

Little Ones and Big News: A Mission Bay Child Care Center is Coming

Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center Expands its Early Childcare and Education Programs



Photo Credit: Courtesy ZGF Architects LLP; Photo © Garrett Rowland

SAN FRANCISCO, May 2021— [Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center \(TEL HI\)](#), one of San Francisco’s oldest nonprofits, will soon be cutting the ribbon at one of the city’s newest spaces. The 131-year-old community organization has announced a purpose-built childcare center/preschool that will be an exciting addition to San Francisco’s emerging Mission Bay neighborhood. A dedication ceremony is planned for the opening this summer.

The state-of-the-art, TEL HI Mission Bay Childcare Center is for children ages three months to 5 years old. In addition to a 6,000-square-foot indoor facility with four classrooms, a 4,300-square-foot outdoor playground encourages exploration and exercise. Children are inspired to play and learn through supervised activities around the climbing structure, sandbox, art area, water feature, and mud kitchen. The center was thoughtfully designed by [ZGF Architects](#).

“The developers, following San Francisco’s Building Code 414, chose TEL HI from among a distinguished group of early childhood education providers because of our deep roots in the community, our reputation for providing high-quality programs, and our ability to serve families of all income levels,” said Executive Director Nestor L. Fernandez II. “We are excited to serve the Mission Bay community and for the opportunity to expand our services to other neighborhoods in San Francisco and beyond.”

For more than 70 years, TEL HI has provided quality childcare and early childhood education at its North Beach location, one of only three childcare centers in San Francisco with authorization to remain open throughout the pandemic.

TEL HI has consistently ranked as one of the top preschools in San Francisco and boasts a team of highly-qualified, dedicated professionals who are passionate about nurturing children’s intellectual, cognitive, and socio-emotional abilities to help them grow with confidence.

Given its exemplary track record and recognizing the high demand for quality childcare, TEL HI has developed a strategic plan to expand its Early Childhood Education offerings into additional select facilities in locations around the San Francisco Bay Area. By providing full-time placement in Infant, Toddler, and Preschool Programs, TEL HI’s state-licensed Childcare Centers play an integral part in the critical eco-system that supports local families.

Angie Garling, National Director, Early Care and Education Programs at the Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF) said, "LIIF is pleased to support TEL HI in this exciting project to bring new early care and education spaces to the rapidly-growing Mission Bay community. LIIF's long relationship with TEL HI, along with city funding, has enabled them to increase their city-wide capacity from 48 spaces to over 100 in the past six years. This new center is a great example of a public-private partnership addressing a large unmet need for high quality early care and education in this San Francisco neighborhood."

Graham Dobson, Senior Policy Analyst, San Francisco Office of Early Care & Education (OECE), said, "Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center has been part of the San Francisco Office of Early Care and Education's Early Learning Scholarship program since its inception in 2017. By providing enriched services to infants, toddlers and preschoolers, TEL HI is preparing young children with the skills needed for long-term school and life success. I am very excited to see TEL HI expand these high quality early education services to a new location and a new community."

Quick Facts:

- Location:** TEL HI Mission Bay Childcare Center, 188 Pierpoint Lane, San Francisco (between Bridgeview Way and 3rd Street, near the Chase Center)
- Website:** [TELHI.org/missionbay](https://telhi.org/missionbay)
- Architects:** [ZGF Architects](#)
- Photos:** [Dropbox](#)
- Contacts:** Beth Schnitzer | beth@spritzsf.com | 917.287.7064
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ABOUT TEL HI Mission Bay: The new childcare center in Mission Bay is operated by Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center (TEL HI), a San Francisco-based nonprofit organization serving local communities for over 130 years.

ABOUT TEL HI: TEL HI's mission is to enhance the lives of the people in the communities they serve. The nonprofit organization is focused on meeting the needs of a culturally, linguistically, and economically diverse community with services that promote stability for families; building skills and self-worth that allows toddlers, youth, and adults to reach for their dreams and succeed; and supporting seniors in remaining vital and independent. TEL HI provides a combination of free and low-cost programs: infant and toddler care, preschool, after school activities, summer camp, personal development classes, senior programs, and community celebrations. TEL HI's childcare center began serving the North Beach/Telegraph Hill residential community 70 years ago.