

THE CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL

The Newsletter of the Child Care Resource & Referral at WKU

B A B Y



**CASE
WILLIAM HOOTEN**

Born July 11, 2007
7.1 Pounds, 21 Inches

First Child of
Bobby and Amy
Hooten

B O Y

THE CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL

The Newsletter of the Child Care Resource & Referral at WKU

THE CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL is published monthly by Training & Technical Assistance Services and the Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) at Western Kentucky University. The CCR&R at WKU serves the Barren River Area Development District of Kentucky which includes Allen, Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Logan, Metcalf, Monroe, Simpson, and Warren Counties. Primary services offered by the CCR&R include:

- Distributing consumer education materials to families seeking child care,
- Providing child care referrals to parents;
- Offering training to early childhood providers and parents;
- Helping potential child care providers establish programs,
- Providing training hours leading to the Commonwealth Child Care Credential and the Child Development Associate (CDA), and
- Advocating for affordable, accessible, high quality services for children and families.



The professionals and staff of the CCR&R at WKU are ready to provide assistance in a number of areas. Our staff includes:

Dr. Connie Jo Smith, CCR&R Director

Jill Norris, CCR&R Coordinator

Sherri Meyer, Parent & Community Coordinator

Dr. Amy Hood Hooten, Training Specialist

Heather Alms, Provider Assistant & Office Coordinator

SHARE THE KNOWLEDGE. Articles and stories from this newsletter may be photocopied or reprinted without written permission from the CCR&R at WKU. Reprints should, however, credit the magazine as follows: "Reprinted from THE CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL, (date of issue), with permission from the Child Care Resource & Referral at WKU."

KEEP IN TOUCH. If you are not currently receiving the newsletter at your own center or agency, please contact our office by mail, phone or e-mail and we will add your name to our mailing list. If you, your agency or center are moving, please let us know your new address; we'll update our mailing list, and you won't miss an issue of THE CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL. (If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please contact our office by phone or e-mail and we will remove you from our mailing list.)

Child Care Resource & Referral at Western Kentucky University

1906 College Heights Blvd. #11098, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101-1098

Phone Us at (270) 745-2216 or (800) 621-5908 - Fax Us at (270) 745-7089

E-Mail Us at crr.expert@wku.edu • Or Visit Our Website at www.wku.edu/ccrr-wku/

Hours of Operation: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION. Any program or person interested in receiving our newsletter may subscribe for \$36 per year. The monthly newsletter provides a variety of articles, news, and information for early care and education programs, including child care, family day care, preschool, and Head Start. Caregivers, teachers, administrators, and parents can all benefit from the newsletter. Single complimentary annual subscriptions of THE CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL are provided to licensed child care centers, certified home providers, and special friends in the Barren River Area Development District (BRADD) of Kentucky. Additional subscriptions may also be purchased by these readers for the same rate of \$36 per year. All registered providers in the BRADD qualify for the discounted rate of \$26 per year for each additional subscription.

The newsletter is available in both printed and electronic versions. Print copies of THE CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL are mailed at the end of each month; electronic copies are e-mailed directly to subscribers in a Portable Document File (PDF) which can be printed or viewed on your computer using Adobe Acrobat Reader (free software downloadable from www.adobe.com). Readers may select the format they prefer when subscribing. To receive an subscription form or to learn more, please contact our office by phone (800-621-5908 or 270-745-2216), by fax (270-745-7089), or by e-mail (heather.alms@wku.edu).

Funded in part by the Kentucky Cabinet for Health & Family Services through the University of Kentucky Research Foundation.

Getting Ready for the First Day of School

By Sherri Meyer, CCR&R Family & Community Coordinator

School age children all around the country are preparing for the first day of school. Some children are entering school for the first time or are moving to another school, and the first day jitters can be hard on children. The American Academy of Pediatrics has some health and safety back-to-school suggestions that can be helpful.

When choosing a backpack for your child, be sure it has wide, padded shoulder straps. Heavier items should be packed in the center of the backpack and the total weight should not be more than 10% to 20% of the child's body weight. For example, if your child weighs 50 pounds, their backpack weight should be no more than 5 to 10 pounds. Heavy backpacks can strain shoulder muscles and cause the spine to curve. Backpacks should be worn over both shoulders and not just slung over one.

Obesity is a huge issue with our children these days. Watch for menus to be sent home by your child's school. Whether your child takes their lunch to school or chooses to eat the school's lunch, be sure the meal is healthy and contains many fresh fruits, low-fat dairy products, water and 100% fruit juice. Vending machines, if available, should be stocked with appropriate healthy choices. Teach your child to read labels. Did you know that one can of soft drink can contain as much as 10 teaspoons of sugar and approximately 150 calories? Drinking one soft drink a day can increase your child's chance of obesity by 60%! Encourage your child to choose low-fat milk, 100% juice, or water as an alternative. Model this behavior for your child and watch the changes occur.

