

Self Help Inc.

COMMUNITY



PARTNERSHIPS
for Children

Nov.
Dec.
2008

780 West Main St. Avon, MA 02322 508-559-1666

email: cpc@selfhelpinc.org

website: www.Selfhelpinc.org/CommunityPartnerships/index/html

BUILDING BLOCKS

For Strengthening Families

The Community Partnerships for Children Program is proud to announce the return of Jeanine Fitzgerald of the Better Behavior Bureau. She will be presenting one of her famous workshops: "Emotions Coaching." Jeanine is a Certified Human Behavior Consultant and owner of The Better Behavior Bureau. Over the past 26 years, Jeanine has provided expertise in program development and assessment, leadership and management, child development services, parent and professional development trainings, and keynote presentations on a state, regional and national level. She has appeared on public television stations in Massachusetts and Vermont. Jeanine travels throughout the country to work in child care centers, family childcare homes, Head Start Programs and public school systems. In addition, she has authored a book and taught at the college level. For those of you who have not seen Jeanine you are in for a treat. She brings a unique sense of humor along with a realistic view of today's childhood concerns. She will leave you feeling well informed and educated. This workshop will take place on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 @ 6:30pm at Southeastern Vocational Technical High School. (In the Cafeteria) Please call Karen Mitchell by November 14th @ 508-559-1666 x 115 or email: Kmitchell@selfhelpinc.org
This FREE workshop is open to all parents and providers! Seats are Limited!

Submitted by: Karen Mitchell,

Parent Support/ Family Literacy Specialist



FREE!

NOVEMBER 19, 2008

6:30—8:30

**Southeastern Vocational
Technical High School
(Cafeteria)**

**250 Foundry St., S. Easton
Call**

Karen Mitchell @

**508-559-1666 x 115 or
e-mail:**

Kmitchell@selfhelpinc.org

With the current economic situation, more people are seeking help from social service agencies than ever before. We have listed some of the agencies that you might want to contact to see if you are eligible for help.

Fuel Assistance

508-588-5440

Citizens Energy Heating Assistance

1-877-563-4645

Good Neighbor Energy Fund (Salvation Army)

1-800-334-3047

Utility Discounts

1-800-392-6066

SERVE New England

Food Cooperative

508-436-7663

**For
Your
Information!**

JOY TO THE CHILDREN PROJECT!



For the past 8 years, CPC; with the help of its sponsors have been helping parents who are experiencing financial hardships during the holiday season. Last year we were able to help approximately 350 children in Southeastern MA. Here's how it works! Whether families celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah or Kwanzaa, they can fill out an application for holiday assistance. Once we receive the application, a sponsor is located per child. Although our sponsors have been very generous we only ask them to help supplement the holiday gifts. We do not ask them to supply everything listed on the application. Who are our sponsors? Many of our sponsors are local merchants, banks, mom's clubs and church groups, but the majority of sponsors are CPC childcare providers and individuals like you and me. If someone you know needs holiday help, or if you are financially able to sponsor a child, please contact Gina McGarrigle @ 508-559-1666 x 123.



Hmmm... For The Holidays!



We all know how stressful the holidays can be and with the economy being at an all time low; maybe it's time to put the holidays in perspective. Take a look back and think about the best holidays you had as a child.

Hmmm... I bet your favorite holiday memory doesn't include material things. More than likely your favorite memory included being around people you love, seeing a favorite aunt or uncle, doing something together like baking pies or cookies, singing carols or doing family traditions. They had nothing to do with the gifts you received or gave. Over the years television has invaded our homes and the holidays have become very commercial. My favorite holiday commercial is when the husband brings his wife out into the driveway and there's a Lexus with a big red bow on top of it waiting for her. You can imagine my disappointment when I ran to my driveway on Christmas morning and my same old 1990 Jeep was still there.

Hmmm... Last year was a very difficult time economically for a lot of families, mine included. My husband and I made a fiscal decision to cut back on our gift giving expenses.....

I have to admit that it was very hard. We decided to ask family members to enter into an agreement with us. To our surprise, they were very relieved as they were going through financial hardships as well. As a group, we decided to draw names out of a hat and cap the cost of the gift. When Christmas arrived, we all opened our gifts together. We had a wonderful dinner and played games with the kids. At the end of the day, when everyone had left to go home, my husband and I couldn't remember having a better holiday than this one.

