

**Child Care Resource & Referral Newsletter  
For Early Childhood Educators  
Baker, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Union, and Wallowa Counties**

**July – August - September 2010**

**WIN A PRIZE!**

Kara Lemro of Baker City claimed her prize for recognizing her phone number in the last newsletter. Find the last four digits of your phone number somewhere in this newsletter and call your local CCR&R to claim your prize! This is an example of what the phone number will look like: (#0000).

**CONGRATULATIONS for PROFESSIONAL & EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT!!!**

We value and want to recognize child care educators for the hours they dedicate to learning more about teaching young children. The providers below have attained a Step on the Oregon Registry during the past few months. They may have more training hours than the awarded Step, but have officially been awarded the following:

**Step 4** (requires minimum of 50 hours of early childhood training in at least 4 topic areas)

**Chantal Lizotte** of Baker City

**Step 5** (requires minimum of 70 hours of early childhood training in at least 6 topic areas)

**Gwen Ewing** of Island City

**Step 10** (Baccalaureate (Bachelor) degree in Early Childhood Education)

**Sheila Angell** of Burns

**Excellent!**

**ADIEU to JODY**

Jody Whitaker has been the Child Care Resource & Referral Consultant in Malheur County for over a year. She resigned her position in June. We will miss her positive attitude, ability to adapt positively to changes, and caring interactions with parents and providers. Danielle Phillips and Jean Johnson will be taking over her tasks and responsibilities in Malheur County. We wish Jody well in her new ventures.

**Save the Date!**

**Eastern Oregon Early Childhood Care & Education Conference**  
***Movin' with Changes* ➡ *Opportunities to Grow!***

**Coming October 2<sup>nd</sup>, Saturday**  
**in La Grande (plus Friday evening October 1<sup>st</sup>)**

***Inspiring & Enthusiastic Keynote by Mike Sedler***

## **NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESCHOOLS & EXEMPT CENTERS**

As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, all preschools and exempt centers will be required to become Recorded with the Child Care Division. This will primarily impact preschools (operate less than 4 hours a day for educating 3 – 5 year olds) and youth programs (operate 8 or more hours per week with enrichment activities for school age children.) For more detailed information, go to:

<http://www.employment.oregon.gov/EMPLOY/CCD/01July10RecordedPrograms.shtml>

The purpose of this law is to see that most adults who have contact with children have completed a criminal background check and to inform parents about the type of child care facility that they are using.

Being recorded with the Division is different than being licensed, in that there are only two requirements. The recording process is only to assure that adults in child serving programs have a criminal background check and inform parents about recorded status. Unlike a licensed program, there are not extensive rules. The Child Care Division will not look at staff requirements, ratio of children to adults, equipment, activities or any other aspects of the program. In most cases, the staff from the Division will not visit the program at all.

The process for becoming recorded:

First complete background checks for all personnel in your program who have contact with children. On or after July 1, 2010 either download the application from the website above or request the application for a program record. Complete the application and send it with the required information and the \$20 application fee to the Child Care Division. The application will ask each program:

1. To assure that a criminal background check has been completed on those who have contact with children
2. To agree to post a notice that the facility is recorded
3. To describe that the purpose of the program is enrichment, rather than child care

Programs will have to renew their Recorded status every two years.

## **CONFERENCES**

**Contact your local CCR&R for more information about any of the conferences below:**

**Early Childhood Care & Education Conference in La Grande on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Early Childhood Conference in Pendleton on October 8<sup>th</sup>.**

### **Stay Safe in the Summer Sun**

**Excerpts taken from American Cancer Society**

**Limit direct sun exposure during midday.**

UV rays are most intense during the middle of the day, usually between the hours of 10 am and 4 pm. Plan your outdoor activities outside that timeframe, if possible.

**Wear shades and a hat.** Invest in a wide-brimmed hat to protect your face and a pair of wrap-around sunglasses with at least 99% UV absorption.

**Use a sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 15 or higher.** The SPF number represents the level of protection against UVB rays, the kind that cause most skin cancers. A higher number means more protection. Sunscreens labeled "broad spectrum" also protect against UVA rays, which also play a role in skin cancer. Remember lip balm with SPF, too.

Note: Be sure to have permission to apply this to children in your care. Ask parents to bring sunscreen for their child.

