



For the Love of It

CAP Services ECD



News from Kluz

September 2011

Positive Changes along with Positive Attitudes

I usually begin with a warm welcome back but since many of you are working during the summer months, I will just say a very warm hello. It has been an interesting and busy summer. I would like to share with you some of the highlights:

The move from Montello to Oxford has been a priority this summer. A huge thank you to Bobbie Jo Mork for taking a strong lead in overseeing this project and to the Montello and Tami Stansbury, Tina Cuikaj, Mary Kamin, Laura Kohn and Chris Lee for assisting with the move. The move is not quite done but it should be wrapped up by the middle of Sep-

tember. Bobbie Jo will be glad when she can package this one up.

The weather has certainly had an impact on FDC and CDC. When the big storm blew in both centers were closed for a day due to no power. In addition, the roof at FDC had leaked and a large mop and other essential tools were needed to make things dry again. A big thank you to Tera and Steve for ensuring clean-up was done in a timely manner and that the centers were ready to operate the very next day.

Bobbie Jo, Monica and I were busy in June attending a week long Administrators Credentialing Course. In spite of the warm weather, we passed and received our certificates.

Children's Discovery Center will be a

site for a Head Start am class in classroom 7. Samantha Eckes and Jill Wilcox will be the Head Start Classroom Manager and FSS. Sara Daven and Judi Kinberg are the child care teaching staff.

We've changed the administrative staffing pattern for Early Head Start. We've transitioned 0-5 years in supervision and monitoring for both Head Start and Early Head Start. Kristie, Bobbie Jo and Monica were very willing to make this change and they began providing support to both programs July 25th. April will still give oversight to the entire EHS operation.

Mileage was adjusted to 52 cents for 8-1-11 to 12-31-11 in response to the IRS increase. *(Continued pg 2)*

Staff News

For a staff night out, we made t-shirts to wear to the Rafter's Game in Wisconsin Rapids.

Jenny Osowski, Heather Lynch, Jen Sorgel, Kim Moen, Ashly Halbersma and Sara Daven were joined by Rosco T. Rafter.



Rachel S and family were at the Brewers game when the SPASH Girls Softball team was honored as the Wisconsin State Champions of 2011! Check out the jumbo tron for a shot of Taylor Smola! Taylor reported being 10 feet from Ryan Braun...Swoon!



(Cont, on pg. 3)



News from Kluz continued

I want to wish Bonnie Brewer, Teacher Assistant in Montello, a very happy retirement. Bonnie has given 17 years of her teaching skills, talents and positive attitude to our program. She has touched many lives over the years and families, children and staff will miss her greatly. I wish her all the best!!!

This Year's Strategic Issue Focus

This year, one of our many program goals is to have the ECD MTM (April, Kathy, Mary and myself) concentrate on our identified strategic issue "How do we attract and retain quality staff?" At this time, the plan is to send out a quick survey to obtain staff input and to attend center meetings. Target areas have not been identified yet but some ideas that have surfaced are staff orientation, hiring qualified staff, accountability and motivation. I think the last two areas, accountability and motivation, bring to mind a quote from the book, *Flipping the Switch*. "Leadership has nothing to do with our title, position, tenure, or "span of control" and everything to do with the way we think. By bringing responsibility, ownership, and action to life, this helps each of us think----and act----like a leader."

Give some thought to this quote before we head out to see you.

On the Legislative Front

The agreement signed into law on August 2nd to raise the Federal debt ceiling will cap discretionary spending by the Federal government over the next ten years---reducing spending by roughly 917 billion---and will establish a bi-partisan "super-committee" responsible for identifying 1.2 trillion in further deficit reduction.

Here is the chosen "Supercommittee":

House Republicans: Ways and Means Chairman Dave Camp (R-Mich.), Energy and Commerce Chairman Fred Upton (R-Mich.) and Republican Conference Chairman Jeb Hensarling (R-Texas." Hensarling will be co-chairman of the committee);

House Democrats: James E. Clyburn, (D-SC, Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD).

Senate Republicans: Jon Kyl of Arizona, Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania and Rob Portman of Ohio.

Senate Democrats: Patty Murray of Washington, John Kerry of Massachusetts and Max Baucus of Montana. Murray will be the other co-chair.

What the Debt Limit means for Head Start

Head Start is among the many programs that may face reduction as the supercommittee finds avenues for deficit reduction over the next three months. While Pell Grants are protected, the fact that Head Start is covered by the same legislation does not guarantee its safety. Without immediate and focused advocacy efforts the future of Head Start may be in jeopardy.

Keep in mind, that it is quite clear; NO ONE KNOWS ANYTHING FOR SURE AT THIS TIME!!!!

What Can We Do Now?

As a program with a proven track record, we need to advocate. We need to let others know what we do and the impact our work has on our communities that we serve. We need to continue to have excellent federal reviews and child care licensing visits. We need to make a difference that can be supported by outcomes. We need to continue on our path of excellence.

Let's have a great year full of positive changes with a more purposeful and positive attitude in our workplace.

Carla Kluz





Staff News continued

People, Pattern and Places is the Community Photography Show at the Riverfront Art Center in Stevens Point. Our talented co-workers, **Sarah Klish** and **Sarah Wilke** have photos exhibited there! Sarah K. shared with us that the photo she exhibited of the dramatic sky of an approaching thunderstorm was taken from the car window as they were leaving the lake. Lucky Shot! Many of the photos are for sale for \$25. The show will be up through September 18. Check out all the art works, T-F 11-5 and Sat & Sun from 11-3.

