

Family Matters

A Newsletter for Family Service Staff!

Welcome to Family Matters, a newsletter designed for Head Start program staff that provides comprehensive services with an emphasis on families.

December 2008

Fourth Edition

Community Resources and Services to Share with Families

Are you looking for creative ways to link families, schools, and communities to support success in school and in life while *promoting strategies to support family involvement in children's learning and development*? Then view the following website: www.hfrp.org. The Harvard Family Research Project since 1983 has helped stakeholders develop and evaluate strategies to promote the well being of children, youth families and their communities.

Association of Early Childhood International provides a unique blend of quality research as a way of *promoting and supporting the Global Community the Optimal Education and Development of Children*, from *Birth through Early Adolescence*, and to influence the professional growth of educators and the efforts of others who are committed to the needs of children in a changing society. To view the many resources this website has to offer Early Childhood and Family Service staff please view <http://www.acei.org/index.html>

To gain more information about *additional state and community information* to share with your families, then view this website: <http://www.parentingcenter.com/> This is a state-by-state website that will provide you with valuable information to share with parents who feel the need to reach out for help/ advice and resources. Parenting Center.com is dedicated to helping families find parenting information.

Passionate about children's growth, development and achievements, *Tutor Time* is proud to partner with educationally minded families who share these goals. Tutor Time appreciate and understand the rapid pace of today's world and work to ease the stressors modern families face.

<http://www.tutortime.com/parents.aspx> serves as a website that serves as *a way to communicate with families*. This website has gathered resources to *help families stay involved in their children's early educational experiences* and *provide parents with additional information and tips regarding a variety of parenting and family issues*. Please view this website at your leisure.

Attention staff and parents! Are you looking for *unique information* products* and ideas** to share with your families during this Season? Then please check out <http://www.earlychildhood.com>

For Parents! Hot Topics visit <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/For%20Parents>. This website contains up to date *Head Start resources and materials for parents*.

Health and Safety Information to Share with Families

With childhood *Obesity on the rise in Early Childhood Programs*, it is vitally important to keep staff, children, families, and community partners involved with the recent media coverage of this topic: Obesity. To download this on A Comprehensive Approach to Addressing Childhood Obesity in Early Childhood Programs, please click on <http://www.childcareexchange.com/library/5016941.pdf>

For a wealth of *Health and Safety Ideas for the Young Child* then visit this award winning website www.healthychild.net. Also to the left of the webpage click on link which will link you up to other websites pertinent to children and families.

Professionalism in Early Child Care

As professionals working with children and families, it is always important for us to keep in mind *our commitment to the profession*. Below is the link to secure a copy of A Code of Ethical Conduct and Statement of Commitment for your record. <http://www.naeyc.org/about/positions/PSeth05.asp> (Note: See also the “Code of Ethical Conduct: Supplement for Early Childhood Adult Educators,” online at <http://www.naeyc.org/about/positions/ethics04.asp>.) Also families may visit <http://www.naeyc.org/families/> for information on articles, books and brochures to encourage your child’s development.

Attention: If you would like to contribute articles or share information regarding Family Matters from your personal or professional experiences; please send it to tony.kirk@STGInternational.com

*“When you look at your life, the greatest happiness’s is family happiness’s”
~Joyce Brothers*

Have a Great Month