Transportation to and from school is a great issue for many families. The choice of riding the bus, walking to school, riding a bicycle, or riding in a car is a decision each family will have to make. Whatever mode of transportation is best for your family, be sure to observe some safety guidelines. Teach your children that if they

are riding the bus, to wait for the bus to completely stop before entering the street. Always be sure your child can see the driver so the driver can see them.

If your child is walking to school, do they have a walking buddy or do you walk them? Is the route to school and back home safe? Are there adult crossing guards? Be sure your child has bright colored clothing or coats so motorists can see them clearly.

Your child may ride a bicycle to school and, if so, a helmet is a must! Teach your child they are to ride on the same side of the street as the cars are traveling. If your neighborhood has sidewalks, encourage your child to ride on the sidewalk and to respect pedestrians. Children must be taught the hand signals in order for drivers in vehicles to know when the child is turning or changing direction. Bicycle riders must obey all traffic signs and signals.

If children are traveling to school in a car, seat belts must be worn. In Kentucky, it's the law for any passenger in a moving vehicle to wear a seat belt. Your child may still require a booster seat if they do not meet certain guidelines. Many children in elementary school should still be in a booster seat due to their weight and height. The shoulder strap should lie across the chest and shoulders, not the neck or throat. The lap belt should be snug over the thighs (not the stomach) and the child should be tall enough to sit in the back seat with their back against the seat with legs bent and feet hanging down. All kids under 13 years old should sit in the rear seat of all vehicles.

These are just a few health and safety tips to get you prepared for that first day of school. Whether it is truly the first day of kindergarten or the first day of fifth grade, keep your child healthy and safe and the school year will be a good one! For more information on back to school tips, visit the American Academy of Pediatrics at www.aap.org.



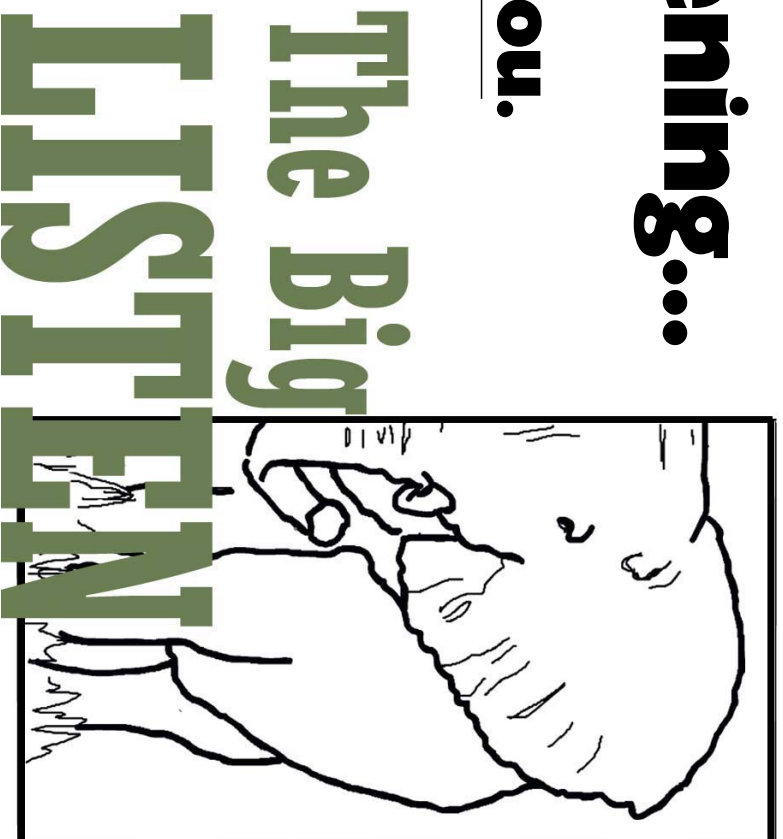
Editor's Note: Please share this article with the parents of school aged children.

Someone is listening...

We want to hear from you.

Tell us your opinion at:
www.BarrenRiverHealth.org
and click on "The Everybody Survey",
or ask for it at your local public library.

- For paper copies, call your local health department.
- Also available in Spanish and Bosnian.



Why is your opinion important?

We need to hear about your experiences with local health care services. And also your opinions about health issues affecting local people. 2007 is *The Big Listen* for the Barren River District Health Department. We want to hear from at least 10,000 residents in the Barren River Area Development District counties of Allen, Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Logan, Metcalfe, Monroe, Simpson, & Warren. This fall, the Health Department will hold town meetings for local residents from many walks of life to start a planning process. We will use information collected in the Everybody Survey to look at gaps in health services, and needs for each community to support health improvement for everyone.

