



PRINCE GEORGE'S CHILD
RESOURCE CENTER, INC

Newsletter • July 2008

Creating healthy and nurturing environments for children by supporting their families and educating their caregivers



From the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We have many changes to report in this newsletter. After fifteen years at the Resource Center, we say goodbye to Margaret Watkins, our director of Community Programs. Margaret is retiring to enjoy her passion for gardening, as well as more time with her family and traveling. She plans to take on small projects for us so you still may see or hear from her in the future. We wish her all the best in this new stage of her life.

Another change came last November when the child care community in Maryland was rocked by the death of Sandy Skolnik from lung cancer. Sandy created the Maryland Child Care Resource Network and always had a passion for improving and expanding the world of child care. She had the vision and political know-how to get things accomplished. Generations of Maryland's children attended higher quality programs due to Sandy's dedication and she is certainly missed.

The Resource Center is proud to be among Washington's "freshman class" of the Taproot Foundation. Taproot, with offices nationwide, opened at the Watergate this spring. Taproot matches media professionals who volunteer their time and talent with local nonprofits. The Resource Center applied and was awarded a service grant to improve our annual report. We are honored to be the only nonprofit in Maryland chosen and look forward to working with our Taproot volunteers.

Have you seen the Resource Center video? Thanks to the incredible talent of our board member Kris O'Krepky, we now have a wonderful new way of getting our message out to the community. Check our website



Marti Worshtil receives grant award from Tara Potter of Verizon Maryland

at www.childresource.org and let me know what you think. And speaking of our website, we keep adding and improving the design. If you haven't checked it lately, please see the jobs page and updates.

The Resource Center is committed to our Healthy Families program. We know that in-home intervention is a proven method of breaking the cycle of violence, and lucky for us our funders agree. We are so pleased to announce that with funding from County Executive Johnson's office and continuation funding from the Freddie Mac Foundation we have been able to double the program. And how do we know that the program is working? Our moms are getting their prenatal care, our babies are being immunized on schedule but most importantly there have been NO reports of child abuse and neglect. We are successfully breaking the cycle of violence so children can grow up in healthy, nurturing environments.

Marti Worshtil

PRINCE GEORGE'S CHILD RESOURCE CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Julie Hoffman, Chair
Health Care Consultant

Lynn Baldwin, Vice Chair
Prince George's County Group
Child Care Association

Gregory Dyson
ICMARC

Shaina Edney
Commerce Bank

Barbara Gural
Marketing Specialist

Michele La Rocca
Meyers, Rodbell & Rosenbaum, P.A.

Harvey Maisel
Maisel Development Company

Robert Malone
M & T Bank

Kris O'Krepky
Chesapeake Productions

The Honorable Victor Ramirez
Maryland State Delegate

Dr. Tracey Wayne Perry
University of Maryland

Brenda Robinson Yates
ULLICO, Inc.

The Happiest of Holidays

During the holiday season of 2007, the Resource Center linked with businesses to help support families and child care providers in Prince George's County. *Barnes & Noble, Target,* and employees from five companies made an incredible difference in our community.



Barnes & Noble of Bowie chose the Resource Center for their annual Holiday Book Drive. While doing their own holiday shopping, hundreds of people were generous enough to purchase books to be donated. As a result, we received nearly 2,000 books to give to children, parents and child care providers that we serve! Thank you, *Barnes & Noble*, for your commitment to the community, and thank you to all who participated in the event.



Target also helped brighten the holidays for families participating in our Family Support Center and Healthy Families program. As members of United Way of the National Capital Area, we qualified to receive six gorgeous, fully-decorated Christmas trees that were delivered to families. Thank you *Target*!

The most amazing surprise of all came through these five local companies and agencies whose employees got together to adopt families for the holidays:

- Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection

- Cambridge Associates, Arlington Office Consulting Group
- Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center
- Navigant Consulting, Inc.
- RAFFA, P.C.

We serve the most at-risk families in the County who face incredible challenges daily as they work to create safe and healthy environments for their children. Some are teen parents, many do not have access to health care, and often have abuse in their backgrounds.

