



Covering the counties of Allen, Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Logan, Metcalfe, Monroe, Simpson, and Warren

Congratulations to KIDS NOW Scholars

Written by **Kim McIntyre**,
Professional Development Coordinator

Congratulations to the following child care professionals for receiving KIDS NOW Early Childhood scholarships:

Jennifer Adkins, Giggle Box Preschool & Child Care

Lauren Blanton, Plum Tree Montessori School

Linda Bohannon, La Petite Academy

Paula Burd, Noah's Ark Child Care & Learning Center

Tina Chavarriya, Little Friends Day Care

Rhonda Claywell, Noah's Ark Child Care & Learning Center

Angela Coleman, Angela's Place

Kim Copeland, La Petite Academy

Melissa Devers, T. J. Sampson Child Care

Janice Flynn, Holy Trinity Lutheran School

Judith Ged, Eagle's Nest Child Care

Vickie Gregory, Bowling Green, Warren County Community Education

Michelle Jessie, Plum Tree Montessori School

Sheila Lundy, Eagle's Nest Child Care

Nancy McGann, Granny's Child Care & Learning Center, Inc.

Jaime Markus, La Petite Academy

Angela Michael, Wee Care Child Care

(continued on page 2, first column)

Quality Rating Scale

Written by **Taylor Tucker**
Quality Improvement Coordinator

Many of you have heard of the new rating scale that is going to be implemented in the state of Kentucky. Well the time is here! The official name for the new rating system is "Stars for KIDS NOW." Stars for KIDS NOW is going to be implemented in seventeen (17) of the one hundred twenty (120) counties in Kentucky. We have two of those counties here in the BRADD area. They are Butler and Metcalfe counties. We will begin working with these programs in January and continue until July when the rating system will go statewide.

There are four levels in the Stars for KIDS NOW rating system. Each level builds on the previous level. Therefore you must meet all the requirements in level one before going to level two, you must meet all the requirements in level two before moving to level three and so on.

There is no money attached to the pilot counties. When the rating system goes statewide, there will be a one time monetary reward for reaching each level as well as an increase in pay for children who are on the state subsidy program. At this time, we do not know how much this monetary reward will be. The state is using the pilot time to

(continued on page 2, first column)

Look inside
for Training
Registration
Information
for In-Home
and
Experienced
Child Care
Employee
Training for
February!

The Child Care Professional

(continued from page 1, first column, Quality Rating System)

predict how much participation there will be statewide. At that time the state will make a decision on how much the rewards will be. If you want additional information on the Stars for KIDS NOW rating system or if you want Taylor to begin working with your licensed program in preparing for the statewide implementation of the Stars for KIDS NOW rating system, please feel free to call her at 800-621-5908 or 270-745-2216.

(continued from page 1, second column, KIDS NOW Scholars)

Lori Mosier, Noah's Ark Child Care & Learning Center

Tammy Reeder, Busy Town, Inc.

Lucy Rush, La Petite Academy

Theresa Shutt, Creative Corner Child Care, Inc.

Please contact Kim McIntyre at the WKU CCR&R office, if you are interested in receiving a KIDS NOW Scholarship to attend school this summer.

Discovery consists of seeing what everybody has seen and thinking what nobody has thought.

Albert Szent-Gyorgyi von Nagyrapo
From I. J. Good (ed.), *The Scientist Speculates*

Brain Development and Movement

Written by Sherri Meyer, Coordinator

Ever wonder why children are so active? Well, the answer is—because they are building brain connections!! Children need to move; moving is one of the ways in which the brain builds itself. Movement also helps the body to grow. It helps the body to build strong muscles and bones.

Children who are spending a great deal of time sitting and listening to teachers, watching television, and using a computer are not actually getting smarter or stronger. It is being strongly suggested that if we want to help children to get smarter then we should turn off the machines and play!