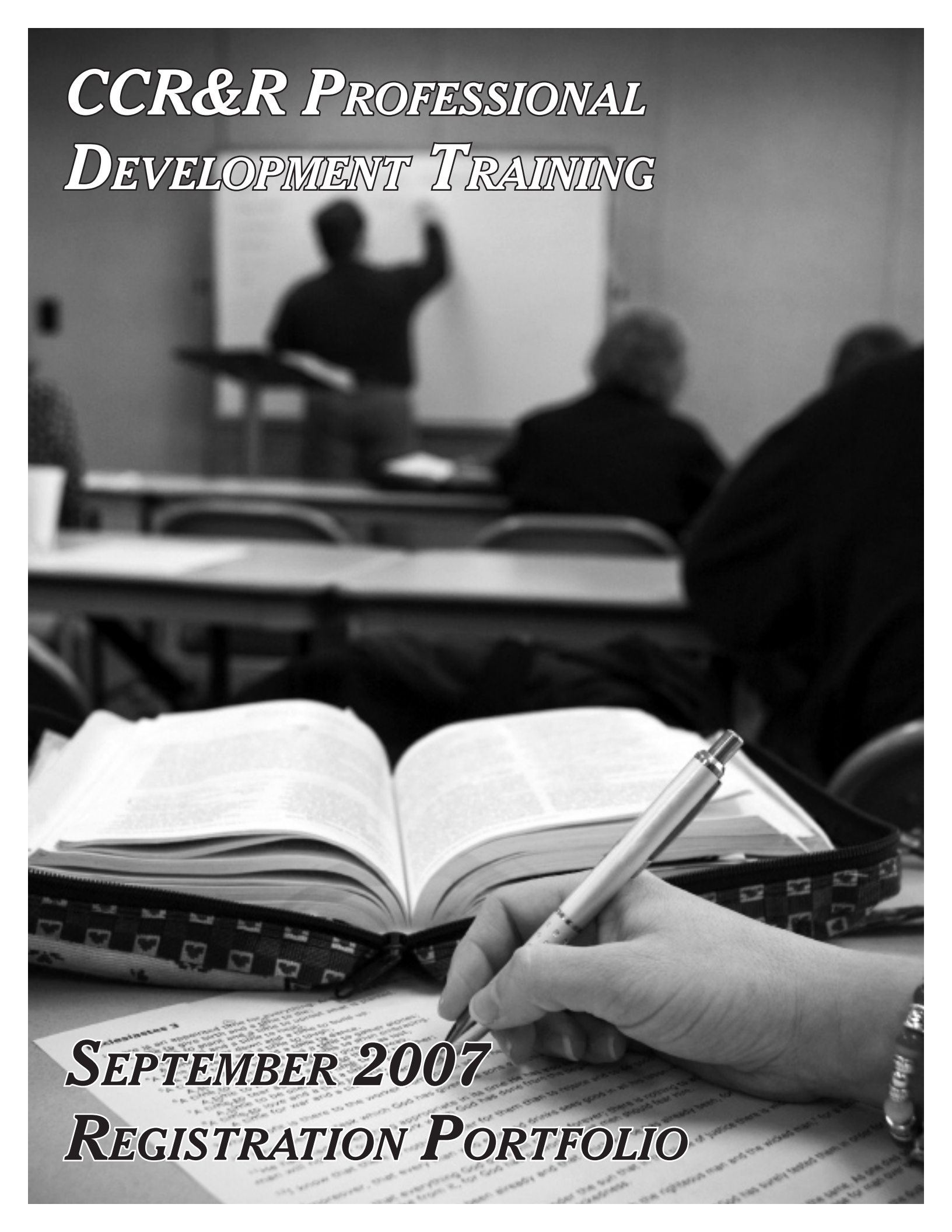
Our goal is to help ensure that every person in every county has the chance for the best health and quality of life possible.

For more information, visit us at: www.barrenriverhealth.org, or call us at 270-781-8039, ext 131.



Barren River District
Health Department

CCR&R PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING



*SEPTEMBER 2007
REGISTRATION PORTFOLIO*

CCR&R PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING SEPTEMBER 2007 REGISTRATION PORTFOLIO

The Child Care Resource & Referral at WKU is the leading provider of quality, affordable training in the 10 counties of the Barren River Area Development District. The professional staff and consultants of the CCR&R provide Professional Development Training each month on a variety of topics, suitable for both new and veteran child care and family child care staff and administrators. Events are conveniently scheduled in the evening or on Saturdays and participants qualify for Child Care Training Credits.

