

# Arkansas

## Early Childhood Newsletter

July-August 2009



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF CHILD CARE &  
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION





The Arkansas Early Childhood  
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Mary Scott

Evelyn Bass

Glenda Reding

Dr. Paul Human

Suellen Ward

Debbie Mays

PO Box 1437, Slot S140  
Little Rock, AR 72203-4608

(501) 682-9699

Fax: (501) 682-4897

[www.arkansas.gov/childcare](http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare)

The Arkansas Early Childhood  
Newsletter is an information  
service of the Division of  
Child Care and Early  
Childhood  
Education, Department of  
Human Services.



## ► Director's Note

Dear Early Care and Education Professionals:

I ran into a former colleague recently and was talking about what an exciting time it is to be in early care and education. My friend reminded me that I have been saying that for 15 years. I agreed that yes, I have been saying that for all of the time I have spent working in this field; but, I believe it was and continues to be true. Look at the work over the past 15 years regarding research that confirms what many already knew and informs each of us about improved and best practices for children and families.

This research has led to a heightened national focus that has increased funding across the nation (especially here in Arkansas); increased program and financial accountability; raised the level of awareness regarding the need for improving the quality of care; and has linked the economic value of investing in high quality early care and education.

The federal government has begun releasing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding to states. The Division has received \$25 million for the Child Care Development Fund for low-income discretionary child care assistance and added almost 2,000 children to date. Head Start and Early Head Start funding has been released, which gives Arkansas additional funds to support quality in Head Start and expand infant/toddler services in Early Head Start for our State. Additionally, the Department of Education will receive \$228.8 million in Arkansas. Please visit [Recovery.Arkansas.gov](http://Recovery.Arkansas.gov) to find out about all of the funding Arkansas is receiving and how it will be used to benefit Arkansans.

Yes, I am an optimist and yes, for the last 15 years I have been excited and optimistic about early care and education. And yes, I probably always will be!



Tonya Russell  
Division Director

## Nothing Matters like Love

Submitted by H. Wallace Goddard – Family Life Specialist  
U of A Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service

A caregiver's love gives a child the hope and energy to grow. Nothing is as important for human development as love. This is true not only in the first months of life but also into childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. Sometimes caregivers focus most of their energy on correcting and disciplining the children in their care. These activities can take over the relationship between caregiver and child. Unfortunately, when a child does not feel loved, he or she is more likely to misbehave. A child who is loved is more likely to develop into a healthy, caring adult.

Make time for love. If we don't plan to take time for the children in our care, we may be bothered by the demands they make on us. Effective caregivers set aside time for the children in their care. They use some of the time to do fun things with the children in their care such as playing, talking, cooking, and telling stories. They also expect to be interrupted in daily activities to help and be with the children in their care.

A caregiver who is effective at loving, tries to **prevent problems**. For example, a wise caregiver sets up the classroom in order to minimize the need for scolding. A loving caregiver notices when a child is hungry or tired and helps them adapt - maybe by providing a snack or some peaceful time together. Rather than wait until a child is doing something wrong and then getting mad, the effective caregiver helps a child have many fun and safe experiences. **The effective caregiver notices the good things the child does and communicates affection to the child.**

**Loving involves listening and understanding.** While it is true, that caregivers often know much more about many things than their children, it is only when we listen patiently and with compassion that children discover their feelings and ideas matter to others.

Effective loving also involves **customizing messages of love** for each child. Children like to be loved in different ways. Some like to be shown love; some like to be told; some like to be hugged. Each of these different languages of love is discussed in a separate unit.

Sometimes one child may be especially difficult. It may be because of a sensitive temperament or it may be that the child is merely different from the caregiver. The effective caregiver tries to find ways to help each child individually even if the child is difficult.

Love is more than a feeling; there are times when we don't feel very loving toward the children in our care. Love is a commitment to be with, understand and support the development of another human being. Love makes all the difference.

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## Immunization Network for Children (INC) Update

Great news! For those of you that have been patiently waiting to get into a class for the Immunization Network for Children-your wait is over! Due to the overwhelming need, the Department of Health has posted the information to get started on their website. The application is there to download and send in, and easy-to-follow instructions are there to help you navigate your way through the database. This format will replace having a class.

