



HANDPRINTS

The newsletter of Corvallis Community Children's Centers

News from the Executive Director

Dear Parents,

At our March 23rd In-Service day our staff began "Developmentally Appropriate Practices" (DAP) and "Best Practices" training, according to the guidelines set by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. It was very exciting to observe the teachers from all three centers gather together and begin talking about what the children in each of their classrooms can do. The morning was over too quickly, but it definitely set the stage for our In-Service Days over the next year. Our goal is to develop a program for our teachers that will enhance their professional skills and enhance CCCC's curriculum. Your child will build a profile of accomplishments and knowledge, and we

hope, a love of learning that will see them well prepared to enter the school system when they graduate from our centers.

On the next page are some explanations of the terms you will hear us using as we incorporate more of the NAEYC guidelines into our program to improve your child's experience at CCCC.

We are excited to begin this learning process. If you would like to help us achieve our goals please feel free to contact me and learn how you might be able to assist one of our site directors as we set a new standard for our organization.



LouAnn Spevacek

CCCC Executive Director

April 2009
Vol. 1, Issue 2

Staff Anniversaries

2 years

Kim Huyah Moore
Tara Fulps
Ashley Fox
Cherish Oliver

1 year

Kathryn Zittel
Shandra Fabiny
Marcia Vaughn
Marlene Hinzman



Thank you for your continuing commitment to our children!

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News from the Board of Directors

Thanks to those of you who have attended recent board meetings and expressed interest in joining the board of directors! It's wonderful to see new faces and hear new ideas. We anticipate that we will have a full board (11 members) for the 2009-10 year. We are continuing to accept applications up until our April 20th board meeting.

Our new board officers and at-large board members will be elected by parent vote at our Annual Meeting on May 7th. Cast your vote and join us for a family style potluck dinner at the First United Methodist Church Community Center on Monroe Ave from 6 to 7:30pm.

We are still looking for parent and community mem-

bers to serve on our board committees. You do not need to be a board member to volunteer for a committee. On page 3 are descriptions of the standing and ad-hoc committees that advise the board of directors. Participation in a board committee is another rewarding way of contributing to the continuing success of CCCC!





GoodSearch.com is like any other search engine – but each time you search, a penny is donated to CCCC!

Here's how it works:

1. Go to www.goodsearch.com
2. Type "Corvallis Community Childrens Centers" into the "I support" box and click "verify."
3. Search the Internet just like you would with any search engine.

GoodSearch also has a toolbar so you can search right from the top of your browser!



Applying DAP to our classrooms

At the March 23rd In-Service Day, CCCC teachers began a list of developmentally achievements for each age group—from infants to pre-K. In addition, our new curriculum (Creative Curriculum) also provides supplemental materials for the teachers about DAP. The goal

is to develop a chart for each classroom that will be a quick reference for you as a parent but also for the teacher to check themselves and say..."Am I expecting too much or not enough from this child?" Look for a list in your child's classroom soon!

We ♥ our teachers!

Join CCCC in celebrating
National Teacher Appreciation Week
May 4-8, 2009

The heart of our childcare centers is our staff. Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week is a fun way to show our thanks to the people who nurture our children all year long. Here are some of the events we are planning:

Mon, May 4: Write down things you love about CCCC staff on **Paper Hearts**.

Tue, May 5: Provide **Snacks & drinks**

Wed, May 6: Create **Flower** bouquets

Thu, May 7: Help fill a **Goodie Bag**

Look for sign up sheets at your center at the end of April, or contact brigitte.cluver@oregonstate.edu to find out how you can help!



DAP? NAEYC? HELP! - what does this mean for my child?

Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP) identifies what we should do for your child based on meeting your child's needs as an individual, and as a member of their age group. This helps set challenging but achievable goals, and contribute to your child's ongoing learning and development.

The **National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)** develops research-based standards for the childcare industry and sets the guidelines for voluntary accreditation. The standards are high, and maintaining the accreditation is challenging, but being NAEYC-

accredited opens new avenues of funding, and represents a mark of quality in early childhood education that parents can trust. Growing Oaks is currently beginning the re-accreditation process. More information can be found at www.naeyc.org.

"Best Practices" are strategies to help each child achieve learning goals. Best practices are age appropriate and are tailored to the developmental stage of individual children. Teachers intentionally initiate best practices as an approach or strategy that supports a child's interest and encourages their ability to learn. Best practices may be found throughout the curriculum including free play, daily routines, meal times and directed learning.

Profiles are ongoing documentation of your child's development from the day they enter care at CCCC until they leave. This file will allow you to watch your child develop over time.



2009 Annual Meeting & Potluck Supper

Thursday, May 7, 6-7:30 pm

SAVE THE DATE

Please join us for a chance to visit with CCCC staff and families and elect our Board of Directors.

Location: First United Methodist Church, Community Center, 1165 NW Monroe Ave

What's provided: CCCC will provide a main dish (meat & veggie), beverages, plates, and utensils.

What to bring: Please bring a potluck dish to share based on the first letter of your last name:

- A-H - salad
- I-P - side dish or vegetarian entrée (please label if your dish is vegetarian)
- Q-Z - dessert

Consider volunteering to help with set up and clean up! Sign up sheets and reminders coming soon.

For more information or questions contact:

Niek Chambers / 541-908-4859 / nehambers@mac.com

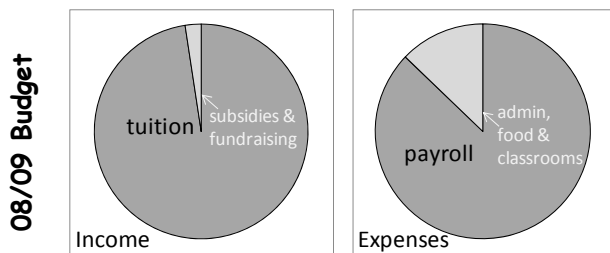
Naomi Oak (Board Chair) / 541-715-1481 / oakleaf00@comcast.net

Which committee could use my help?