This special removable section of **THE CCR&R PROFESSIONAL** contains registration forms for upcoming training events for the months of September 2007. Simply detach the portfolio pages from the rest of the newsletter and copy the registration form or forms you need. Then pass the **REGISTRATION PORTFOLIO** on to your co-workers or colleagues so that they may copy the forms to register for the training in which they are interested. Please complete and return your registration form(s) with payment by the date specified on each form. You may also register on-line for all CCR&R training at www.wku.edu/ccrr-wku. For additional details on scheduled events, please contact the CCR&R at (270) 745-2216 or (800) 621-5908.

The CCR&R reserves the right to cancel an event if enrollment criteria are not met or when conditions beyond our control prevail. In the event of cancellation, the liability of the CCR&R is limited to the refund of registration fees only.

Attending Weekday Training? We Provide the Parking Pass!

Weekday parking on the WKU campus can be difficult. That's why the CCR&R provides free temporary WKU Visitor's Parking Passes for those pre-registering to attend CCR&R training on a weekday (Monday-Friday). Stickers can be picked up at Registration and should be placed on the driver's side dashboard of your car. Passes are valid only for the dates indicated on the pass.

With a Visitor's Pass, you may park in all Non-Premium lots, including non-premium Faculty/Staff, Housing, Student, and Commuter Lots. You cannot park in Premium (i.e., gated) Lots, Handicapped Parking Slots, or Loading Zone slots, or in fire lanes or other parking-prohibited areas. (As always, parking on campus is not regulated after 5:00 and on weekends, so passes are not required for attending evening training or training on Saturdays.)

Have You Lost Your Training Certificate?

If you've lost the certificate for any professional development training you received from the CCR&R, we will be happy to re-issue the certificate. Duplicate certificates are \$5 each and can be ordered by contacting Heather Alms at 270-745-2216 or 800-621-5908.

CCR&R Professional Development Training

Doors will open and participant check-in will begin at 5:30 p.m.

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Room 104, Jones-Jaggers Hall, University Boulevard, WKU, Bowling Green, KY

This session, designed for program Directors, will reinforce prior knowledge about assessment and assessment practices. It will cover the definition and purposes of assessment and the principles of performance assessment. Participants will have the opportunity to evaluate current classroom assessment practices and plan for future assessment efforts. *Presenter: Jill Norris, CCR&R Coordinator. Target Audience: Directors. CDA Subject Area: 7. Core Content: Child Assessment. Training Level: 2.*

Copy and share this form as necessary; print clearly and submit one form per person.

Registration Fee is \$20 per participant.

Register on-line at www.wku.edu/ccrr-wku OR return form with payment by September 4, 2007.

No registrations accepted after September 4, 2007. There will be no on-site registrations!

To receive CEU Credits, please check here ___ and include an additional \$15 fee.

Name: _____ Position: _____

Age Group(s) Served: _____ Program Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ State: ___ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail Address for Confirmation (if available): _____

ECE-TRIS ID Info: Birth Date: ___ / ___ / ___ (Day/Mo/Yr) Last 4 Digits of SSN: _____

Check Enclosed Purchase Order # _____ Enclosed

Please bill my Credit Card (Visa, Mastercard, Discover): _____

Card Expiration Date: ___ / ___ Signature: _____

No registrations accepted after September 4, 2007. Please register on-line at www.wku.edu/ccrr-wku OR return completed registration form with payment to:

**Child Care Resource & Referral
Western Kentucky University, 1906 College Heights Blvd. #11098
Bowling Green, KY 42101-1098**

ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS: Do you have a disability that requires special materials or services? Please explain: _____

CANCELLATIONS: To avoid obligation for payment of fees or to obtain a refund, all cancellations must be received in writing five working days prior to the event.

ORIENTATION TRAINING FOR EARLY CARE & EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS

Thursday, September 13, 2007

Room 104, Jones-Jaggers Hall, University Boulevard, WKU, Bowling Green, Ky

Morning Session: 9:00 a.m. - Noon

- RECOMMENDED PRACTICES.** This is the first half of the mandatory session of six-hour training that all child care employees must attend during the first 90 days of employment. *Presenter: Sherri Meyer, CCR&R Parent & Community Coordinator. Target Audience: New Employees. CDA Subject Area: 1. Core Content: Learning Environments & Curriculum. Training Level: 1.*

Afternoon Session: 1:00-4:00 p.m.

- BASIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SANITATION AND RECOGNIZING AND REPORTING CHILD ABUSE.** This is the second half in a mandatory session of six-hour training that all child care employees must attend during the first 90 days of employment. *Presenter: Jill Norris, CCR&R Coordinator. Target Audience: New Employees. CDA Subject Area: 1. Core Content: Health, Safety & Nutrition. Training Level: 1. **This session also functions as the Registered Providers Orientation.***

Doors will open and participant check-in will begin at 8:30 a.m.