We welcome several new staff mem-

bers this fall: Joining us as CM in FDC Classroom 5 is **Sarah Wallner**, **Susan Edgren** as the new BA at FDC, **Zia Chang** as the CA/Interpreter at FDC and **Amanda Buska** as the CM/4K Teacher at CDC. There are also several staff moving into new positions. **Jill Wilcox** will now be the FSS at CDC. **Samantha Eckes** joins her as the CM-HS for CDC and **Sarah Daven** will be the CA for CDC 7. Donna Magnussen

is a CC-T for CDC Classroom 1. **Amy Koehler** is the EHS Combo Home Visitor at FDC, **Jen Sorgel** is the EHS HB2 at FDC. **Mary Kamin** is the PA in Oxford/Wautoma. **Helen Stelter** is the TA in Oxford. **Elaine Burckhardt** and **Jackie Sager** are subs. I hope I didn't miss anyone! Working together we can look forward to a great year helping children and families as they grow and contribute to the community.



Sarah Wallner



Zia Chang



Sue Edgren

Special Services News



Practical Strategies for Teachers

Tools that Encourage Young Children's Social/Emotional Development

All of the materials listed here, in addition to many others, are available FREE from the CSEFEL website at www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel/

Scripted Stories for Social Situations

Parents, teacher, and caregivers can use these simple stories as a tool to prepare the child for a new situation, to address

challenging behaviors, or to teach new skills.

Children's Book List: Using Books to Support Social-Emotional Development

Here you will find quite a long list of books that can help children understand emotions, feelings, under topics such as: "Being a Friend" or "Sad Feelings".

Teaching Social Emotional Skills

These tools include a wide variety of activities and materials to help children promote self-regulation or problem-solving skills.

Book Nooks

Each Book Nook includes a list of activities and ideas supporting a popular children's book such as *Hands are Not for Hitting*, *On Monday When it Rained*, and *Big Al*.

A New Font for People with Dyslexia

Christian Boer, creator of the Dyslexie font, is a graphic designer who has dyslexia. He wanted to create a font that would allow people with dyslexia the ability of an easier reading experience. One of the key features of Dyslexie is the extra visual "weight" it adds to the bottom halves of the letters. According to Boer, this helps pin the letters to the baseline which helps make it easier to read. Here is a sample of the font, Dyslexie:

Dyslexie, A Typeface Designed To Help Dyslexics Read Initial research shows that it works.

Reading printed text is so fluid and transparent for most people that it's hard to imagine it feeling any other way. Maybe that's why it took a dyslexic designer to create a typeface that optimizes the reading experience for people who suffer from that condition. Christian Boer's "Dyslexie" doesn't exactly make the letterforms look conventionally beautiful, but since when is that a prerequisite for well-designed? If it works, it works. And according to an independent study by the University of Twente in Boer's native





Governor's Early Care and Education Advisory Council

On August 11th Carla and Kathy S. attended a Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partner's meeting to meet members of the Governors Council and to hear updates on the work of the Council in 2011.

The Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) was formed as a result of the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007. This Council will build upon the work of the Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners (WECCP), the Children's Trust Fund Board, the Partners for Wisconsin Economic Success and the Governor's Birth to Three Interagency Coordinating Council.

The mission of the Council is to help ensure that all children and families in Wisconsin have access to quality early childhood programs and services. The Council's responsibilities include:

- Conducting a periodic statewide needs assessment concerning the quality and availability of early childhood education and development programs;
- Identifying opportunities for, and barriers to, collaboration and coordination among Federally-funded and State-funded child development, child care, and early childhood education programs and services;
- Develop recommendations for increasing the overall participation of children in existing Federal, State, and local child care and early childhood education programs, including outreach to underrepresented and special populations; and
- Develop recommendations regarding statewide professional development and career advancement plans for early childhood educators.

During the meeting, successful state early childhood models in Maryland, North Carolina and Pennsylvania were examined to identify systems and programs that could be effective in Wisconsin. Three main areas currently being discussed at the state level are: Identifying Indicators for Measuring Progress of young children; Partnering with the public and private sectors to build awareness of the economic benefits of early childhood education and Data Alignment. For more information the Council go to <http://dcf.wiscosin.gov/ecac> or www.collaboratingpartners.com



Books and Movies

The Stormchasers, by Jenna Blum

Set in Midwestern Tornado alley, this novel describes the world of storm-chasing, popularized by various cable channels combined with a story of adult fraternal twins separated by a tragic accident. Karena and Charles have a bond between them that only seems to be experienced by twins. After 20 years apart, Karena receives a phone call indicating that Charles was hospitalized following an accident. Frantic to connect again, Karena rushes off to find Charles. Knowing that he still chases storms with the

dedication of an manic artist, Karena convinces her editor to allow her to write a feature piece about stormchasing and the people who sign up for a week of adventure following the big storms while she continues to search for Charles. Jenna Blum write lovingly about the landscape of the plains and the violent storms that flare up in the heat of summer, and about the turbulent relationships of families.

Recommended by Toni Starr

Are you a twin? What do you think it would be like to have a twin?