Are you ready to get started? Just follow this link:

[http://www.healthyarkansas.com/faq/faq\\_immunizations.html](http://www.healthyarkansas.com/faq/faq_immunizations.html)

and scroll down to the second blue heading that starts with "As a licensed daycare in Arkansas". If you have trouble downloading the forms, or if you have questions, please feel free to contact the helpdesk at 1-800-574-4040 or via e-mail at [immunization.helpdeskregistry@arkansas.gov](mailto:immunization.helpdeskregistry@arkansas.gov).



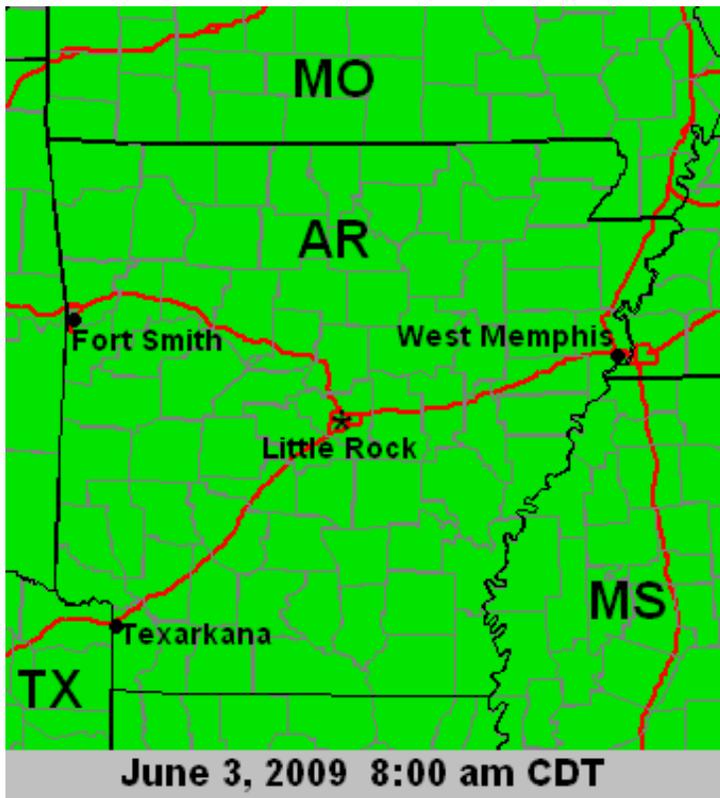
# Ozone Action Days

By the time you have received this newsletter facilities in Central Arkansas will have probably received a letter from the Arkansas Department of Health with information about the dangers of ozone concentration and outdoor activity.

The Licensing and Accreditation Unit asks that you heed the recommendations to limit the outside activity during the periods of high ozone concentration. This may require rescheduling, limiting, or cancelling outdoor activities for children. For those facilities outside the Metropolitan Little Rock area, the ozone levels for your area can be monitored by viewing a map, like the one below, at [www.ozoneactiondays.org](http://www.ozoneactiondays.org).

## EPA Animated Ozone Map - Arkansas

Linked from EPA's Web site  
(Ozone Peak Values, 8-hour Average Ozone Concentration)



-  **Good**  
No health impacts are expected when air quality is in this range.

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-  **Moderate**  
Unusually sensitive people should consider limiting prolonged outdoor exertion.

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-  **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups**  
Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, such as asthma, should limit prolonged outdoor exertion.

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-  **Unhealthy**  
Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, such as asthma, should avoid prolonged outdoor exertion; everyone else, especially children, should limit prolonged outdoor exertion.

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-  **Very Unhealthy**  
Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, such as asthma, should avoid all outdoor exertion; everyone else, especially children, should limit outdoor exertion.

The above map is today's data after 9am CDT. To view yesterday's maps, click a link below.

- [Yesterday's 8hr Average Map](#)
- [Yesterday's 8hr Peak Map](#)
- [Yesterday's 1hr Peak Map](#)

If you are outside the metro area and would like a copy of the Arkansas Department of Health letter, please contact the Licensing and Accreditation Unit at 1-800-445-3316.