Copy and share this form as necessary; print clearly and submit one form per person.

Registration Fee is \$40 per participant.

Register on-line at www.wku.edu/ccrr-wku OR return form with payment by September 7, 2007.

No registrations accepted after September 7, 2007. There will be no on-site registrations!

To receive CEU Credits, please check here ___ and include an additional \$15 fee.

Name: _____ Position: _____

Age Group(s) Served: _____ Program Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ State: ___ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail Address for Confirmation (if available): _____

ECE-TRIS ID Info: Birth Date: ___ / ___ / ___ (Day/Mo/Yr) Last 4 Digits of SSN: _____

Check Enclosed Purchase Order # _____ Enclosed

Please bill my Credit Card (Visa, Mastercard, Discover): _____

Card Expiration Date: ___ / ___ Signature: _____

No registrations accepted after September 7, 2007. Please register on-line at www.wku.edu/ccrr-wku OR return completed registration form with payment to:

**Child Care Resource & Referral, Western Kentucky University
1906 College Heights Blvd. #11098, Bowling Green, KY 42101-1098**

ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS: Do you have a disability that requires special materials or services? Please explain: _____

CANCELLATIONS: To avoid obligation for payment of fees or to obtain a refund, all cancellations must be received in writing five working days prior to the event.

CCR&R Professional Development Training

Saturday, September 22, 2007

Mass Media & Technology Hall, Normal Drive, WKU, Bowling Green, Kentucky

Morning Session: 9:00 a.m.-Noon

- WHAT WILL WE DO IF THE LIGHTS GO OUT.. AND THE WATER AND THE SEWER? DISASTER PREPAREDNESS.** Very often we think of what emergencies could happen in our business or in our neighborhood. Many of the residents in our neighborhoods have not idea of the hazards that emergency planners must prepare for. We will discuss what hazards are in your areas, and what actions you should take to keep yourself, your families, and your students safe. *Presenter: Bill Schlicht, Red Cross, and Sherri Meyer, Parent & Community Coordinator. Target Audience: General. CDA Subject Area: 1. Core Content: Health, Safety, and Nutrition. Training Level: 2.*

Afternoon Session: 1:00-3:00 p.m.

- FINDING PARENT RESOURCES ON THE WEB.** Join us in exploring the World Wide Web and learn how to access parent resources and receive support on-line. Registration is limited. Be sure to sign up early; an active e-mail address is mandatory prior to the workshop. *Presenter: Sherri Meyer, CCR&R Parent & Community Coordinator, and Heather Alms, CCR&R Provider Assistant and Office Coordinator. Target Audience: Infant/Toddler. CDA Subject Area: 4. Core Content: Family & Community Partnerships. Training Level: 2.*

Doors will open and participant check-in will begin at 8:30 a.m.

Copy and share this form as necessary; print clearly and submit one form per person.

Registration Fees are \$20 per participant for the 3-hour Morning Session and \$15 per participant for the 2-hour Afternoon Session. (\$35 for a full day of training)

Register on-line at www.wku.edu/ccrr-wku OR return form with payment by September 14, 2007.

No registrations accepted after Septmeber 14, 2007. There will be no on-site registrations!

To receive CEU Credits, please check here ___ and include an additional \$15 fee.

Name: _____ Position: _____

Age Group(s) Served: _____ Program Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number : _____ E-Mail Address for Confirmation (if available): _____

ECE-TRIS ID Info: Birth Date: ___ / ___ / ___ (Day/Mo/Yr) Last 4 Digits of SSN: ___

Check Enclosed Purchase Order # _____ Enclosed

Please bill my Credit Card (Visa, Mastercard, Discover): _____

Card Expiration Date: ___ / ___ Signature: _____

No registrations accepted after September 14, 2007. Please register on-line at www.wku.edu/ccrr-wku OR return completed registration form with payment to:

**Child Care Resource & Referral, Western Kentucky University
1906 College Heights Blvd. #11098, Bowling Green, KY 42101-1098**

ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS: Do you have a disability that requires special materials or services? Please explain: _____

CANCELLATIONS: To avoid obligation for payment of fees or to obtain a refund, all cancellations must be received *in writing* five working days prior to the event.

Professional Development Training from KATC

AUTISM BOOT CAMP, PARTS I & II

9:00 - Noon and 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Saturday, September 22, 2007

Mass Media & Technology Hall, Normal Street, WKU, Bowling Green, KY

This session has been designed by the Kentucky Autism Training Center as a two-part session (Part I & Part II) in order to be a full 5-hour training session. See page 11 for additional information on the role and services of KATC.