The CCCC Board of Directors relies on several committees to oversee key operations of CCCC. The executive, finance, personnel and fundraising committees are mandated by CCCC By-Laws and chaired by a Board Member. Ad-hoc committees are organized and dissolved with CCCC's changing needs, and may be chaired by a board member or other volunteer. If you are interested in joining a committee, we encourage you to contact the committee chair to learn more about how you can help.

Finance

The finance committee is responsible for reporting on the fiscal health of CCCC to the board of directors and overseeing the development of the annual operating budget. Spring is an especially active time as we work with the Executive Director to prepare the 09-10 budget. Typically, a draft version of the budget is presented to the entire board of directors in May and, after incorporating changes, the board votes to accept the budget in June. If you have interest or expertise in the budgeting process and would like more information, please contact Danielle Uerlings, Treasurer (uerlingsd@comcast.net)



Fundraising

The Fundraising Committee welcomes Charmel Laam as the new chair for 09-10! We have grown from a few parent volunteers to a dynamic committee organizing multiple fundraisers that brought in over \$8,000 last year.

Participation in the fundraising committee may take the form of organizing a dinner night, participating in the CCCC Birthday Party planning committee, or volunteering at a fundraising event.

We need volunteers!

- 1) Fall Game Day Parking. Organize 3-4 volunteers to monitor the Growing Oaks parking lot during 6 home games and collect \$10 per parking space! Last year we made \$2000, this year we hope to collect \$5000!
- 2) Join the CCCC Birthday Party committee and help make this event successful for the 2nd year in a row!

Want to help out?

email_fundraising@corvallischildcare.org

Personnel

The personnel committee oversees hiring and review of CCCC's executive director, and maintains the staff handbook. The committee also presents the slate of candidates for election to the board each May, provides orientation to Board members and assists in resolving other personnel concerns. Due to the confidential nature of the discussions, these meetings are closed to non-committee members. If you have Human Resources training or would like to be involved, please contact Maria Wright, Vice-Chair (maria@panfil.net)

Ad-hoc committees

Parent Outreach: We need help enrolling families in google groups email, producing this newsletter and increasing our parent volunteer network. *Contact: Sarah (sarah.lewis@oregonstate.edu)*

NAEYC Accreditation: Learn more about the accreditation process and help build profiles for the children. *Contact: Stephanie (galvangregory@msn.com)*

Growing Oaks Long Range Planning: Growing Oaks will need a new home in a few years. Help shape the future of our organization. *Contact: LouAnn (ccccc@gmail.com)*

Teacher Appreciation Week: See details on opposite page. *Contact: Brigitte (brigitte.Cluver@oregonstate.edu)*

daVinci Days Children's Village Booth: We will repeat last year's successful racetrack exhibit. Help organize volunteers to staff the booth. *Contact: Sarah (sarah.lewis@oregonstate.edu)*

**T
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n
k
s** Thanks to a great turnout of staff & families, our February 24th art show and fundraiser at Papa's Pizza made \$444! Please join us next time for fun times and good food at Papa's!



Contact information:

Growing Oaks: 737-7745

Site director: Melanie Peterson
growingoaks@corvallischildcare.org

Monroe Center: 753-2519

Site director: Janet Hewitt
monroe@corvallischildcare.org

Lancaster Center: 753-0191

Interim site director: Cherish Oliver
lancaster@corvallischildcare.org

Administration

3285 NE Oxford Circle
Corvallis, Oregon 97330
Phone: 541-752-1274



LouAnn Spevacek, Executive Director
ccced@gmail.com

**Building a strong foundation
for children and their families.**

Be involved, keep in touch and support CCCC!

- 1) Join our **googlegroups email** lists to receive notices and for your center! Request to join the forum by visiting:
Growing Oaks groups.google.com/group/cccc-growing-oaks
Lancaster groups.google.com/group/cccc-lancaster
Monroe groups.google.com/group/cccc-monroe
- 2) Use **www.goodsearch.com** for a yahoo-based internet search and CCCC receives a penny for each search. See inside for details.
- 3) Join **eSCRIP.com** and CCCC receives a percentage of your purchases at participating stores—special thanks to our Safeway shoppers! CCCC's group ID is #500015641
- 4) Keep track of upcoming events by visiting **CCCC's online calendar** at www.corvallischildcare.org/calendar.php

Interested in helping out with these or other online tasks? Contact newsletter@corvallischildcare.org

2009 Calendar

Upcoming Events:

Apr 20: Board Meeting 6-8pm — All welcome
May 4-9: Teacher & Staff Appreciation week
May 7: Annual Potluck and Board Election
May 18: Board Meeting —All welcome
May 25: Memorial Day — All Centers Closed
June 15: In-Service Day—All Centers Closed
June 15: Board Meeting—All welcome
July 3: 4th of July - All Centers Closed
July 4: All American Anyone Can Join Parade

For more calendar & event information



visit www.corvallischildcare.org
to see our **NEW** online calendar

2009 Closures & Holidays

Jan 1,2	New Years	Closed
Jan 19	MLK Day	Closed
Mar 23	In-Service day	Closed
May 25	Memorial Day	Closed
June 15	In-Service day	Closed
July 3	4th of July (obs)	Closed
Sept 7	Labor Day	Closed
Sept 25	In-Service day	Closed
Nov 26,27	Thanksgiving	Closed
Dec 25	Christmas Day	Closed

Would you like more information about these events or how you can support Corvallis Community Children's Centers?
Contact LouAnn at 541-752-1274 or ccced@gmail.com