



The Weekly Memo

Southern Oregon Child & Family Council, Head Start, Early Head Start & LISTO

2014-2015, Issue 2

September 22, 2014

Let the Fun Begin!

After weeks of intensive training and preparation the day has come for children to start school. For some children, it will be an exciting and joyful return to a school they attended last year, and for some it will be a tentative first time venture away from their parents and home.



I was so impressed as I traveled around to center orientations last week. It was obvious you all have worked very hard to make your centers and classrooms a wonderful and welcoming place for children and families. It was clear much thought and effort went in to making the orientations as helpful as possible for parents. I commend you all for your efforts!

Today is the first day for children. How exciting can it get! You finally get to do the job you want to do instead of just the prep work. In all the confusion and excitement of classes starting I stress to you please remember SAFETY. Remember to count those little heads who will not remember to stay in line. Remember to look for that scared child hiding behind the bush on the playground. Slow down and keep your eye out for that child that runs away from Mom in the parking lot. Be vigilant to look under those bus seats for the child who is terrified to be away from home. Be thoughtful, patient, and mindful of these little people who may have never seen or experienced what we have in our classrooms. Be kind to the little guy who wets his pants for the third time because he is too scared to go to the bathroom. I ask you also to remember to be understanding and sympathetic with moms and dads that will be experiencing the hardest and most stressful day of their lives handing their precious child over to someone they do not know.

It is up to each and everyone of us to make this very important day the best memory of their lives. Take a deep breath, put a big smile on your face, and put your best professional foot forward! Most of all, don't forget to enjoy this special day yourself!

Submitted by, Valerie Blade, Operations Director

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MEETINGS/TRAININGS

9/23– Staggered Start

9/23– LISTO Meeting, Library

9/24– DAG, A & B

9/24– Directors, Admin

9/25– EHS Managers Mtg., A & B

9/26– FA Training, A & B

9/26– Type 10 Van Training
New FAs

NEXT WEEK (MON)

9/29–Ed: Planning @ CTRS

9/29– Ed: Center Mtgs. @ CTRS

9/29– Ed: Child Staffings @ CTRS

Believe you can and you're half way there.!

~Theodore Roosevelt



Mission Statement

Southern Oregon Head Start prepares children and their families for success in school and throughout life.

Editors:
Valerie Blade &
Crickett Tepper



KUDOS KORNER!



★ **Kudos!** I would like to put a Special Thank You out to all of our EHS-WM staff for the great attitudes they have exhibited and the welcome they have shared with new staff and new families. We are already in our 3rd week of services with children and families, and they are going strong. I also want to give a special thanks to staff for helping our new MIECHV services come on board. Like many Headstart Classes, we are experiencing the layering of group services, on Tuesdays and Thursdays;(morning and afternoon). This is a different experience for us, and I am so proud of how all staff have stepped up to the plate to make this work for children and families. A special thank you also goes to Talley, Sue, and Blair for all of the extra work they have done to help this new program be successful.

Thanks again from a very grateful Manager, Val Erceg

★ **Kudos!** I work at EHSGP and moved up from Specialist 2 to Permanent Sub Specialist 1 this year. I wanted to give Kudos to all of EHSGP, Talley Dunn and Sue Hamilton for supporting me in this big move. Their help and kindness has made it a smooth and happy transition!

Submitted by, Jessica Wasson- EHSGP

Welcome New Employees!

Over the next several weeks we will be introducing new employees in the weekly memo. Please take the time to welcome your new co-workers as they learn the ropes!



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|---|--|
| ★ Steve Stotler, HR Supervisor, Main Office | ★ Jennifer Ecker, Jackson County Multi-Center TA |
| ★ Kathy Prose HR Admin Asst., Main Office | ★ Lindsay Sharer, Josephine County Multi-Center TA |
| ★ Michael Jay Maintenance Supervisor, Main Office | ★ Bliss Wilson– Teacher Asst., Ashland |
| ★ Dianne Journagan Accounting Specialist, Main Office | ★ Richard Schwann -Custodian/Bus Driver, Eagle Point |
| ★ Ailin Castrejon, Bilingual Receptionist, Main Office | ★ Chet Krupa - Custodian/Bus Driver, Eagle Point |
| ★ Michelle Wearden SAA, Health/ EHS, Main Office | ★ Serenity Bailey, EHS Center Assistant - EHS GP |
| ★ Carolyn Rotar, PFCE Health Supervisor, Main Office | ★ Jesi Gutierrez, EHS Toddler Specialist I - EHS GP |
| ★ Ally Clayton, EHS Health Screener, Main Office | ★ Vanessa Waterbury, EHS Specialist II - EHS GP |
| ★ Michelle Terrill, Health Services Supervisor, Main Office | ★ Kirsten Stowe, EHS Center Assistant - EHS MC |



Employee Assistance Program

Do you ever feel overwhelmed? Just a reminder that EAP is an excellent source of counseling and support for nearly every problem or issue you might be facing.

EAP's services include, but are not limited to: work place issues, interpersonal conflict, family crisis, grief counseling, depression, stress, anxiety, marital issues, etc. and all full-time and part-time employees are covered.

Services provide up to 4 counseling sessions per incident and are completely free and 100% confidential. If you need additional help to work on an issue, the Agency has arranged for up to 8 additional visits at a cost of \$10 each.