Participants will gain a deeper understanding of Autism Spectrum Disorders as well as strategies and techniques useful across settings. These techniques include visual supports, communication systems and social skills. Attendees may break into groups in the afternoon according to specific interests to learn more about specific strategies and techniques. *Presenter: Guest Speakers Carrie Gabbard, M.Ed., Emily Kirkham, BS Field Training Coordinators of KATC; Facilitator, Jill Norris, CRR Coordinator. Target Audience: General. CDA Subject Area: 2 & 3. Core Content: Child Growth & Development. Training Level: 3.*

Doors will open and participant check-in will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Copy and share this form as necessary; print clearly and submit one form per person.

Registration Fee is \$35 per participant.

Register on-line at www.wku.edu/ccrr-wku OR return form with payment by September 14, 2007.

No registrations accepted after September 14, 2007. There will be no on-site registrations!

To receive CEU Credits, please check here ___ and include an additional \$15 fee.

Name: _____ Position: _____

Age Group(s) Served: _____ Program Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number : _____ E-Mail Address for Confirmation (if available): _____

ECE-TRIS ID Info: Birth Date: ___ / ___ / ___ (Day/Mo/Yr) Last 4 Digits of SSN: _____

Check Enclosed Purchase Order # _____ Enclosed

Please bill my Credit Card (Visa, Mastercard, Discover): _____

Card Expiration Date: ___ / ___ Signature: _____

No registrations accepted after September 14, 2007. Please register on-line at www.wku.edu/ccrr-wku OR return completed registration form with payment to:

Child Care Resource & Referral

Western Kentucky University, 1906 College Heights Blvd. #11098

Bowling Green, KY 42101-1098

ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS: Do you have a disability that requires special materials or services? Please explain: _____

CANCELLATIONS: To avoid obligation for payment of fees or to obtain a refund, all cancellations must be received in writing five working days prior to the event.

Kentucky Autism Training Center

The mission of the **Kentucky Autism Training Center (KATC)**, located in the University of Louisville's College of Education, is to enhance supports for persons with autism by providing information and technical assistance to families and service providers across Kentucky. The KATC provides school-based consultations, family technical assistance, and training activities for promoting the early identification of autism in young children. The Center focuses on forming partnerships with other agencies to help in preparing direct service providers to work with individuals with autism. The Center also places emphasis on providing information and training on intervention strategies that are supported by research as being effective with individuals with autism. In addition, the Center places emphasis on building performance-based program evaluation efforts at all levels of operation.

The idea of the KATC arose when parents realized the need for an autism resource center in Kentucky. Parents began to research other centers around the country and spoke with State Representative Robert Heleringer in January 1996. The representative was interested in the idea of an Autism Center in Kentucky and had the Legislative Research Commission examine similar bills adopted by other states. On January 9, 1996, Rep. Heleringer introduced a bill to the Health and Welfare Committee, co-sponsored by Committee Chair Tom Burch.

In February 1996, the bill was passed by the House and sent to the Senate, where it was approved in April 1996. The University of Louisville's Child Evaluation Center/Department of Pediatrics applied and was awarded the responsibilities of administering the Center, with the Bingham Child Guidance Center and the Department of Special Education as internal partners in the formation of the KATC. In July of 2004, the U of L's College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) assumed administrative responsibility of the Kentucky Autism Training Center. The KATC has since flourished through collaborative relationships and creative partnerships towards the mission of providing professional development, training and information dissemination to families and professionals across the Commonwealth. To learn more, please visit the KATC website at <http://louisville.edu/education/kyautismtraining>.

Want to Be Published? Or Announce An Event?

If you are an administrator, coordinator, teacher, or caregiver, we encourage you to submit articles to be considered for publication in **THE CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL**. You can share your experiences in early care and education, tell us about activities that work well with children, share ways you communicate and involve families, or discuss ideas for working with colleagues or community partners. Do you have a scholar story to tell about going back to school? Have a story about working on STARS for your facility? Want to tell us about your experiences starting your child care program? We welcome your submissions.

All non-profit agencies are also welcome to submit announcements for consideration of publication in the CCR&R newsletter. Describe your services, let us know about an upcoming event, or describe a specialized service your agency provides. We do not guarantee acceptance or the exact date of publication, but we want you - as our partners in early childhood - to freely contribute to YOUR newsletter. We will make every effort to include your articles and announcements in **THE CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL** on a timely basis.

All articles, submissions, and announcements should be limited to 400 words or less, and must be typed and sent electronically. (Sorry, submissions cannot be returned.) You may e-mail your submissions to connie.smith@wku.edu, or mail them on disk to: Child Care Resource & Referral at WKU, 1906 College Heights Blvd. #11098, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101-1098.