**Twelfth Annual Northcentral Arkansas  
Child Care Conference  
Saturday, September 26, 2009**



**Mother Goose  
On  
The Loose  
Literacy in Action**

**University of Arkansas Community College  
Batesville, Arkansas**

**Pre-Registration Required**

For Information Call: White River Planning and Development  
1-800-737-2237 or 870-793-5233

# Changes to the Emergency Preparedness for Child Care Facilities Act

You may not have heard about ACT 801, but the changes to this law will go into effect on July 31, 2009. This act lays out what the responsibilities will be for the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education (DCCECE), the Arkansas Department of Emergency Services (ADEM), and all licensed or known license-exempt child care facilities.

1. The responsibility of the DCCECE will be to supply ADEM with a list, sorted by county, of all the licensed or known license-exempt child care facilities. It will include the physical address, maximum capacity, emergency contact information, and hours of operation.
2. DCCECE will enforce new regulations in the Minimum Licensing Requirements regarding facilities developing emergency disaster plans, and build disaster planning into the levels of the Quality Rating Initiative System.
3. DCCECE will work with Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies and ASU to set up trainings or workshops to help understand and develop Emergency Disaster Plans.
4. County ADEM coordinators and other local emergency management personnel will be asked to work with child care facilities to identify what disasters are prone to happen in their specific region.
5. All child care facilities, centers and homes, that are monitored by the Child Care Licensing Unit will have to follow the new regulations that will be added to the Minimum Licensing Requirements. The requirements will be as follows:
  - a. Require a child care facility to have a written plan for evacuation in the event of fire, natural disaster, or other threatening situation that may pose a health or safety hazard to the children in the child care facility;
  - b. Require the plan to include without limitation:
    - i. A designated relocation site and evacuation route;
    - ii. Procedures for notifying parents of the relocation and ensuring family reunification;
    - iii. Procedures to address the needs of individual children, including children with special needs;
    - iv. Instructions relating to the training of staff or the reassignment of staff duties, as appropriate;
    - v. Coordination with local emergency management officials; and
    - vi. A program to ensure that appropriate staff are familiar with the plan's components.

While DCCECE will not enforce these changes until they can be included in the Minimum Licensing Requirements, the information needs to be shared with the early childhood community. More information will be coming soon. A "fill in the blank" format for a disaster plan is being developed to help assist child care facilities to comply with this law.

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## **A friendly note from your Compliance Unit:**

Independence Day is one of the allowable holiday's that a provider can actually be closed and bill DHS for reimbursement. The holiday (July 4, 2009) falls on a Saturday, but is observed on Friday (July 3, 2009). Some facilities do not provide weekend care. If you do not provide weekend care and your facility is closed on Friday July 3, 2009 you may bill voucher children absent that day and be reimbursed. If you provide weekend care and your facility is closed Saturday July 4, 2009 you may bill voucher children absent that day and be reimbursed. Please remember that the day will count toward the seven (7) absentee days you may bill per month per child.



# ATTENTION PROVIDERS

Due to the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, Family Support Unit, is pleased to announce that additional funding has been allotted for low income working families. The Division is proposing to serve many additional eligible families under the child care subsidy program. Please encourage your families needing assistance to apply for voucher assistance.

***Please note, services are not guaranteed and are pending the availability of funds.***



Applications can be obtained from our website at [www.arkansas.gov/childcare](http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare) or by calling the Family Support Unit at 501-682-8947 or 1-800-322-8176.

## Changes in the Law on Reporting Suspected Abuse or Neglect

As we are all aware, persons working in child care are mandated by state law to report the maltreatment or suspected maltreatment of a child by any guardian or caregiver for that child. Child Maltreatment is defined as the abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect of a child. In this last legislative session there were some changes made which specifically address reporting by persons employed at a day care facility. These changes become effective July 31, 2009. (Act 749 of 2009 ; ACA12-18-204).

It is a Class A Misdemeanor for any person employed at a day care facility to

1. prohibit a mandated reporter from making a report of child maltreatment or suspected child maltreatment to the Child Abuse Hotline; or
2. require a mandated reporter to receive permission from that person before the mandated reporter makes a report of child maltreatment or suspected child maltreatment to the Child Abuse Hotline; or
3. knowingly retaliate against a person for making a report to the Child Abuse Hotline.

