Dear SLVUSD Families,

We are happy to announce that SLVUSD will be partnering with Cradle to Career (C2C) of Santa Cruz. Under this partnership with Cradle to Career, United Way, and Santa Cruz Community Health, SLV will have access to a “Community Organizer” to strengthen equity-driven family engagement and empowerment within your elementary schools.

We are happy to announce Claudia Oblea as the Community Organizer with Cradle to Career of Santa Cruz County as the individual who will be working directly with SLVE and BCE Families.

Starting this week, you may see Claudia out at the elementary school sites meeting staff and greeting families. Claudia is a first-generation college graduate with a degree in Psychology and Art. Her focus was community psychology, child development, and print media. She is originally from a small agricultural island in the Sacramento Delta, but has been a resident of Santa Cruz County for almost ten years. She loves art, coffee, beaches, and the redwood trees.

What is Cradle to Career (C2C)?
Cradle to Career is a family advocacy organization and a community connector. Our collective brings together valuable community partners and connects them to local parents to hear directly about how to support local families' **hopes, dreams, and concerns**.

Our mission is to work collectively to empower families, deliver resources, and advocate for equitable and inclusive support systems to eliminate disparities and ensure all Santa Cruz County children thrive in their education, health, and character.

How do we do this?
We build relationships with parents through their kids' schools. We work with faculty to reach parents and start conversations that are 100% relational that require active listening and trust. We organize parent leadership groups and create opportunities for them to advocate for their children in four key areas: education, health, character, and community. We ask parents what can help, and then parents and community partners create solutions together.

Every school community is unique, and we will work together to co-create customized strategies within these areas to improve outcomes for children and families through a Whole Child, Whole Family, Whole Community approach. Just as an example, here are some of the activities C2C and our community partners have supported in the Live Oak School District:

Education - Educational workshops and school collaborations support students, engage families, and create a culture of academic excellence, such as **Raising a Reader and English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes.**

Health - Health and wellness partnerships ensure families have access to care and enjoy active, healthy lifestyles, such as **Passion for Produce (P4P)**, **Promotoras de Salud** (Community Health Workers) and **Active Family Time** (Zumba, etc…)

Character - Parenting support that promotes positive family relationships and emotional well-being in children, such as **Parenting Support -** Triple P - Positive Parenting Program and **Thrive Outside**.

Community - C2C taps into the power of parents to advocate for their children and build their communities, such as **Parent Leadership Committees** and **Countywide Family Learning & Leadership Circle**

Every community is unique, and each family has different hopes, dreams, and needs. Claudia will work to actively connect with the elementary schools and families, listen to the community's needs, and be as responsive as possible. She looks forward to starting this journey with SLVUSD and meeting you soon!

If you have questions or would like to reach out to Claudia, she can be reached at Coblea@c2cscc.org or call/text at 916-270-5237.

Danielle Winter SLVE Principal	Gerri Fippin BCE Principal	Claudia Oblea Community Organizer