



Early Childhood Education BULLETIN

MARCH 26, 2013

UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

March 26

CACFP Outreach Training Session

March 28

OSSE Releases for Public Comment
Proposed Part C IDEA Policies

April 13

Children's Festival

April 14– 20

Week of the Young Child

April 17

FSMP Training

April 18

FSMP Training

April 19

Eligibility Institute Training

April 27

DC Universal School Readiness Conference

Special Announcement

Congratulations to Ideal Child Development Center (Site #2) and Agape Cabbage Patch (F.R.T.K.L Group at Penn 2150 Penn, Ave) for going Gold in March!



A MESSAGE FROM OSSE

Our extensive search for the Assistant Superintendent of Early Learning continues! Through diligent efforts, we are seeking highly qualified applicants with expert knowledge in early learning and effective leadership. To continue our efforts OSSE has selected an executive search firm to ensure our goal for applicants are met. Hazard, Young, and Attea (HYA) Search Firm was hired to seek applicants for the Assistant Superintendent of Early Learning. The firm met with stakeholders to introduce themselves, gather input on the search, launch the search committee, and review current applications on March 20, 2013.

If you have any feedback in regards to the search, please contact Walter Crawford at walter.crawford@dc.gov. OSSE is dedicated to choosing a wonderful candidate to serve as the Assistant Superintendent of Early Learning.

In addition to our search, OSSE will be updating its CCDF plan. Stay tuned for more information regarding public hearings.

If you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Brandee Reed at brandee.reed@dc.gov.

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

The Week of the Young Child (WOYC) is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The purpose of WOYC is to focus public attention on the importance of early learning and to celebrate the early childhood programs, teachers, and policies that deliver early childhood education to young children.

While WOYC is celebrated April 14th through April 20th, DC has chosen the entire month of April to recognize the collective efforts across the city that celebrate young children and those who work to support their learning and development.

DC UNIVERSAL SCHOOL READINESS CONFERENCE

Since 2003, the DC Universal School Readiness Stakeholder Group has stimulated over 250 individuals and organizations in an effort to build public knowledge, public will, and public action to ensure that universal school readiness becomes a reality for all of the District's 3 and 4 year olds. This year's conference will take place April 27, 2013 from 7:30am to 2:00pm at Woodrow Wilson Senior High School. OSSE is leading efforts for the SECDC Program Continuum and Collaboration Subcommittee to develop workshops for a "Leadership Talk" to take place during the conference. For more information about the conference contact Christophe Beard at christophe.beard@dc.gov.



WELLNESS AND NUTRITION

What is the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)?

CACFP is a federally funded program that provides reimbursement for meals and snacks served to children, infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and school aged children in afterschool programs. The meals that you must provide to meet the DC Licensing Regulations are the same as those required to receive CACFP reimbursement. Your organization can maximize your resources by partnering with OSSE to participate in CACFP to receive reimbursement for up to three meals daily.

The CACFP unit offers periodic outreach training sessions to introduce organizations with basic program information and the next training is Tuesday, March 26, 2013 from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM. It will be held at 810 1st St NE in Room 4012. To register, contact: Norma.Birckhead@dc.gov or call her at 202-442-4010. You are welcome to attend without registering. If you cannot attend on March 26, please contact Ms. Birckhead for more information.

What is the Free Summer Meals Program (FSMP)?

Did you know that during the school year, children receive free or reduced-price breakfast, lunch and sometimes snacks/suppers through their schools? However, during the summer months, those same children lack the availability of the school meals. So where do they go? To sites that offer the FSMP! Many private and non-profit organizations partner with OSSE to provide free meal to these children. Most sites:

- serve up to two meals daily that are reimbursed with federal funding;
- engage children in organized activities;
- parents can stretch their food dollars and have healthy, supervised recreation for their children; and
- children return to school in the fall ready to learn.

OSSE is offering FSMP training on either April 17 from 1-4 PM or on April 18 from 9 AM -12 PM to organizations that want to submit an application to participate. The deadline to submit the application is May 20, 2013. To register, contact: Norma.Birckhead@dc.gov or call her at 202-442-4010. You are welcome to attend without registering. If you cannot attend on either of the above dates, please contact Ms. Birckhead for more information.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REGISTRY (PDR)

The PDR is an online tool for people who work with children in District early childhood education and out of school time programs to store and track their training, professional development, credentialing, and educational attainment. OSSE will launch an incentive program for providers to register with the PDR in April. In addition to the PDR and the incentive initiative, a professional development resource guide will be distributed. This resource guide will serve as T/TA with valuable information and references for providers to support their efforts with professional development.

GRANTS

Child Development Associate (CDA) Training, Scholarships and Promotion Program-

The application deadline was March 1, 2013. A total of 4 (four) applications were received. One grant will be awarded totaling between \$250,000 and \$350,000.

Creating Centers of Exemplary Practice in Infant and Toddler Care-

The application deadline was March 1, 2013 and there were 10 (ten) applicants. The infant and toddler application was submitted electronically and were reviewed during the Grant Reviewers Meeting held Friday, March 8, 2013. The total grant award amount is \$1,000,000.

PROVIDER SPOTLIGHT

Jubilee JumpStart

Jubilee JumpStart located in the heart of the Adam's Morgan community serves infants, toddlers and preschoolers of families who often experience financial hardships. Seventy-five percent of the families receive subsidized funding to cover their tuition, while 25% of families pay full tuition. This diverse program was designed to have high staff-to-child ratios; 1 to 3 for infants and toddlers and 1 to 6 for preschoolers. Teaching Strategies has selected Jubilee JumpStart to become a model center. The program also focuses on early learning and literacy by having at least one English and one Spanish speaking teacher in each classroom. Due to their outstanding efforts, facility, and diversity; Jubilee Jumpstart receives our Provider Spotlight.

We would love to hear and share the positive stories from your center, submit your story to brandee.reed@dc.gov.