Children will sit still for small portions of time. Some will sit still even when they need to move. These children are not sitting because they are interested in what is going on, they are sitting because someone has bribed or threatened them. Even young children will sit when they are interested in an item or story. Because children do sit when the item or story is interesting to them, we do not need to worry about teaching them to pay attention. Instead it is the teacher's responsibility to find things that interest the children.

It is also very important for teachers and parents to realize that children of all ages need to move. Teachers need to plan the environment so that children can move safely and actively.

Planning this environment is very important for all children in their development. Young children are active learners who require movement in exploring their environment. So don't sit there, get up, move and above all, have fun!

Adapted from *Some Thoughts about Sitting Still* by Tom Hunter, *Young Children*, 55, May 2000.

Don't forget to help enroll a child in **free health insurance!** For more information call 1-877-KCHIP-18.

Experienced Child Care Providers and In-Home Provider Workshops

The Child Care Resource & Referral and the Henry F. Moss Middle School Family Resource & Youth Service Center will sponsor training for experienced child care providers on Tuesday, February 6, 2001 in Bowling Green. The CCR&R and the Barren County Extension Office will sponsor training for in-home child care providers on Saturday, February 10, 2001 in Glasgow. Training for experienced child care providers will be sponsored by the CCR&R and the Stevenson Elementary Family Resource Center in Russellville on Tuesday, February 13, 2001. The workshops will be worth three clock hours of training. Registration forms for February has been previously mailed. Registration is limited. If you have any questions about registration or any of the workshops, please feel free to contact the CCR&R office and ask for Lesley.

Watch your mail for Play-ground Safety Workshop registration - sponsored by the Child Care Resource & Referral Office

The Child Care Professional Conference Opportunities

Following is a list of upcoming conference opportunities that will be held in Kentucky and Indiana.

* **February 9 and March 30, 2001**

Meeting Today's Behavior Challenges: An opportunity to learn advanced practices in meeting challenging behaviors with today's young children. February 9th - Madisonville, March 30th - Bowling Green. This one day conference will contain the same topics at both sites. For more information contact Barbara Love at the Simpson County RTC at 270-586-8877.

* **February 23 and 24, 2001**

KEY TRENDS Training West, Module 2: Working with Families of Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Pennyriple State Resort Park, Dawson Springs, KY. For more information contact Cathy Howle at 1-888-786-5551.

* **February 23 and 24, 2001**

Twelfth Annual Kentucky Coalition for School-Age Care Spring Conference, Galt House, Louisville, KY. For more information contact Scott Wells at 859-252-1982 or email at swells@lwol.com

* **March 2 and 3, 2001**

KEY TRENDS Training West, Module 2: Working with Families of Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, Prestonsburg, KY. For more information, contact Sue Spangenberg at 1-800-540-3323.

* **April 19 through 21, 2001**

13th Annual Conference of the National School-Age Care Alliance, Indianapolis, IN. For more information call 1-800-606-0061 or email at conference@nsaca.org or visit their website at www.nsaca.org

Upcoming Training Sites

March —
Bowling Green

April -
Bowling Green
and Russellville

The Child Care Professional

December 2000/January 2001

www.wku.edu/TTAS

800-621-5908

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New Library Resources Available

The Child Care Resource & Referral resource library has just received five additional resources that are great for directors who are wanting to enhance their skills in management, planning a staff meeting, wanting to promote staff performance, and many other topics. The following resources are available now for you to check out:

- * The Anti-Ordinary Thinkbook by Bonnie Neugebauer
- * Fostering Improved Staff Performance by Child Care Information Exchange
- * Lifesavers for Early Childhood Managers: Tips for Success and Sanity by Sue Baldwin
- * On Being a Leader by Child Care Information Exchange

The Child Care Professional

- * Who, Me: Lead a Group? By Jean Illsley Clarke

Call the Child Care Resource & Referral today to check out these great resources!

Did you lose your newsletter? Did you lose your registration form? Well search no further! Just log on to our web page and print off the information that you need!

www.wku.edu/TTAS