



October 13, 2005

Dear Parent,

Gloria Soto, Nancy Robinson, and Marci Hanson are professors at San Francisco State University in Department of Special Education and Communicative Disorders. We have a new grant that enables us to train graduate students to work with young children with special needs, particularly children who need support for communication development. Our students will each be assigned to work with one child and family over a period of two semesters (ex: fall and spring, 2005-2006) and develop several methods of communication to help your child participate in daily activities. These methods are referred to as “Augmentative and Alternative Communication” (AAC) and might include pictures, recorded voice on a simple talking device, adapted story books with pages that are easy to turn, and computer activities for very young children.

We are seeking families with young children with special needs who may wish to participate with our graduate students in this training project. The students will be closely supervised by _____.

The amount of time that students will spend with your family will vary, related to your schedule and the student’s schedule. However, we expect that each student will have regular contact with you for an average of 2-3 hours per week over the duration of two semesters. Our plan is to see you and your child at the _____ Early Intervention Program during your regular session and possibly in your home at some point in the next semester.

Throughout the project, you will be asked for your input and priorities for designing communication goals and materials for your child. Whatever is planned or provided will be developed with your consistent input and coordination with the _____ Program. Your participation in this project is completely voluntary and there is no cost involved. If you are interested and wish to meet with a student and supervising faculty, _____, please indicate your interest to (Program Director’s name) who will coordinate contact between us.

Sincerely,

Faculty name, contact information