CPR and First Aid Training Opportunities

COUNTY	AGENCY	PHONE
Barren	American Red Cross, Barren County Chapter	270-659-2050
	Healthy Start Consultants, Barren River Health Department, Stephanie Elmore	270-651-8321
	T.J. Samson Community Hospital Resource Center	270-651-4745
Butler	Ambulance Service, Morgantown, KY	270-526-5013
	Healthy Start Consultants, Barren River Health Department, Melanie Napier	270-781-8039, ext. 189
Edmonson	Healthy Start Consultants, Barren River Health Department, Melanie Napier	270-781-8039, ext. 189
	Brownsville Fire Department	270-597-2729
	Twin Lakes Regional Medical Center Staff Development Department, Leitchfield, KY	270-259-9400
Hart	Healthy Start Consultants, Barren River Health Department, Stephanie Elmore	270-651-8321
	Caverna Memorial Hospital, CPR only	270-786-2191
Logan	American Red Cross, Logan County Chapter	270-726-6038
	Healthy Start Consultants, Barren River Health Department, Melanie Napier	270-781-8039, ext. 189
Metcalf	Healthy Start Consultants, Barren River Health Department, Stephanie Elmore	270-651-8321
	T.J. Samson Community Hospital Resource Center	270-651-4745
Monroe	Ambulance Service, Tompkinsville, KY	270-487-8083
Simpson	Ambulance Service, Franklin, KY	270-586-9234
	Healthy Start Consultants, Barren River Health Department, Melanie Napier	270-781-8039, ext. 189
Warren	American Red Cross, Bowling Green Area Chapter	270-781-7377
	Healthy Start Consultants, Barren River Health Department, Melanie Napier	270-781-8039, ext. 189
	Bowling Green Fire Department (if space in the class is available)	270-393-3088
	Western Kentucky University, Nursing Department	270-745-3762

Small Business Newsbriefs



General Assembly Enacts Insurance Relief Measure for Small Employers

Jill Norris, CCR&R Coordinator

The 2006 Kentucky General Assembly enacted the Insurance Coverage Affordability and Relief to Small Employers (ICARE). This program, administered by the Kentucky Office of Insurance, is designed to assist employers in Kentucky with paying for workers premiums. To be eligible, the employer must: (1) Employ 2 to 25 people, (2) Pay at least 50% of the employee's premium cost for single coverage, and (3) Pay an average annual salary of no more than \$30,603.

While the program is not a health insurance plan, it does provide eligible small businesses with two levels of health care incentive payments to reimburse employers for the cost of health insurance premiums. One level is designed for businesses that have not offered health insurance in the past 12 months. It provides \$40 per eligible employee per month and this amount decreases by \$10 each subsequent year in the program. The second level is for employers already offering health insurance who have at least one employee who has a defined high-cost condition. This level provides \$60 per eligible employee per month with the monthly amount decreasing by \$15 each subsequent year in the program.

The budget for ICARE for the first 2 years of the program is \$20 million. Because of this funding limit, enrollment may be limited. Therefore, it is important for you to apply immediately if you are interested in participating. You can contact the Kentucky Office of Insurance at 877-ICARE07 (877-422-7307) with any questions you may have. Additionally, you can download an application from the Kentucky Office of Insurance web site at: <http://doi.ppr.ky.gov/kentucky/> or get one from any Kentucky licensed health insurance agent. Agents are required to complete a portion of the application. For a more detailed description of the ICARE program, check out the ICARE fact sheet at <http://doi.ppr.ky.gov/kentucky/Documents//ICARE707factSHEET072007.pdf>

IRS Starts e-Newsletter for Small Businesses

Chris Bixler, WKU Small Business Development Office

The Internal Revenue Service has started a news service, ***e-News for Small Business***. Distributed every Wednesday, the newsletter delivers timely, useful tax information right to your computer, including but not limited to:

- Important, upcoming tax dates
- Reminders and tips to assist businesses with tax compliance
- What's new on the IRS Web site
- IRS news releases and special IRS announcements

The convenient format of ***e-News*** will put IRS tax information at your fingertips. Useful Links also bring you quickly to some of the most useful information at IRS.gov for large and small businesses and the self-employed. To start your FREE subscription to ***e-News***, just go to <http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/content/0,,id=3D154826,00.html>. Type in your e-mail address and submit.



Reprinted with permission from June, 2007 SBDC Newsletter.

Connect For Kids Corner

As of our birthday on July 10, 2007, we have grown to 176 members and 11,352 articles for parents, grandparents, and early care and education professionals! We have met many interesting people from many different states and backgrounds, and we have made some lasting friendships along the way. Thank you, **Connect For Kids!**

Photo of the Month



This month's photo was submitted by Michelle. and features her nephew Malik and daughter Brianna.

