



October 2012

Communicator

We are Idahoans who want to make a difference for Idaho's Kids!

VISION:

All Idaho's children grow up healthy, safe and nurtured by their families, with quality learning opportunities, and are able to reach their fullest potential supported by inclusive community services.

MISSION:

Provide leadership and education, and coordinate resources for Idaho's young children and their families.

Join us on <u>Facebook</u> and follow our monthly

Welcome to the EC3!

The Early Childhood Coordinating Council (EC3) would like to welcome the newest members as appointed by Governor Otter.

Cassie Stover and Nancy Luevanos, parents of young children.

Christy Cronheim, representative for the Infant Toddler Program, IDEA Part C.

Lorisa Wellock, liaison for the Regional Early Childhood Committees.

Valerie Burges, representative from Child Welfare. Representative Reed DeMordaunt, Idaho Legislature. Lauren Ertz, Medicaid.

Thank you from the EC3!

The following members are leaving the Council:

Representative Phylis King, Robin Pewtress, Mary Jones, Sherry Iverson,

Dieuwke Dizney-Spencer, and

Carol Blessing.

Their commitment and dedication to the Council has been exemplary.

What have we learned?

The Early Childhood Coordinating Council had their first quarterly meeting of the fiscal year on September 6 & 7. During the meeting the Council learned of some progress that Idaho is making toward healthier and happier kids.

CHIC Grant: Melissa Carico provided the Council with an update on The Children's Health Insurance Collaboration Grant (CHIC). This grant provides health practitioners an opportunity to evaluate their practice for targeted services and improve their performance. Having just finished the initiative for Asthma the next enterprises will be Immunizations and Medical Home. This partnership with the CHIC program and medical practices can help increase the health and wellness of children throughout the state. To learn more follow this link.

Welfare Modernization: The Welfare system in Idaho serves 1 in 3 Idahoans. In spite of the challenge of providing support to that many clients, the system and its overhaul has performed better than many states in the country. The Welfare Modernization project is focusing on making their services more family centered and convenient for families to apply, maintain and renew their services. Future enhancements may include web-based applications with live on-line chats. For more information see their newsletter.

Robert Manwill Blue Ribbon Panel Report:

Morbidity Committee: After the tragic death of Robert Manwill, DHW Director Richard Armstrong ordered an independent review panel to evaluate the case and develop system recommendations. The 13 member board was comprised of individuals from different backgrounds and disciplines. Miren Unsworth, Program Manager for Family and Community Services with the Department of Health and Welfare, summarized the report of the panel's findings and recommendations for policy changes that include a Child Morbidity Review Committee. To see the full report follow the link embedded in "Morbidity Committee".

Council Contact Information

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If you have an event you would like to announce in the Communicator contact Council staff.



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Congratulations!

The Early Childhood Coordinating Council would like to congratulate the Idaho Commission for Libraries on their successful application for the 2012 National Leadership Grant for the project "Routes to Reading: Idaho Paves the way with Access to Print". The \$250,000 grant was matched with \$30,000 from the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation. Without the matched funds the grant would not have been considered. The receipt of this grant allows for collaboration with the Early Childhood Coordinating Council, Idaho Commission for Libraries and Infant Toddler Program. This partnership will provide a lending program

for children birth-3 enrolled in the Infant Toddler Program. By blending resources and coordinating efforts access to early literacy training and this program will be available for an additional 500 to 1,000 children and families. Implementation will begin during the winter months of 2013.



Announcements

Idaho AEYC will be hosting a series of conferences throughout the state. Follow the link to learn the dates, times and locations of the conference in your area.

Idaho AEYC also hosted their annual fundraiser "Stick Your Neck Out for Idaho's Children" on Thursday, October 4, 2012. Congratulations to the honorees Barbi Harrison, Jim Everett, Beth Ann Fuller and Jennifer Brown for their work to help children in Idaho.

<u>Idaho Children's Trust Fund</u> will be hosting a Strengthening Families Training Institute, on March 12 & 13, 2013.



Registration opens in January 2013. Watch Idaho Children's Trust Fund for future announcements.

Early Years Conference 2012 will take place November 13 & 14, 2012 at Boise State University's Student Union Building. To learn more and register follow the link to learn of recent developments in early childhood.

Early constant of Success

The Council Needs Your Help! The Early Childhood Coordinating Council has two funds at the Idaho Community Foundation; one fund is to assist with sustainability and special projects of the Council. The other is designed as a scholarship fund for students who will study Early Childhood/Early Childhood Special Education. Click on the babies to donate to the Council. Click on the cap and diploma to donate to the scholarship fund. All donations are tax deductible. United Way donations can also be designated to go to the Idaho Community Foundation Early Childhood fund(s).

The Council Meetings are open to the Public!

Did you know that every Childhood Coordinating Council meeting is an open meeting? The meeting schedule, with times and locations, is available by contacting the Council Staff or going to the Council's Website. Agendas and minutes are also available on this website. The meeting dates for the next year are:

November 8 & 9, 2012 February 7 & 8, 2013 May 2 & 3, 2013 September 5 & 6, 2013 November 7 & 8, 2013

Halloween Safety Tips!



Click the Jack o' Lantern for Halloween safety tips!

"Sometimes, reaching out and taking someone's hand is the beginning of a journey. At other times, it is allowing another to take yours."

~Vera Nazarian