



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Recognizing the Nationally Renowned Kinship Program
at SOMA StrEatfood Park**

When: Saturday, September 29 from
10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Contact: Maria Guillory
415-682-3120 or 628-256-5506

Join us for a day of family, music, good food and fun. We anticipate several of our former and current kinship grandparents, aunts, uncles and family members to be present. The day will include inspirational speakers, award winning food trucks and the Cheer for Life's CHEER team will perform.

In the early 1990s, Dr. Doriane Miller and nurse Sue Trupin noticed a sharp rise in the number of elderly, low-income, African American women arriving at their SF General Hospital (SFGH) clinic, with a variety of stress related complaints. They learned that these women had something significant in common: each of them was raising one or more grandchild, as a direct consequence of the crack epidemic of the 1980s and 90s. Known as the Kinship Support Network, this was the nation's first program of its sort. It provided the services so desperately needed, as well a support and community for caregivers who thought they were the only people filling this lonely task.

We, and national, state and county policy makers, have learned that kids who remain in Kinship care have stronger outcomes in terms of health and safety, well-being, and permanence than kids who are placed in foster families. Edgewood became the technical assistance provider for new Kinship programs throughout California, and Kinship care became endorsed by the federal government as a specific program within foster care.

Edgewood Center for Children and Families promotes the behavioral health of children, youth, and families, and supports a positive transition to adulthood. Edgewood is the premier provider of a full continuum of behavioral health services that transform the lives and restore the hope of children, youth, and families in the San Francisco Bay Area. Everything we do at Edgewood is in service to our mission and vision and guided by our values.

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