

DINIYOTHLI KANOHEDA

(Dee-nee-yoth-lee Kaw-no-head-ah - Children's News)

Volume VIII, Issue IV

APRIL 2004

CELEBRATE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

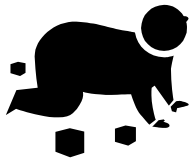
APRIL 18-24, 2004

The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The purpose of the Week of the Young Child is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

NAEYC first established the Week of the Young Child in 1971, recognizing that the early childhood years (birth through age 8) lay the foundation for children's success in school and later life. The Week of the Young Child is a time to plan how we—as citizens of a community, of a state, and of a nation—will better meet the needs of all young children and their families.

Today we know more than ever before about the importance of children's earliest years in shaping their learning and development. Yet, never before have the needs of young children and their families been more pressing.

The Week of the Young Child is a time to recognize that **Children's Opportunities Are Our Responsibilities**, and to recommit ourselves to ensuring that each and every child experiences the type of early environment—at home, at child care, at school, and in the community—that will promote their early learning.



Listed below are just a few ideas of ways to celebrate Week of the Young Child.

***Literacy Day**—Invite members of the community to come and read to the children. Reading to children remains the most effective method to enhance their literacy development. Also, check out children's activities at your local library.

***Health and Safety Day**—Arrange free immunizations and hearing and vision screenings through your county health department. Take a walk, a bike ride or play ball. Talk about the importance of hand-washing. Invite your local police and fire departments to come discuss safety issues with the children.

***Art Show Day**—Contact business and restaurants in your community and ask for permission to post artwork done by the children.

***Visit a Park Day**—Discover the beauty of nature in the park with the children. Count the shades of green leaves on a tree. Name the different colors of flowers you see. Close your eyes and listen for the songs of different birds. Have a picnic, play follow the leader, and lay on a quilt with a pile of books.

***Family Day**—Encourage parents to do something special, as a family, on this day. Eat a meal together. Take a family photograph in the backyard. Spend the evening playing games. Look through each child's baby pictures, and share your favorite memories from their early years. Visit an elderly relative.

Information taken from the Early Childhood Association of Oklahoma and the National Association for the Education of Young Children

O-SI-YO

by Tina Smith
Resource and Referral Specialist

The Child Care Resource Center will be open extended hours one Tuesday and one Saturday per month. We encourage parents and child care providers to take advantage of these extended hours. You may want to come by and check-out some curriculum books or borrow a video. We also have a die cut machine and a laminating machine available for your use. Parents may need a child care referral or information on the developmental stages of their children.

Please pass the word about our extended hours.

Saturdays 9:00 am—12:00 pm

April 3
May 8
June 12

Tuesdays 5:00 pm—8:00 pm

April 20
May 18
June 15



April Is...

KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL MONTH

Teach children to care about their environment from the time they are very young and it will carry over into their adult life. Teach them to respect nature, leave it as is. Go on hikes, visit local parks, and pick up trash whenever you're out.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK April 18-24

National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians, and to promote library use and support. If possible, take the children on a field trip to the library and encourage parents to take regular family trips to a nearby library.

NATIONAL INFANT IMMUNIZATION WEEK

April 25-May 1

Review your immunization records and provide parents with information on the need for timely and appropriate immunizations of their children. The locations for local no-cost services are also helpful. Contact your county health department about the possibility of an immunization event at your center or for the location of nearby clinics for parents to utilize. Many communities hold special immunization events in April.

From the Child Care Providers' Health and Safety Resource Calendar

DINIYOTHLI KANOHEDA
Child Care Programs



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Oklahoma Child Care
RESOURCE & REFERRAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Child abuse prevention month is an opportunity to focus our communities' attention on issues relevant to the prevention of child abuse. Set up a parent/staff meeting in April. Have a specialist speak on child development stages, and tips for dealing with children at each age. Knowing what to expect at each stage and ways to deal with these behaviors is an effective way to help prevent child abuse.

Remember, Oklahoma law requires **EVERY PERSON** who has reasonable cause to believe that a child under 18 is being abused or is in danger of being abused (this includes neglect), to report the suspicion of abuse to the Department of Human Services. Failure to report suspected abuse is a crime.

If you suspect child abuse or neglect: Contact the Abuse Hotline at 800-522-3511.

Abused children may also show sudden changes in behavior or school performance.

