



## PROCLAMATION

No action we take is too big or too small when it comes to giving our children a chance at a great future. That is why California is proud of the sixteen years of amazing work done by our Early Start Program. This fantastic service helps infants and toddlers who have or are at risk for a developmental disability or delay. The earlier these are recognized, the better able parents and guardians are to adapt to a child's specific developmental needs.

Children involved in Early Start, along with their parents, will receive help from a variety of specialists who are dedicated to ensuring that our young ones get the opportunities and care they need to grow. It is a wonderful program that changes the lives of tens of thousands of people each year, and I extend California's gratitude for the hard-working men and women who make Early Start possible.

Interested parents and those concerned about developmental disabilities can learn more by visiting the California Department of Developmental Services website at [www.dds.cahwnet.gov](http://www.dds.cahwnet.gov) and clicking on the "Early Start" tab. Let's do everything we can to make sure all of our state's kids get a great start in life.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER**, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim April 2009, as "Early Start Month."

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th day of April 2009.



Handwritten signature of Arnold Schwarzenegger in black ink.

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
Governor of California

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of Debra Bowen in black ink.

DEBRA BOWEN  
Secretary of State