## **Quality Indicators Project in Oregon**

Quality child care matters. National studies have found the quality of child care in America to be well below what is needed to promote positive child outcomes, but little is known about the level of quality in Oregon. Researchers have identified seven measureable indicators of quality that have been proved to improve child outcomes. The Child Care Division is using these indicators to measure the level of quality of child care in Oregon.

These indicators are: ratio of children per adult, group size, education or specialized training of teachers/caregivers, teacher compensation level, staff turnover or stability in caregiver-child relationships, accreditation, substantiated complaints.

Information is being collected from child care programs and will be published in reports. Programs have the option of agreeing to share these reports with parents, providers, and the community. Reports will include clear, easily understood explanations about 1) why each measure makes a difference, 2) the regional average for each indicator, and 3) the standards set by national leaders in the field.

Child Care Resource & Referral is actively engaged in the education and training aspect of Quality Indicators. We will be pursuing grants to assist providers with becoming accredited. If you are interested in becoming accredited, please contact your local CCR&R Consultant. We would like to create a cadre of providers that want to become accredited and begin that process.

## **Dance for Fitness, Exercise & Fun**

If you dance with children and show enthusiasm and enjoyment for dance, children will happily follow your example. To help young children begin to develop a range of dancing skills, include these elements:

- ♪ Non-locomotor movements – bending, twisting, and swinging limbs
- ♪ Locomotor movements – walking, hopping, jumping, marching, and leaping
- ♪ Musical accompaniment that features rhythm and a strong beat
- ♪ Activities that encourage children to move and follow straight and curved pathways and that promote balance
- ♪ Movements that increase in complexity as children demonstrate mastery
- ♪ Encouragement for children to develop their own dance movements and to dance independently
- ♪ Use different types of music – classical, country, hip-hop, from other countries
- ♪ Add props: mini-flashlights, crepe paper, pinwheels, scarves, pom-poms, streamers, costumes
- ♪ Take dance outdoors for a different experience – draw inspiration from nature, such as a flower, snowflake, or rain dance

**Remember to encourage kids to drink lots of water!  
Take water outside for drinking.**



Johnny Appleseed's birthday is September 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Funding Reductions – Changes to Services**

Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) has had substantial funding reductions for 2010-2011. These changes will be effective July 1<sup>st</sup>:

**Child Care Health Consultation (CCHC/Healthy Child Care)** program has ended statewide. These funds were used to assist with immunization recordkeeping, setting goals to support your work, and purchasing health and safety items for your program. While there will be no more health and safety grants or scholarships for First Aid/CPR classes, Julie Skidgel will continue to be available for consultations and to help with immunization reviews. Please call your local CCR&R Consultant to request health advice or immunization assistance.

**Story Time Express/Quality Incentive grants:** The support for Story Time Express varies by county. Our funding has been drastically reduced, however, in all counties. We are prioritizing and developing strategies to continue Story Time Express as best we can. Your storyteller will be talking with you about this during her July visit. Grants for equipment and environment improvement are no longer available. Oregon Registry incentive awards will remain. We will be setting the amounts for each step based on remaining funds.

**Training:** Due to funding reductions, fewer trainings will be offered throughout the year. We did invest in some View & Reflect trainings to help supplement what we will be able to offer live. However, they are available on a limited basis and will only be allowed for a small portion of your renewal hours.

**Staff Reduction:** Staff time is reduced in all counties. While this may cause some delay time in responding to you, we do not want to compromise our support for the work you are doing and will return calls/emails as quickly as we can. We will be seeking additional funding for targeted program improvements. Your ideas on what is most supportive to you will be most helpful in this process.



*Chocolate Day is July 28<sup>th</sup> ☺*

### **Oregon Community Foundation Babies & Boomers Grant Received**

We received a \$5,000 grant to assess our communities for volunteer potential to support the work you do in early childhood programs. In July and August, Deanna and Jan will be assessing volunteer resources in our communities, as well as potential places volunteers would be welcomed. If you are interested in having a volunteer help at your early childhood program, please let Deanna or Jan know. If you know of someone that wants to volunteer, please have them call Deanna or Jan at 541-963-7942 or 800-956-0324, ext. 22 (Deanna) or ext. 24 (Jan.)