So when items were delivered for families during December, staff could not believe the generosity exhibited. Wrapped toys, winter clothes and books were crowding the office of Liliana Janssen-Checa, Program Manager for Healthy Families Prince George's who grew emotional at the overwhelming response. Danitza Simpson, Director of the Family Support Center remarked, "Our families had never experienced this kind of generosity from people who didn't even know them. They were amazed." In addition to all the presents, over \$2,000 in grocery store gift cards were given to families. When participants received these gifts, they were astonished and thankful and touched. On behalf of the families we serve, we thank you!



Science Road Show

On Saturday, January 26, over 200 parents, children, and members of the child care community gathered at Watkins Nature



Children and Parents get ready for nature walk with Park Ranger Chris Garrett

Center in Upper Marlboro for a fun day of learning about science. Though “fun” is not usually the first thing that comes to mind when hearing the word “science,” the Science Road

Show Science Fair featured live animals, puppet shows, and activities that left no doubt that even learning about biology and chemistry can be exciting. The Resource Center, in partnership with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System, held the Science Fair to provide information and resources about different science topics, introduce parents and child care providers to local science programs, and to publicize the Resource Center’s new Science Road Show program. Diane Embrey, the Early Childhood Science Coordinator



Naturalist Beth Wisotzkey captivates her audience

for the Resource Center, spoke with guests and made “goo” with children. The “goo” making quickly earned her the name “goo lady” as many of the children returned again and again to make a squishy prize at the Resource Center table, and Diane successfully recruited many excited child care providers to sign-up for the Science Road Show.

Science Road Show is a free, traveling program that offers science training, mentoring, and resources for early childhood educators in Prince George’s County. To become part of the Science Road Show, call Diane Embrey, Early Childhood Science Coordinator, at 301-772-8420, ext. 231.

Here’s one activity to get you excited about Science Road Show!

Color Changing Milk

You will need: Milk (whole or 2%), Dinner Plate, Food Coloring, Dish Soap, and Cotton Swabs.

1. First pour just enough milk onto the plate to cover the bottom.
2. Add one drop of each color of food coloring, keeping them close together (but not on top of each other) and in the center of the plate.
3. Find a clean cotton swab and touch the tip of the swab in the milk without stirring. **What happens?**
4. Next, put dish soap on the end of another cotton swab and touch the tip of the swab in the milk.
See an explosion of color!

How did this happen? Milk contains water, vitamins, minerals, proteins and fats. The dish soap breaks the invisible chemical bonds that keep proteins together causing them to break up and move in all directions. What we see is molecules of food coloring getting bumped around by the proteins.

This experiment and many other fun science activities can be found at www.stevespanglerscience.com/experiments.

Celebrating Mother's Day 2008

Every Mother's Day, we celebrate our moms, aunts, grandmothers, sisters and friends. For 2008, Resource Center Board, staff and supporters honored these special women whose commitment and dedication have improved our lives and the lives of others:

Ebba Jean Allen
Trenna Allen
Lynn Baldwin
Harriet Ruth Howard Banks
Janet Barbash
Mary Martha Benner
Carole Clements
Julie Daberkow
Dr. Alyssa Dayan
Rita Dayan
Jessica Diaz
Lonnie Ebron
Ann Feld
Marian Guldin
Barbara Gural
Vivian Gammon
Julie Hoffman

Nancy Hoffman
Carol Iverson
Kimberly Iverson
Liz Iverson
Maggie Iverson
Laneka Jackson
Pearl Lee
Rose Levine
Ellen Levy
Blondell Malone
Nellie Marshall
Kay McKay
Alice B. Meltzer
Frances Morgan
Sara-Beth Noll
Paula Palmisano
Julie Parsons

Joan Porte
Margarita Perez
Shannon Regner
Iona Foster Rhodes
Alice Mae Moore Robinson
Elizabeth Romito
Laurie Schnitzer
Stephanie Short
Samantha Shron
Jo Tavenner
Laura Terrell
Alice Jacob Thayil
Sherry Waters
Alaina McMahon Watkins
Dee Watkins
Margaret Watkins
Marti Worshtil

In Memoriam

Emma Baldwin
Ruth Baldwin
Irene Banks
Mary Furr
Louise V. Hall
Patricia Regner
Sophie Weber



Have you HEARD?