Some signs of physical abuse: *unexplained burns, bruises, black eyes or other injuries *apparent fear of a teacher or caretaker *faded bruises or healing injuries after missing school

Some signs of sexual abuse: *difficulty walking or sitting, or other indications of injury in the genital area *sexual knowledge or behavior beyond what is normal for the child's age *running away from home

Some signs of emotional abuse: *acting overly mature or immature for the child's age *extreme changes in behavior *delays in physical or emotional development *attempted suicide *lack of emotional attachment to the parent

Some signs of neglect: *missing school a lot *begging for or stealing money or food *lacking needed medical or dental care *being frequently dirty *using alcohol or other drugs *saying there is no one at home to take care of him or her

(These signs don't prove that a child is being abused. But they could be a signal that the child and his or her family need help.)

Also, know the signs of an abusive adult. Consider the possibility of abuse if a parent or caretaker:

*seems unconcerned about the child's welfare at school or at home *denies problems at school or at home—or blames the child for them *sees the child as worthless or as a burden *avoids discussing the child's injuries, or gives conflicting explanations for them *abuses alcohol or other drugs *seems isolated from other parents and school, and community activities *uses harsh physical discipline or asks other caretakers to use it *depends on the child for emotional support *seems indifferent to the child *seems secretive or tries to isolate the child from other children *frequently blames, belittles or insults the child

(These signs don't prove that an adult is an abuser. But they could be a signal that the adult and his or her family need help.)

If you suspect abuse, report it—it's the right thing to do.

Reporting abuse could save a life. Children die every day from injuries caused by child abuse. Often, someone was aware of the abuse, but didn't report it.

Abusive families need help. Reporting abuse can help connect families with counseling and family services. This may help relieve a family's stress—and prevent future abuse.

The cycle of abuse can be stopped. Victims of abuse who receive counseling and treatment are less likely to become abusers or have other problems as they grow up.

It may be your legal responsibility. Most states have laws requiring anyone who works with children (teachers, nurses, social workers, doctors, etc.) to report abuse.

Some questions and answers about reporting abuse:

Who should I report to? Call your state's child protective services agency. *(You can call and not give your name.)* Check your phone book or call the **Childhelp USA** National Child Abuse Hotline at **1-800-4-A-CHILD (1-800-422-4453)**.

What happens when a report is made? The process varies from state to state. In general: *An investigator may visit the home and interview the child, the parents or other caretakers. *The investigator helps determine whether the child is being abused or is at risk for abuse. *The case may be referred to social services or to juvenile, family or criminal court.

How will the child be protected? If abuse is occurring in the home: *The child may be temporarily removed from the home. *He or she may go to live with relatives or a foster family. *The family may be required to seek counseling or other services to help prevent future abuse.

(If the parents don't cooperate with these requirements, they could risk losing custody of the child permanently.)

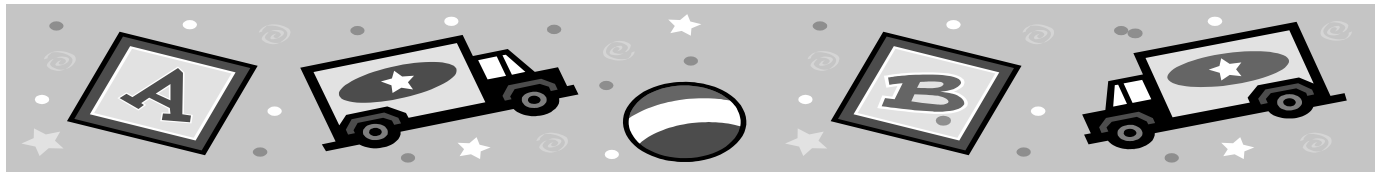
Will the abuser be punished? It depends. Often, the goal is to help the abuser break the cycle of abuse, so the family can stay together. In some cases, the abuser may face criminal charges.

I reported abuse, and nothing happened. What else can I do?

Keep in mind that you may not have the legal right to know what steps were taken to protect the child. If you are still concerned about the child, you can help in other ways: *Talk to the child's teacher, a school counselor or a leader of the family's faith community. They may be in a position to reach out to the family. *Offer support to the family, if it's appropriate. Offer to help with child care, chores, etc. *Be kind and supportive to any child you suspect is abused or neglected at home.

And, keep reporting the abuse until the situation is resolved.

Information taken from Prevent Child Abuse America.