The appointment schedule is very flexible and all appointments should be scheduled at a time that will cause the least amount of disruption in services.

To make an appointment, call:

Asante Counseling Services Medford (541) 789-4238
 Grants Pass (541) 955-5570 Toll Free 1-800-836-5777



Ready to begin a new life?


The Soroptimist Live Your Dream Awards program (formerly the Women's Opportunity Awards) has been helping women around the world since 1972. This program provides cash grants to women who are working to better their lives through additional schooling and skills training.

You are eligible to apply if you are:

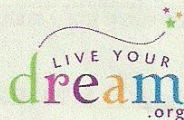
A woman with primary financial responsibility for yourself and your dependants

Attending an undergraduate degree program or a vocational skills training program

Have financial need



For information about applying to the Soroptimist Live Your Dream: Education & Training Award program, please contact:



Proud Partner:



Soroptimist International of Southern Oregon Clubs

Name: Sandy Lowman

Email: sdlowman@charter.net

Phone: 541-890-3321

Club Application Deadline: November 15, 2014

Amount of Club Award: 9 awards ranging from \$500 to \$2,000

SAFETY COMMITTEE



**BEE
SAFE**

As Safety Compliance Officer, I would like to welcome all center safety representatives to the Safety Committee. We have a great group of individuals who will be working to promote safety in the workplace. Safety is everyone's responsibility! We want to develop a "Safety Culture" here at Head Start/ Early Head Start.

The safety committee will be comprised of one Center Safety Representative from each center, the Safety Compliance Officer and other staff who volunteer to be committee members. Safety representatives from each center are:

ASH	Marie Ellis	Cook
CP	Jennifer Glen	Teacher Assistant
EP	Kelly Thorpe	Teacher Assistant
FRC	Trish Maitrejean	Teacher
FTL	Sharon Fast	Teacher Assistant
IV	Tina Jones	Teacher Assistant
MER	Sara Ross	Head Teacher
MCB	Cindy France	Teacher Assistant
OH	William McGowan	Bus Driver/Custodian
PXT	Kim Thompson	Teacher Assistant
RWD	Jennifer Sowell	Area Assistant
RVS	Jackie Sundin	Teacher Assistant
RR	Ashley Clayton	Area Assistant
SM	Ruthie Bailey	Bus Driver/ Custodian
SV	Kim Torrey	Teacher Assistant
WSH	Susan Thomas	Family Advocate
WCY	Carrie Grimes	Teacher Assistant
WIL	DeAnn Lutton	Bus Driver/Custodian
EHSCJ	Amy Nolan	Toddler Specialist
EHSGP	Vanessa Waterbury	Specialist II
EHSMC	Kristen Stowe	Center Assistant/Driver
EHSWM	Candelaria Romero	Specialist II/Driver
	Cheri Curtis	Safety Compliance Officer
	Cathy Justice	Employee Health and Safety Benefits Manager
	Judy Brown	Operations Manager
	Michael Jay	Maintenance Supervisor
	Faith Cox-	Food Service Manager
	Rachel Dunn	EHS Health Supervisor
	Gina Dusenberry	Director of Education

The purpose of the safety committee is to bring Agency staff and management together in a cooperative effort to promote safety and provide a safe and healthy environment for employees. The safety committee will establish annual safety goals and objectives, establish safety policies and procedures for the Agency, determine the plan of action to achieve goals and objectives and review the ongoing effectiveness of the Agency safety program.

Be Safe!!

Cheri Curtis, Safety Compliance Officer



Non-Profit Air and Ground Ambulance Service

MEMBERSHIP OFFER

***You do not have to be eligible for our agency benefits in order to take advantage of this membership. ALL employees are eligible, including part-time and substitute staff.**

Mercy Flights is a local non-profit company providing air and ground ambulance service to our community.

- Ground ambulance services to over 2000 square miles
- Helicopter emergency on-scene response within 150 air miles of Medford
- Airplanes provide air ambulance transport as far as 1000 air miles from Medford
- Provides ground and air ambulance service to anyone needing medical transportation in our 911 service areas
- Emergency medical staff consisting of specially trained Critical Care RNs, Paramedics, EMT's and experienced pilots

Other ambulance services can cost as much as 3 times more than Mercy Flights services. For example, an emergency airplane flight from Crescent City to Medford using another service can cost up to \$60,000. Mercy Flights costs can be as low as \$20,000 for the service.

Benefits of your membership

- Pays 50% of your insurance co-pay
- Pays 50% of the ambulance service bill for qualified members of your household who are uninsured
- Lowers your out-of-pocket cost
- Saves your agency insurance company money, which in turn keeps costs lower for you

Your Membership covers

- You
- Your spouse
- Your dependent children under 19 years old and full-time students under 22 years old
- Disabled children, parents, domestic partners and dependent parents living at the same physical location

Membership costs:

- | | | | |
|------------|--------|------------------|------|
| - Single | \$70 | Senior (over 62) | \$65 |
| - Family | \$80 | Senior | \$70 |
| - Lifetime | \$1500 | | |

- If you do not use services, the cost of your membership is tax deductible.
- The agency offers membership payment through payroll deductions for full and part-time staff.

For a membership application or more information, contact Cathy Justice in Human Resources