This does not prohibit the licensee from requiring an employee or volunteer to inform the licensee or their representative that a report has been made to the Child Abuse Hotline.

In short, by law you cannot direct your staff to report to you for you to make the decision on whether to call the Child Abuse Hotline, nor can you take action against them for reporting to the Child Abuse Hotline. If you do, you are subject to prosecution for a Class A misdemeanor. You can require them to notify you each time they make a report to the Child Abuse hotline concerning children in your facility.

A Class A Misdemeanor is punishable by not more than one year in jail and/or a fine of not more than \$1,000.



# Adventures... FOR Toddlers



A curriculum for children from 18 to 36 months

## Adventures for Toddlers

- A curriculum that includes experiences based on the Arkansas Framework for Infant and Toddler Care - Developmental Strands and Benchmarks
- A curriculum that includes experiences for all of the developmental strands: self-concept, emotional, social, language, physical, and cognitive
- A curriculum that is flexible, allowing caregivers to choose from eight Focus Areas
- A curriculum designed for licensed and registered child care programs in Arkansas
- A curriculum that links to resources available from the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education
- A curriculum that is a companion piece to Adventures in Learning, a curriculum for children from 3 to 5

## Adventures for Toddlers curriculum includes Toddler Topics in eight Focus Areas:

- About Me
- My Family and My Community
- My Favorite Things for Play and Learning
- Clothes We Wear
- Things that Grow
- Animals in Our World
- More Animals
- On the Go

All focus areas are now available at <http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare/advfortoddlers/>

Adventures for Toddlers – An exciting journey for toddlers and their caregivers!

## FROM THE QUALITY ACCREDITATION UNIT:

The Consumer Product Safety Commission Public Playground Safety Handbook was revised in April 2008. Beginning July 1, 2009, all Environment Rating Scale reviews conducted will use the revised handbook to evaluate playground safety.

Copies of the handbook may be downloaded from the CPSC website at:  
<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/pubs/325.pdf>

A two-page summary of the playground information to use with the Environment Rating Scales is available on the Divisions website. You may call one of the Quality Accreditation staff to have a copy of the summary mailed.

# POOL SAFETY

**NEVER LET YOUR GUARD DOWN!**

**Each year,  
about 250  
children under  
age 5 drown  
in swimming  
pools.**

- 1** Always **supervise.**
  - **Designate a “water-watcher” during swim time.**
- 2** Install a **fence** completely around the pool.
  - **Use fence gates that are self-closing and self-latching.**
- 3** Be **prepared.**
  - **Learn CPR. And keep a telephone by the pool.**



**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission**

CPSC hotline: 800-638-2772

and 800-638-8270 (TTY)

[www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)

# Exciting Professional Development Opportunities Await Afterschool Professionals in Arkansas



The Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education discern that professional development plays a vital role in supporting quality afterschool programs. Providers who have participated in education and training opportunities are more likely to deliver quality programs that contribute to positive youth outcomes.<sup>1</sup> The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provides a unique opportunity for afterschool professionals to take part in some exciting professional development opportunities that have come about due to enhanced funding of the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) administered by the Department of Human Services. ASU Childhood Services along with partners of the Arkansas Out of School Network are excited to be partnering together to deliver the following face-to-face trainings that address a wide range of topics important to afterschool professionals.

- **An Introduction to the 40 Developmental Assets** - Grounded in extensive research in youth development, resiliency, and prevention, the 40 Developmental Assets represent the relationships, opportunities, and personal qualities that young people need to avoid risks and to thrive. Because of its basis in research and its proven effectiveness, the Developmental Assets framework has become the single most widely used approach to positive youth development in the United States. On-site training will be delivered in a two hour format and will outline what the developmental assets are, what they look like in action, and how to create an intentionally rich asset based afterschool program.
- **Creating Culturally Competent Afterschool Programs** - This training will introduce the core elements of creating a culturally competent afterschool program. These core elements will provide some foundational knowledge that can be applied to how afterschool programs create their program environment, how they build relationships with families, connect families to community resources, and create meaningful and relevant family/child activities.
- **Adventures in Peacemaking: Conflict Resolution Activities for School-Age Programs** - This full day training will be targeted at helping afterschool and summer program staff with methods of teambuilding and conflict reduction that they can use with the children in their programs.
- **Arkansas 4H Afterschool Essentials Training** - An introductory level training experience for the basic and intermediate level afterschool provider and will focus on three components: the essential elements of positive youth development, an introduction to Experiential Learning, and a hands-on learning experience focusing on content delivery using the experiential learning model.
- **Arkansas 4H Out of School Time Trainings** targeting afterschool leaders that address the following core areas: Experiential Learning, Day Camps, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Education, and the ExCel Leadership Challenge Course.
- **Save the Children Literacy Training**- Content will address the strategies, tools, and hands-on practice needed to implement three key components of the Save the Children model literacy program: read-aloud, fluency building, and reading together activities for emergent readers.

