here I Come!" In between are such titles as "Baby Sounds," "Llama, Llama, Red Pajama," and "Corduroy," each book geared to the child's age.

This is all made possible by donors like the Ed and Dollie Lynch Fund who understand the benefits of reading for young children. For just \$25 for one year, you can open worlds to a child with 12 well-chosen books. We are grateful for donors who know that kids thrive who read early and often.

To donate to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, or to sign up your child, click the button below.

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