☀ We welcome many new staff including Rosa Bowers, Alberta Contee, Momi Kargbo, Christina Lewis, Ledis Navas, Ilka Rancel, Rocio Treminio, Karen Ventura, Natasha Nielsen, Jhakey Garcia, Siriha Robledo-Curtis and Kanisha Garrett. Welcome back to Luz Perassi!

☀ Congratulations to Natasha Nielson on her marriage and to Yenny Lucero on the birth of her daughter Rebecca Isabella!

☀ Do you have a child under age 5 in your program that exhibits challenging behavior? Project WIN can help! This free program funded by MSDE provides support for pre-school children who are disruptive in a group setting. For more information visit our website, or call Paul Armstrong at 301.772.3607.

☀ Have you seen our new video? It's available online at www.childresource.org. Special thanks to Al and June Pearsall, Sandra Ortega and Tahirah Jenkins for sharing their stories.

☀ Over 1100 people attended the 11th Annual Celebrate Children Conference held on March 29 at Dr. Henry A. Wise, Jr. High School in Upper Marlboro. On behalf of the Prince George's Interagency Early Childhood Committee, Sanders Shiver honored Dr. Charlene Dukes of Prince

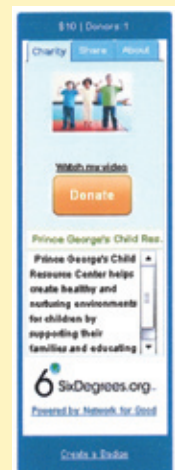
George's Community College with the Judith P. Hoyer Award for Outstanding Service to Children.

☀ Congratulations to Greenbelt Children's Center for achieving accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children!

☀ Trishawn Adams of Accokeek received her accreditation in December 2007! Congratulations.

☀ Congratulations to Board member Barbara Gural on the birth of her first grandchild Mia.

☀ Want a widget? Help support the Resource Center by copying this widget from our website and sharing it with your friends! You can email it, post in on your personal blog, My Space or Face Book page. Your friends and family can make a tax deductible donation to the Resource Center in minutes. It's easy, fun and a great way to get involved. Call Jennifer Hoffman at 301.772.8420, ext. 226 with any questions.



Training at the Resource Center

Did you know that the Resource Center trains over 4,000 people each year? We are pleased to offer a wide variety of training for the early education community including start-up training for new child care providers, continued education sessions, and core of knowledge workshops that meet the needs of both beginning and experienced professionals. Our evaluation surveys indicate that our interactive workshops are fun, engaging and equip child care providers to make a difference in the lives of children.

Important Announcement: EFFECTIVE JULY 1

Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), Office of Child Care regulations require that all new family child care providers must complete 24 hours of training in six four-hour training sessions (called pre-service) before they can become registered. The Resource Center is ready to help you meet these new requirements!



Al and June Pearsall review MSDE-approved curricula on display at the Resource Center

For a full schedule of training, call the Resource Center at 301.772.8420. Or visit our website at www.childresource.org to view our calendar and register online.

WE'RE SWEET ON OUR MEMBERS!

Did you know that Prince George's Child Resource Center has a membership of over 500? On February 13, 2008 we had an open house event to show our members how much we appreciate them. Members and supporters began arriving at 5:30, and judging from the laughter and the crowd around the chocolate fountain, it was a smashing success.

In addition to giving child care providers a chance to network with each other, we were able to share member benefits and ask for feedback. Diane Embrey, Early Childhood Science Coordinator, was on hand to share news about the Science Road Show. Paul Armstrong, Early Mental Health Coordinator, shared about Project WIN, an invaluable resource for child care providers. This early intervention resource helps support children exhibiting challenging behaviors.

Also on display were curricula sets that are approved by the Maryland State Department of Education. Our members enjoyed seeing first-hand what qualifies as a developmentally-appropriate curriculum, what each product includes, and how much of a financial investment is required. These will continue to be on display at the Resource Center, so please come by during regular business hours to see!



Linda Barrs and Jennifer Hoffman holding Linda's prizes

Fabulous prizes were awarded to the lucky winners of the seven drawings held that evening, but nobody left empty-handed! Every one who attended was able to choose a children's book, made possible by Barnes & Noble of Bowie. If you missed our event this year, we will welcome you in 2009!

Special Training Opportunities

(See calendar for dates and details)

Care to Read

The Resource Center is pleased to offer early literacy training. For only \$20, each participant attending these six-hour fun-filled workshops will receive a free resource book to use in their programs.