## September is Deaf Awareness Month

### SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR DHS LISTED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

Effective July 1, 2010:

The DHS Orientation class will be required within 90 days of becoming newly Listed with DHS for providers exempt from licensing.

Effective October 1, 2010:

Child care billings for DHS eligible families will not be issued until a background check is processed and completely cleared. (Currently a provider can be paid while the background check is in process. This will no longer be allowed as of October 1<sup>st</sup>.)

#### DHS Orientation and Training Information:

- Exempt providers will be paid \$12 per hour to attend the DHS Orientation class.
- If you are exempt and actively DHS Listed, you will be paid \$12 per hour to attend First Aid/CPR classes and a two hour Recognizing & Reporting Child Abuse & Neglect (RRCAN) class.
- You can become an Enhanced Provider and get a higher rate of reimbursement if you have: current First Aid/CPR, Food Handler card, and attended a 2 hour Recognizing & Reporting Child Abuse & Neglect class. This also qualifies you for a Step 1 on the Oregon Registry.
- You can be paid \$12 per hour for up to twelve hours of additional early childhood training! Eight additional hours of training will qualify you for a Step 2 on the Oregon Registry.
- Exempt providers can be paid \$50 as a Milestone for attaining a Step 3 or higher on the Oregon Registry.

Call your local CCR&R if you have questions or want more information. Look for DHS Orientation schedule in the Training Calendar enclosed with this newsletter.



### Sparkling Conversation Builds Vocabulary

Engage in one-to-one, extended conversations with individual children about their experiences at home, in their community, or events in the program — that is the most valuable step in promoting language development. With preschoolers, don't just limit your conversation to talking about the here and now — talk with children about things that happened in the past, will happen in the future, or are in their imagination. This kind of talk requires more explanations and descriptions, and challenges children's developing language skills.

**Be spontaneous** — that's what most conversation with young children should be: happy talking as they play together, as you go about your daily routines with them such as diapering or eating together, and as you pick up on their interests. **Talk *with*, not *at* children. And listen.** With all children, use the kind of language you want them to use. And make sure they talk with each other. For articles like this and many other tips, check out: [www.cdacouncil.org](http://www.cdacouncil.org) then find CouncilLink on lower left side of page.

### Nutrition Tips

- ☺ Encourage children to assist you in developing a menu that includes a selection of nutritious foods.
- ♣ Introduce new healthy food choices gradually. It usually takes 18 or more tries before a child accepts a new food.
- ☺ Do not use food as punishment or reward.
- ♣ Avoid eating or drinking anything in front of the children that they are not allowed to have.



**... REMEMBER to practice your fire and emergency evacuation plan!**

**August 7<sup>th</sup> is National Kids' Day**

**Child Care Resource & Referral**  
1916 Island Avenue  
La Grande OR 97850

**Building Assets in Children – High Expectations** (encouraging youth to do well)  
**Tip: Ask your children challenging questions, then listen to their answers. Take them seriously. Learn from them.**

**Child Care Resource & Referral Staff**

**Baker County:**

*Healthy Child Care Project:  
ECE Specialist*

Julie Skidgel at 541-523-7838

[skidj@tecteam.org](mailto:skidj@tecteam.org)

Phoebe Wachtel at 541-523-7838

[wacht@tecteam.org](mailto:wacht@tecteam.org)

**Grant County:**

Megan Brandsma at 541-575-0251

[branm@tecteam.org](mailto:branm@tecteam.org)

**Harney County:**

Sheila Angell at 541-573-6676

[anges@tecteam.org](mailto:anges@tecteam.org)

**Malheur County:**

*Storytellers:*

Danielle Phillips at 541-889-0985

[crrassist@tecteam.org](mailto:crrassist@tecteam.org)

Darlyne Johnson and Valeria Gardner

**Union County:**

*ECE Specialist*

Deanna Humphry at 541-963-7942, ext 22 [humpd@tecteam.org](mailto:humpd@tecteam.org)

*Storyteller*

Jan Alberts at 541-963-7942, ext 24

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*Clerical Assistant*

Donna Ladd at 541-963-7942, ext 20

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**Wallowa County:**

Kathy Wadsworth at 541-426-3149

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**All Counties:**

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