APRIL TRAINING

March 30 & April 1, 6 & 8

TAHLEQUAH—CCRC

Time: 6:00 pm—8:30 pm

Daily Program for Young Children 3 to 6 (content area #5, 10 hours)—Explores needs of young children as the basis of programming and goals; guidelines for use of resources—people, time, space, equipment, learning activities; constructs a sample weekly program schedule and lesson plan. Trainer: Debbie Smith. **Please contact the Child Care Resource Center at (918) 458-7613 or 1-888-458-6230 to register.**

April 1

TAHLEQUAH—COMMUNITY ANNEX BUILDING

Time: 9:00 am OR 2:00 pm

Food Handler Class - Provides information on handling and serving food in child care settings. Trainer: Lisa West or Lovetta Phipps. **Please contact Lisa West (918) 456-0671 x2770 or Lovetta Phipps (918) 456-0671 x2768 to register.**

April 1, 5, 8, 12 & 15

TAHLEQUAH—EARLY CHILDHOOD UNIT

Time: 6:00 pm—10:00 pm

ELCCT (Entry Level Child Care Training) (content area #6, 20 hours) - Introduction to child care training. The course provides new and/or future child care professionals with knowledge needed to provide quality care for young children while helping each individual child develop to his or her full potential. The course contains information and learning activities that stress the importance of the caregiver and child care work. Trainer: Ramona Drew. Cost: \$20. **Please contact CECPD at www.cecpd.org or 1-888-446-7608 to register or contact Ramona Drew at (918) 458-4393.**

April 6, 8, 13 & 16

CLAREMORE—MARTHA VANZANT FCCH

Time: 6:00 pm—8:30 pm

Families and Child Care: A Team for Children (content area #4, 10 hours)—Provides caregivers with insights for developing strategies to work more effectively with the parents and families of children in their care; assists in fostering an attitude of better understanding and spirit of cooperation between parents and caregivers. Trainer: Martha Vanzant. **Please contact the Child Care Resource Center at (918) 458-7613 or 1-888-458-6230 to register.**

April 13, 15, 20 & 22

TAHLEQUAH—CCRC

Time: 6:00 pm—8:30 pm

Daily Program for Infants and Toddlers (content area #5, 10 hours)—Discusses stages of development and basic needs in nutrition, feeding, sleep, and toilet training. Suggests appropriate play activities and toys. Suggestions to construct a daily program schedule. Trainer: Mary Reynolds. **Please contact the Child Care Resource Center at (918) 458-7613 or 1-888-458-6230 to register.**

April 15

TAHLEQUAH—CHEROKEE NATION EMS

Time: 6:00 pm—8:00 pm

Car Seat Safety (content area #1, 2 hours) - Content of this course will include the importance of car seats, how to fit the child to a seat, correct installation and recall information. Trainer: Cherokee Nation EMS Staff. **Please contact the Child Care Resource Center at (918) 458-6230 to register.**

Location Information

*The Cherokee Nation Child Care Resource Center is located in the James Danielson Children's Village in Tahlequah.

*Christian Child Care II is located at 616 W. Delaware in Vinita.

*The Community Services Annex Building is located at the East end of the Donated Foods Warehouse in Tahlequah.

*The Early Childhood Unit is located in the James Danielson Children's Village in Tahlequah.

*Martha Vanzant's FCCH is located at 1513 N. Louisville in Claremore.

*Muskogee Regional Medical Center (MRMC) is located at 300 Rockefeller.

MAY TRAINING

May 3,5,10 & 12

TAHELQUAH—CCRC

Time: 1:00 pm—6:00 pm

Director's Survivor Training (Administration and Management Training, 20 hours) - Focuses on moving directors to a new level of leadership. This course includes information about the family, director style, creating a vision and implementing it in to the policies and procedures. Also this course incorporates the STARS, ECERS, and OASP project information to provide the director the tools to move the facility to the next Star level. Trainer: Bridget Tobey. **Please contact the Child Care Resource Center at (918) 458-7613 or 1-888-458-6230 to register.**

May 3,6,10 & 13

MUSKOGEE-- MRMC

Time: 6:00 pm—8:30 pm

Introduction to Nutrition (content area #1, 10 hours) - Presents information on food groups, dietary guidelines and effects of nutrition on health and growth. Explores meal planning, serving sizes, and tips for feeding infants and toddlers. Suggests ways to guide mealtimes with children who are challenging eaters and for children with allergies. Provides activities and tips for classroom cooking experiences with young children. Trainer: Pamela Birmelin. **Please contact the Child Care Resource Center at (918) 458-7613 or 1-888-458-6230 to register.**

May 3,6,10 & 13

VINITA—CHRISTIAN CHILD CARE II

Time: 6:00 pm—8:30 pm

Daily Program for Infants and Toddlers (content area #5, 10 hours)—Discusses stages of development and basic needs in nutrition, feeding, sleep, and toilet training. Suggests appropriate play activities and toys. Suggestions to construct a daily program schedule. Trainer: Vicki Toews. **Please contact the Child Care Resource Center at (918) 458-7613 or 1-888-458-6230 to register.**

May 4,6,11 & 13

TAHLEQUAH—CCRC

Time: 6:00 pm—8:30 pm

Movement Experiences (content area #2, 10 hours)—A methods class on how to provide movement experiences in a daily program for young children. Includes classroom learning activity cards. Trainer: Debbie Smith. **Please contact the Child Care Resource Center at (918) 458-7613 or 1-888-458-6230 to register.**

May 6

TAHLEQUAH—COMMUNITY SERVICES ANNEX BUILDING

Time: 9:00 am OR 2:00 pm

Food Handler Class—Provides information on handling and serving food in child care settings. Trainer: Lisa West or Lovetta Phipps. **Please contact Lisa West (918) 456-0671 x2770 or Lovetta Phipps (918) 456-0671 x2768 to register.**

May 18,20,25 & 27

TAHLEQUAH—CCRC

Time: 6:00 pm—8:30 pm

Health and Safety (content area #1, 10 hours)—Helps plan for children's health and safety; contains guidelines for providing safe places for young children. Teaches how to help children learn good habits. Discusses common illnesses and emergency procedures. Suggests ideas for communication with parents. Trainer: Mary Reynolds. **Please contact the Child Care Resource Center at (918) 458-7613 or 1-888-458-6230 to register.**

May 18,20,25 & 27

CLAREMORE—MARTHA VANZANT FCCH

Time: 6:00 pm—8:30 pm

Introduction to Nutrition (content area #1, 10 hours)—See above description. Trainer: Martha Vanzant. **Please contact the Child Care Resource Center at (918) 458-7613 or 1-888-458-6230 to register.**

COMING IN JUNE: DOLLARS AND SENSE TRAINING

June 1,3,8 & 10

TAHLEQUAH—CCRC

Time: 6:00 pm—9:30 pm

Dollars and Sense—A child care business skills training class focusing on family child care homes. Learn better business practices such as developing a business plan, record keeping, policies, parent contracts, setting realistic prices and marketing. Reviews communication skills with exercises on assertiveness, communicating with parents, presenting yourself as a small business owner and listening skills. (Fee: \$25 which includes Dollars and Sense workbook.)

Cherokee Nation facilitates training by recruiting educators employed by other agencies. Ideas and practices presented are not necessarily endorsed by the Cherokee Nation Child Care Resource Center.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Connors State College Child Development Program—Upcoming Seminars

This is a one-hour credit or non-credit seminar. Cost is \$80 for credit or for audit. For enrollment information please contact Anne Wiley or Pat Morton at (918) 687-6747. Scheduled time for seminar is 8:30 am—4:30 pm.

April 23

Director's Role: Supervising / Leading—This course offers an overview of leadership and supervision in the field of child care.

Oklahoma Child Care Association 2004 Spring Conference

April 16-17, 2004, First Southern Baptist Church of Del City

For more information contact OCCA at 1-800-580-4181.

Do you need 40 hours of Management Training? Do you need this to apply for the STARS program? The National Administrator Credential and the Director's Advanced Training meet the requirements for the Tier I and Tier II training levels. The Brainsmart Management® meets the requirements for Tier III. Contact the Oklahoma Child Care Association at 1-800-580-4181 for information on the classes listed below.

National Administrator Credential (NAC) Course Dates:

Tulsa—May 10-14 and July 12-16

Oklahoma City—April 26-30 and June 21-24

Director's Advanced Training (DAT) Course Dates:

Durant—May 3-7

Tulsa—June 7-11

Brainsmart Management (BSM)

Oklahoma City—May 10-14, July 12-16, and November 1-5

Future Full of Promise

Friday, April 30—Saturday, May 1

18th Annual Statewide Family Child Care Conference Hutchinson, KS

For more information contact Becky Stewart at (913) 384-4502 or visit www.ccpcofkansas.com

11th Annual Statewide Family Child Care Conference

July 16 & 17, UCO in Edmond

For more information call (405) 793-9444.



ATTENTION!!

FREE CPR / FIRST AID CLASSES

(in Adair County)

By Community Health Nursing

From the Wilma P. Mankiller Health Center

Contact: Neoma Harvey

(918) 696-8826 x7849

Classes are free,

but certification cards cost \$1.50



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