SIDS

The Resource Center is offering SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) training for the reduced fee of only \$5. The CJ Foundation for SIDS makes it possible for us to present this two-hour session that meets MSDE, Office of Child Care SIDS training requirements and also gives participants additional information about healthy sleeping habits for young children.

Infant/Toddler Training

Infant/Toddler training continues to meet the needs of child care providers serving young children. These sessions are offered monthly at the reduced rate of only \$15.

Emergency Preparedness

Develop an individual emergency plan in this six-hour training offered through Chesapeake College for only \$15.

90 Clock Hour Fast Track Course | Fee: \$350

(Includes textbook)

Attendance at all sessions is mandatory to receive a certificate.

September '08

16, 18, 23, 25, 30 6:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.

October '08

2, 7, 14, 16, 21,
23, 28, 30 6:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.
4 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

November '08

3, 6, 10 6:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.
5 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Call today to register 301.772.8420

DONORS

We thank all of our donors who supported the Resource Center for Mother's Day and throughout the year. With your help, we will continue fulfilling our mission in Prince George's County:

To help create healthy and nurturing environments for children by supporting their parents and educating their caregivers.

Anonymous
Abi A. Adeyemi
Myrna L. Allen-Medley
Matilda Alleyne
Oladotun Ayodeji
Jack & Bev Bailer
Ronald and Lynn Baldwin
William A. Baldwin
Helen Barnes
Andrea Barton
Andrea R. Bassil
Christine Becraft
Joanne C. Benson
Evie & Stacey Berger
Carmen Blackwood
Gilbert S. Blake
Ricky Bobbitt
Michelle Brett
Irene L. Briggs
Candace Brown
Stacy Brown
Flossie Buggs
Frances Burroughs
Marge Cameron
Marva Jo Camp
Daisy F. Carr
Randy & Beth Carey
Jennifer Case
Alicia Ab Charles
Marie Checkley
Annie Chelliah
Deborah Chiles
Sally Clayton
Mr. & Mrs. Duncan Clements
Michele M. Collins
Melvin M. Contee
Flormelyn Crispino
Barbara Davis
Ruth G. Davis
Dr. Alyssa Dayan & Jamie Worshtil
Medora Deeds
Catalan deMatties
Gregory & Avis Dyson
Mary Elizabeth Edwards
Myron A. Ellis
Liz Eun
Susan Fensterheim
Carolyn Ford
Teisha Ford
Donna Fowler
Margo Francis
John Gavin

Flora L. Gee
Cesar A. Giron-Cardoza
Suzin Glickman
Maria Gollayan
Xenia Gonzalez
Kerensa Green
Dorothy W. Greene
Barbara Gural
Jeffrey Gural
Stephanie Hagopian
Stacie Banks Hall
Jessie L. Hall
Thelma Hall
Hope Hammond
Janine Hartman
Byron D. Head
Jonathan B. Henry
George W. Hill, II
Evelyn Hoban
Kirk & Jennifer Hoffman
Julie Hoffman
Doug & Sonie Horstman
Billie & Mike Humphrey
Erik Iverson
Dr. William T. Iverson
Liliana Janssen-Checa
Anna Jeong
LaVenía T. Johnson
Obay Kahala
Mary L. King
Laurie M. Klinovsky
Shirley Kramer
Leti Labell
Linda La Croix
Diana Levy
Ellen Levy
Loris Lewis
Sonya Lake
Stan S.H. Lee
Ellen Levy
Loris Lewis
Angela Lovelace
Karyn Lynch
Harvey & Andrea Maisel
Rob & Jualecia Malone
Mark M. Mason
David R. Merkowitz
Marianne Miller
Shirley Milton
Roderick E. Missouri
The Honorable William D. Missouri
Judy Mongelluzzo