Hmmm... My children agreed. Because last years holiday was so successful, we have agreed to do it again this year. We had no idea when we made the decision to cut back on our gift giving that we would also be starting a new tradition. A tradition of family and love. **Hmmm...** Is it really a NEW tradition? Or is it an old one brought back to life?

Hmmm!

Submitted by: Karen Mitchell

Preschool Websites!

Below is a list of educational and fun websites for parents and providers. Most have templates, activities, articles and links to other great sites! Have fun!

Gayle's Preschool Rainbow
www.preschoolrainbow.org

The Perpetual Preschool
www.ecewebsiteguide.com

Preschool Express/Jean Warren
www.preschoolexpress.com

Everything Preschool
www.everythingpreschool.com

Enchanted Learning
www.enchantedlearning.com

Preschool & Daycare Activities
www.kinderart

Preschool Learning Online
preschoollearningonline.com

Family Education
fun.familyeducation.com

First-School Preschool Activities
www.first-school.ws

Shirley's Preschool Activities
www.shirleys-preschool-activities.com

Up Coming Events!

Curriculum That Rocks!

November 6th, Thursday, 6:30—8:00 p.m.

Dedham Day Time Child Care Providers Group

Call: Marsha Wright @ 508-559-1666 x 124

This workshop looks at the method behind the madness of designing a good curriculum.

Come and find out the “rock” that provides the base for a good curriculum.

Music & Movement

November 18th, Tuesday, 1:00—1:45 p.m.

East Bridgewater Public Library

32 Union St., East Bridgewater

Call: Marsha Wright @ 508-559-1666 x 124

Come sing and dance to the latest and greatest children’s songs. We’ll sing and dance and make a simple craft. You don’t need to be a diva for this program. You just need a song in your heart.

Learning Styles & Multiple Intelligences

November 6th, Thursday, 6:30—8:00 p.m.

Boyden Public Library, 10 Bird St., Foxboro

Preregistration by 10-30-08

Call: Nancy Swirka @ 508-559-1666 x 116

Or e-mail: Nswirka@selfhelpinc.org

Workshop will include a discussion of the following questions: What do we mean by multiple intelligences? How are multiple intelligences relevant to me and the preschooler? How can I enhance children’s learning while building on their strengths?

Also: a presentation of activity ideas that can accommodate different types of learners.

Learning Through Books Creating Literature Based Activities for Young Children

December 3rd, Wednesday, 6:30—8:00 p.m.

Mansfield Public Library, 255 Hope St., Mansfield

Preregistration by 11-26-08

Call: Nancy Swirka @ 508-559-1666 x 116

Or e-mail: Nswirka@selfhelpinc.org

Open to center and family based providers.

Curriculum activities for young children can flow naturally from children’s books. Participants will learn about, and practice putting together developmentally appropriate curriculum and activities using several different children’s books as a base to build on. We will talk about and develop activities from each of the major EEC curriculum areas, i.e. English Language Arts, (ELA) Mathematics, Science, etc.

Literacy Corner

The literacy project is well on it’s way! The theme this year is: “Wild About Reading.” There are some special features included in the packet. These include: a sample letter to send families to encourage them to participate and a lengthy listing of a wide variety of animal cams (actual live camera’s of animals in their habitat) from the Smithsonian National Zoological Park. Watch the giraffes eating and the panda’s eating and eating and resting and eating some more! Animal Books: These books are great for read-alouds!

Fidgety Fish...by Ruth Galloway, Tiger Tale Publishers

Clumsy Crab...by Ruth Galloway, Tiger Tale Publishers

Smiley Shark...by Ruth Galloway, Tiger Tale Publishers

Tickly Octopus...by Ruth Galloway, Tiger Tale Publishers

Once again we are busy scheduling visits to your sites by our state legislators.

We will contact you if this involves your preschool site.



Project “SING & LEARN” Update!

As you know CPC has started a pilot project called “Sing & Learn.” The purpose of this project is to help providers feel comfortable in using music throughout the day, regardless of their musical talents or abilities. Many providers have taken advantage of this project and we are happy to say that we have had nothing but positive feedback! Marsha, our resident diva has already visited several sites to model the effective way to implement music into the daily curriculum. Call if you are interested in this project!

Contact Chris Pietroski@ 508-559-1666 x 120 or e-mail @ cpietroski@selfhelpinc.org