1. Beth M Miller, Pathways to Success for Youth: What Counts in After School: Massachusetts After-School Research Study Report (Boston, Mass.: United Way of Massachusetts Bay, 2005), at: [http://supportunitedway.org/files/MARS-Report\\_0.pdf](http://supportunitedway.org/files/MARS-Report_0.pdf); and Susan Bodilly and Megan Beckett, Making Out-Of-School Time Matter: Evidence for an Action Agenda (Santa Monica, Calif.: RAND Corporation, 2005).

In addition to the above face-to-face trainings that will be offered, the Arkansas Out of School Network will be working with the Colorado Afterschool Network to develop three online trainings that will address the 40 Developmental Assets. One will serve as an introduction to the 40 assets and the other two online trainings will address a different facet of the assets to be determined at a later date.

Stay tuned for more information about when one of these professional development opportunities might be coming to a community near you by checking the TAPP Registry at <http://professionalregistry.astate.edu>. Trainings are anticipated to begin in August 2009. For questions regarding these exciting professional development opportunities contact Jennifer Harris at [jenharris@astate.edu](mailto:jenharris@astate.edu). Thank you to the Division of Child Care and Early Education for their continual commitment to supporting the professional development needs of afterschool educators in Arkansas!



# PLAN NOW FOR CDA SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE

Directors and program administrators, the time is **NOW** to consider staff members you want to recommend to receive CDA Scholarships that are available to licensed and registered child care programs. Remember that there is a limit of two (2) scholarships per license number per grant year (July to June). Since many CDA classes begin in late summer and early fall, the time is now to begin making plans for scholarship applications.

Here is a brief review of eligibility requirements for scholarships to guide you when thinking about whom on your staff you will recommend for a CDA Scholarship:

- Applicants must be currently employed in a licensed child care program and be recommended by the Director/Owner.
- Applicants must have been employed at least 90 days in the child care program that recommends them.
- Applicants must have completed **one** of the following five (5) trainings:
  1. Child Care Orientation Training (CCOT)
  2. Arkansas Children's Program Administration Orientation ACPAO (Director's Orientation)
  3. Early Care and Education DIRECT
  4. Family Child Care Provided Orientation
  5. Secondary Child Guidance, Management and Services Training

Obviously when you are considering potential scholarship applicants from your program you will need to determine if they meet, or will have met, all of the listed requirements by the time they apply for the scholarship. Applications with training documentation must be received in the Division office at least two weeks prior to the beginning of classes to be considered.

In addition to the listed requirements, ask yourself these questions about staff members you are considering recommending for CDA Scholarships:

- Do I think this person is truly committed to the field of early care and education as a profession or does she see her position as simply a job until something else comes along?
- Do I think this person is capable of completing the CDA course work, including assignments and the assessment process that is required in order to receive the CDA Credential?
- Do I think this person will be willing to implement in her classroom what she is learning in her course work even though it may mean changes in what she has been doing?
- Is this a person I feel will be a real asset to my program and to the profession; a person I think merits the investment of CDA Scholarship funds as well as my support of her during the CDA process?

Review the CDA Scholarship requirements. Ask yourself the suggested questions about the staff person you are considering recommending for a CDA Scholarship. Have a serious conversation with her about her commitment to completing CDA course work, applying for and completing the CDA Credential process, and remaining in the profession. Then you will be ready to work with the CDA scholarship applicant you recommend to have a successful CDA experience.