Visit www.wku.edu/ccrr-wku/Forum/phpBB2/viewtopic.php?t=750 for instructions on how to submit your favorite photo.

Current Topics of Interest on CFK

- Summer Activity Ideas
- Reading and Writing Experiences
- Webinar: How to Prevent Child Support Cuts
- No cost parent-child early literacy activity materials
- Laughing With Children

Interested in Joining Connect For Kids?

Visit us at www.wku.edu/cfk and click on the Forum link. You must have a valid e-mail address to register. Know a mom, dad, grandparent, aunt, uncle, student, or professional who might benefit from or enjoy CFK? Please share the news! Membership is not limited! Anyone can join no matter where you live! If you care about children... **Connect For Kids!**

Recipe of the Month: Key Lime Pie

Submitted by Denney

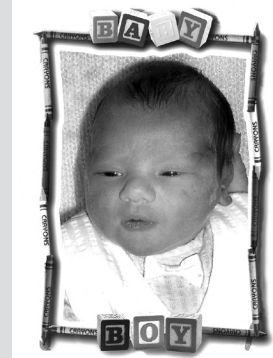
- 1 can of Eagle Brand sweetened condensed milk
- 1 container of Cool Whip
- 2/3 cup of lime juice
- Graham cracker crust



A simple and delicious summertime treat! Mix Cool Whip and sweetened condensed milk together until well blended. Add lime juice and mix together until well blended. Pour into graham cracker crust. Place in refrigerator and chill for a few hours. If desired, garnish with a slice of lime and or a dollop of Cool Whip. This is a great recipe for the young chef to try!

On the Cover: It's A Boy!

Bobby Hooten and his wife - our very own **Dr. Amy Hood Hooten** - welcomed their first child at about 6:00 p.m. on July 11th at the Medical Center in Bowling Green. Anxious to get on with things, **Case William Hooten** arrived about three weeks earlier than expected and weighed in at just over seven pounds, measuring 21 inches. Both mother and baby are doing fine, as is the proud papa. Our congratulations to the new parents and our best wishes for little Case! Watch future issues of **THE CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL** for additional photos.



Making the Most of the CCR&R Lending Library

Health Alms, CCR&R Provider Assistant and Office Coordinator

**Are you looking for fresh ideas for parent involvement activities?
Do you need new ideas for administration of your program?
Would you like to bring some new books or toys into your classroom?**

The CCR&R Lending Library is the place for you! We offer a wide variety of books, toys, and media, all available to anyone interested. The CCR&R Lending Library offers materials on such topics such as:

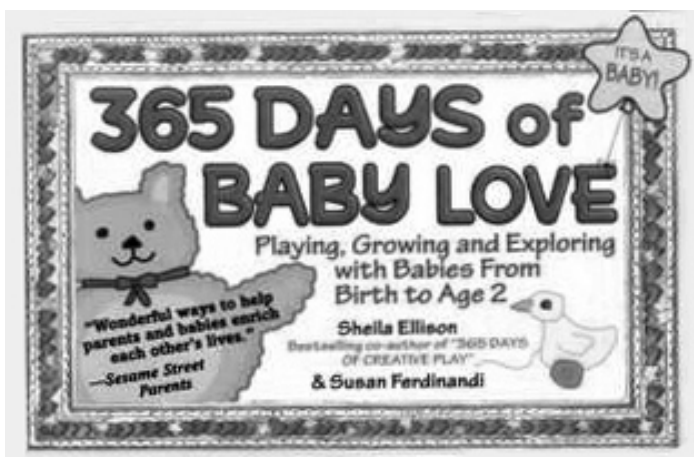
Children's Literature
Health and Safety
Parent Involvement

Administration
Social Services
Music

Education
Training
Publications

Children's books written in Spanish are also now available! Use of the CCR&R Lending Library is **FREE OF CHARGE!** The Child Care Resource and Referral Lending Library is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Please contact us at 270-745-2216 or 800-621-5908 to schedule a time to visit. We are located on the WKU campus, Jones Jagers Hall Room 117. Call us if you need directions!

Already have an idea about what you need? Call us! We will look to see if it is available. We also appreciate your suggestions on what we should add to our library.



Resource Spotlight:

**365 Days of Baby Love:
Playing, Growing and Exploring With
Babies From Birth to Age 2.**

*Ellison, Sheila. Sourcebooks, Naperville,
Illinois, 1996.*

A big book of activities that is sure to please the infants in your program. The book includes ways to incorporate parental involvement and information to share with parents.

Child Care Resource & Referral
Western Kentucky University
1906 College Heights Blvd. #11098
Bowling Green, KY 42101-1098

THE CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL

The Newsletter of the Child Care Resource & Referral at WKU

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