Natasha Moore
Ivanna Mora
Cecilia Morah
Paul & Carol Neumayer
Kevin Nolan
Emily Paige
Paula Palmisano
Kristina E. Park
Edith Parrish
Katherine Parsons
Nelly S. Perea-Morales
Jueline Perry
Carl Pickens
Debbie Pierce
Tonya Pope
Shellie E. Purnell
Simone Putnam
Tom Raffa
The Honorable Victor R. Ramirez
Wanda Ramos
Jodi and Steve Regner
Mark Resnick
Kim Rhim
Thurman Rhodes
Susan Porter Robinson
Brenda Robinson-Yates
George Rodgers
Lauren Rubenstein
Marlane Russell-Williams
The Sahn Family
Donna Sawyer
The Honorable Ronald and Peggy Schiff
Claire Schnitzer & Zach Worshtil
Kitty Shaver
Dennis Shine
Gail Shirey
Sabrina Shorter
Danitza Simpson
Lee M. Sislen
Thomas Steinmetz
William Steinmetz
Brian & Shelly Steinwurtzel
Charles Stewart
Sylvia Syphax
Nancy Tanner
Thomas Tavenner
Jeffere Y. Taylor
Laura Terrell
Martha Torres
Robert Trent
Susan Thweatt
Lynette Twilley

Wendy Vicks
Christine A. Visher
Eric Wade
Renee Walsh
Helen C. Ware
Mike Watkins
Margaret & Grant Watkins
David Weber
Peg and Jerry Weissinger
Lucilla Welch
Anne MacKinnon Welsh
Monica A. Whack
Patricia Williams
Christine Willyard
Joel & Marti Worshtil
Joanna Worshtil
Mary Wright
Scott Yackley

The Arc of Prince George's County
Charity Family Day Care
Crescent Cities Jaycees Foundation
Dorkan Financial Group
Friends of the Family, Inc
Goodsearch
Greenbelt Children's Center
Tom Hendershot Campaign Committee
Hopes and Dreams Infant/Toddler Center
Employees of IBM Corporation
ICMA Retirement Corporation
Langley Park Plaza, Inc.
Learning World Child Development Center
Little Flower Day Care Center, Inc
Employees of Montgomery County Government
National Family Resiliency Center
Professional Child Care Provider
Network of Prince George's County
Shiple, Horne & Hewlett, P.A.
The Sutter Group
A Tangled Skein
Trishawn's Family Daycare
University of MD Staff & Students
World of Fun Child Care Center

PRINCE GEORGE'S CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, INC.

9475 Lottsford Road, Suite 202
Largo, MD 20774

Main Office 301.772.8420
Training ext. 229
Science Road Show ext. 231
Project WIN 301.772.3607
LOCATE: Child Care 301.772.8400
Provider Vacancies/Updates 301.772.8411
Fax 301.772.8410

Adelphi/Langley Park Family Support Center
8908 Riggs Road
Adelphi, MD 20783
Phone: 301.431.6210 • Fax: 301.431.6212

Web: www.childresource.org • Email: pgcrc@childresource.org
Find out more about Resource Center news and events, register for workshops, check for job openings, use our helpful "resources" page, or help support our mission by making a secure donation.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Maryland Committee for Children www.mdchildcare.org
Other Area Resource and Referral Centers 410.752.7588
Maryland State Department of Education www.marylandpublicschools.org
Office of Child Care, Prince George's 301.333.6940
Office of Child Care, Credentialing 410.767.6922

Washington Child Development Council 202.387.0002
Prince George's County Group Child Care Association
Lynn Baldwin, President 301.952.3674
Prince George's County Family Child Care Association
Janice Gray, President 301.498.1516
Professional Child Care Provider Network of Prince George's County
Phyllis Waters, President 301.899.9610
DBED: Day Care Financing Programs 410.767.6388
Prince George's County Public Schools www.pgcps.org
Child and Adult Food Program 301.780.5810
Early Childhood Office 301.808.4000
School Boundaries/Student Transfers 301.952.6300
Prince George's Community College www.pgcc.edu
Early Childhood Education 301.322.0158
The Arc of Prince George's County 301.925.7050
Early Intervention Services
Infants and Toddlers (Ages 0-2) 301.265.8415
Child Find (Ages 3-5) 301.808.2719
Family Crisis Center (24 hours) 301.779.2100
Department of Social Services www.dhr.state.md.us
Child Care Subsidy 301.909.6200
Child Protective Services 301.909.2450
National Capital Poison Center 866.222.1222



**PRINCE GEORGE'S CHILD
RESOURCE CENTER, INC**

9475 Lottsford Road, Suite 202
Largo, Maryland 20774-5357