For more information about the CDA Scholarship program and approved CDA Institutions, visit the following website: [www.arkansas.gov/childcare/programsupport](http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare/programsupport) or call 501-682-9699 or 1-800-445-3316.



## DIRECTOR CONSULTATIONS AVAILABLE

Are you a director or administrator in need of help with a business-related issue? ASU Childhood Services announces the availability of Director Consultation visits on a variety of topics. This services works similar to the current Technical Assistance program, except these visits will be targeted to directors and administrators on a variety of business topics, including:

- Finances/Budgeting
- Organization and Recordkeeping
- Marketing and Public Relations

If you are interesting in receiving a consultation on an administrative topic, e-mail Paul Lazenby at [plazenby@astate.edu](mailto:plazenby@astate.edu) or call 501-660-1011.



# 39th Annual Early Childhood Education Conference

August 10,11,12, 2009



ARKANSAS STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
CHILDHOOD SERVICES

*ENGAGE, CHALLENGE, INSPIRE, LEAD*



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ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
CHILDHOOD SERVICES

Attn: ECE Conference  
PO Box 808  
State University, AR 72467

Phone: 1-888-429-1585  
Fax: 870-972-3556  
<http://asuececonference.blogspot.com>

## Conference Information

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ASU Childhood Services serves as a center for research, curriculum development and professional training. Our work focuses on the learning and development of children, from infancy through age eight. That tradition continues this year as we announce the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual ECE Conference. Dimensions of the conference include implementing engaging learning opportunities within a high quality curriculum framework; establishing and maintaining warm, supportive relationships among children, staff, and families; and developing visionary leadership.

### Who Should Attend

- Practitioners and Administrators
- Infant/Toddler/Preschool/School-Age Child Care staff
- ABC Staff
- Head Start staff
- Public schools early childhood program staff
- Family child care providers
- Special needs early childhood program staff
- Anyone who wants to improve the quality of the services they offer children and families!

### Conference Facilities

Conference sessions will take place in the Convocation Center and Fowler Center, adjacent facilities located on the ASU campus in Jonesboro.



## Featured Conference Speaker

Participants will have the opportunity to attend several general sessions, as well as choose between over fifty small interest sessions. Topics will reflect the diverse audience represented at the conference.



Fowler Center, Rice Land Hall

### Meals & Lodging

Lodging & breakfast will not be available on campus this year. Childhood Services has negotiated a reduced conference rate with these area hotels:

- **Comfort Suites**  
**3404 Access Road**  
**870 336 2280**  
\$89/night  
All-new, all-suite  
Indoor pool  
Free continental breakfast  
Micro-fridge in every room
- **Holiday Inn Express**  
**2407 Phillips Drive**  
**870 932.5554**  
\$85/night  
Free wireless internet  
Business center  
Free continental breakfast  
Fitness center

Lunch meal tickets are available for advance purchase for \$24; this will include a box lunch each day, Monday through Wednesday. Tickets are available for an optional Welcome Dinner on Monday evening, for \$12.00 each, or you can choose dinner on your own. Dinner will be on your own Tuesday evening.

Lilian G. Katz, (Stanford University Ph.D.



Lilian Katz,  
Keynote Speaker

—1968), is an international leader in early childhood education. She was one of the founders of the Illinois Association for the Education of Young Children and served as its first president. In addition, she served as vice president of the National

Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) from 1986 to 1990 and later was elected president of NAEYC, serving from 1992-1994.

Dr. Katz has authored over 150 publications, including articles, chapters, and books about early childhood education, teacher education, child development, and parenting. She founded two journals: *Early Childhood Research Quarterly* and *Early Childhood Research & Practice*, is currently Principal Investigator for the Illinois Early Learning Project, and lectures and consults around the world.

### How Do I Register?

⇒ Registration forms are available two ways:

- Call toll-free 1-888-429-1585
- Email [ljames@astate.edu](mailto:ljames@astate.edu)

Don't forget to visit us online at [www.asuececonference.blogspot.com](http://www.asuececonference.blogspot.com)!

See you in August!



