

NEWS RELEASE

**Los Angeles Superior Court
Los Angeles County**

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KIDS' PLACE CELEBRATES ITS 20,000TH CHILD'S VISIT

LONG BEACH -- On Friday, Aug. 11, 2006, Kids' Place celebrates its fourth anniversary and 20,000th child's visit. Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe (Fourth District), Judge Deborah B. Andrews and Dr. Michele Winterstein, executive director, For The Child, will speak at a celebration from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Long Beach Courthouse, first floor, Room 104, 415 W. Ocean Blvd.

Kids' Place is the first courthouse children's waiting room to open in Los Angeles County where young children may play, read, and enjoy other activities while their parents or guardians conduct official court business. Knabe vacated his Long Beach Courthouse field office and moved to 1401 E. Willow St. in Signal Hill so that Kids' Place could be accommodated.

The Kids' Place waiting room, which serves infants to 13-year-olds, is operated by For The Child, a Long Beach nonprofit child abuse, treatment and prevention agency. It opened in collaboration with Knabe and the Los Angeles Superior Court through major funding from First 5 LA. Although For The Child continues to operate the waiting area, it now is funded by Los Angeles Superior Court filing fees.

Most of the children using Kids' Place in 2005-2006 accompanied adults using the two family law courts, the criminal and master calendar courts, domestic violence court, and Legal Aid's domestic violence restraining order clinic. From July 1, 2005, to June 30, 2006, Kids' Place tallied 5,635 child visits.

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