# See how others celebrated Arkansas Children's Week 2009 "Together We Learn"

## JCCSI ChildCare LINKS / Parents as Teachers Pine Bluff, AR

Over 16 Jefferson County partners sponsored Family Play Day on Saturday, April 18, 2009 at the, now vacant, Old Navy Department Store in the Pines Mall. Adults and children were given tickets for the drawing for door prizes upon entering the building. Door prizes consisted of learning materials for children, such as books, wood puzzles, games, blocks, balls, infant toys, dominoes, sidewalk chalk, writing materials, activity sets and movie passes. HIPPIY parents signed the appropriate sign-in sheet based on the school district in which they receive services. Each family was also given a Passport that provided a Skill Synopsis of the event that was to be stamped at each Learning Station.

The building was set up with the following center and/or activities: Face Beautification (tattoos), Housekeeping and Dramatic Play, Pictures and Frames, Pony Rides, Wooden Creatures Make and Take, Fruit Loop Necklaces, Manipulatives, Blocks, Fun with Books, Music and Movement, Sand and Water, Science, Spring into a Butterfly, Slime Time, Tropical Fishing, Infant and Toddler Land, and an Inflatable Children's Bouncer. Activities were available for infants to ages 12. Music for the event was provided by Power92 Jams featuring Uncle Jam.



The proclamation proclaiming April 19-25, 2009 as "Arkansas Children's Week in the city of Pine Bluff" signed by Mayor Carl Redus was ready by Mr. Ted Davis, a representative from the Mayor's office. There were a total of ninety-two (92) volunteers/workers. Most of them wore the green Arkansas Children's Week T-Shirt.

This year's event surpassed last year's event in both number of attendees as well as Planning Committee Partners. The Planning Committee was very happy with the outcome of the event, has noted areas for improvement and is looking forward to next year's event. The Committee has also decided that we would like to have monthly collaborative meetings in order to bring more events and early learning opportunities to our community and to better assist each other in individual program goals. We will continue to reach out to others to increase our collaborative efforts.

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## Kiddie Kastle CDC El Dorado, AR

We had a luau!!! All the children wore grass skirts and leis. We carved fresh pineapples and had a taste test, coconut cups with straws and a lot of nutritious treats. Decorations consisted of palm trees, flamingos, flowers and dancing. We had a blast!



**St. John's Episcopal Day School  
Harrison, AR**

Monday, Celebrity Guest Readers visited to read to the children - Toddlers through Pre-K. Tuesday was Silly Hat and ACW T-Shirt day. Wednesday was picnic day. Thursday everyone wore pajamas to school. Friday we participated in a St. Jude Trike-a-thon. The children raised \$250 for the children of St. Jude's.



Kid's Korner Day Care  
Hope, AR

Kid's Korner invited the families at our center to come to our "Luau"; complete with tropical decorations. The centers and interest areas were moved outside. We set up a nutrition area with fresh fruits and vegetables. Parents were given brochures on eating healthy, and how to read food labels. Fun and games were had by all. Afterwards the parents ate lunch with their children.

**Paragould/School of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
Paragould, AR**

Farmer's market was a huge success with children picking up apples, bananas, carrots and grapes to munch on during the morning. We purchased high quality books for the children to take. They had a great time picking out their choice of book. S21C also took centers for children to play in during the morning. The station of success was the grocery store equipped with fruits, vegetables, carts and a cash register. Many children came over numerous times to play.

Monday and Tuesday was Paragould School District Kindergarten Registration and "Special Readers" day. The teachers invited parents and community people to read. We had firemen, policemen, elementary principals, Partners in Education and parents.





Department of Human Services  
Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education  
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S140  
Little Rock, AR 72203-4608

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# ATTENTION

## Changes to the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) grant programs

Effective July 1, 2009, all childcare programs that **DO NOT HAVE 100%** (This means **ALL** classrooms), funding through Arkansas Better Chance for School Success (ABCSS) and ABC will obtain and submit grant applications through the Program Support Unit. This includes the CPR/First Aid Training grant, CDA Scholarship, CDA Assessment, Quality Approval grant, and the Enhancement/Improvement grant. Childcare programs **THAT ARE 100%** funded by ABCSS and ABC, that receive no CCDF funding, will obtain and submit grant applications through the ABC Unit. If you have any questions, please feel free to call our office at 501-682-9699 or visit our website at [www.arkansas.gov/childcare](http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare).