

WVIT eNews

West Virginia



Infant/Toddler Professional Development Program



Great Beginnings September 12, 13 2014

The annual Great Beginnings Infant/Toddler Conference will be held at the Waterfront Place Hotel in Morgantown. Several 'make it, take it' sessions will be offered as well as sessions specifically for directors and seasoned providers. Ron Mohl from Lakeshore Learning will be the keynote speaker. The model rooms will feature many Reggio-inspired items and will be the site for a session going in depth on the resources and arrangement of the rooms. Registration will begin at 10:00am on Friday with the keynote at 11:00am. The conference will wrap up at noon on Saturday with box lunches available during the distribution of materials. Don't miss this opportunity for professional development designed specifically for folks working directly with infants and toddlers.

For more information and registration form, contact your local Infant/Toddler Specialist.

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New Website Launched www.wvit.org

The West Virginia Infant/Toddler Specialists Network is busy as always promoting excellence in care for our youngest citizens. To that end, a new website has been developed for you to access. The site will offer overviews of the programs offered, the latest news, upcoming professional development opportunities and grant announcements as they become available. You will be able to ask questions to the Specialists and offer suggestions of how the Network can better serve you. The website will go live near the end of summer. Be sure to add it to your list of favorites!



Primary Care Summit - Grant Recipients

The Infant/Toddler Specialist Network (ITSN) offered eight Primary Care Summits around the State. Expectations were high. So many of you joined us sharing your concerns, questions and experiences on this journey to primary care. Many of you left with renewed assurance of the quality of your current practices and a resolve to make changes in order to better the services offered. Most everyone left the summit dancing with excitement!

A Primary Care Implementation Grant in the amount of up to \$3000 was offered at each summit. Funding would help support a Plan of Action to begin or supplement the practice of primary caregiving with children under the age of three years. This was a competitive grant meaning that each application was scored according to a set criteria.

The following centers were awarded a Primary Care Implementation Grant:

- YWCA Mel Wolf Child Development Center, Charleston
- Mountain CAP Child Development Center, Buckhannon
- A Place to Grow, Oak Hill
- Watch Me Grow Child Development Center, LLC, Glenville
- King's Way Christian EduCare, Nitro
- Playmates Child Development Center of Kenova, Kenova

The Wheeling Summit participants are in the process of applying for the grant. That award should be made by mid-August.

The ITSN is as always available to assist you in any way on your journey to providing primary care. Your local Infant/Toddler Specialist will be contacting participants to arrange a time for your group to come back together in a Community of Practice to discuss successes and challenges as you move forward.

Check out the 2014 Child Care Center Licensing Regulations

The new 2014 Child Care Center Licensing Regulations can be found at:

<http://www.wvdhhr.org/bcf/ece/earlycare/documents/ChildCareCenterRegulationWeb.pdf>

Be sure to talk with your Licensing Specialist about any specific questions you may have.

Child Care Nurse Health Consultant



What is a Child Care Nurse Health Consultant?

A child care nurse health consultant works with child care providers to promote the health and safety of children in child care centers, facilities or family child care homes. These consultants can provide expert guidance and technical assistance on a wide range of health and safety topics.

Child care nurse health consultants have the training to access appropriate resources to assist child care providers in successfully including children with special health or medical needs.

West Virginia currently has three child care nurse health consultants who are available to assist child care providers across the state.

What Can Child Care Nurse Health Consultants Do For You?

- ◆ Assess health and safety needs and practices in the child care center, facility or family child care home.
- ◆ Help providers develop strategies for caring for children with special health needs.
- ◆ Develop or update health and safety policies for child care providers.
- ◆ Provide health education and wellness programs.
- ◆ Provide up-to-date information on the latest guidelines, policies and information regarding child health and safety.
- ◆ Offer support through telephone consultations or on-site visits to centers, facilities or family child care homes.
- ◆ Conduct training for center staff, facility staff or family child care providers.
- ◆ Provide Medication Administration Training.
- ◆ Provide communicable disease information.
- ◆ Develop health care plans for children with special needs.
- ◆ Provide health and safety education for parents and children.

Your Child Care Nurse Health Consultants are:

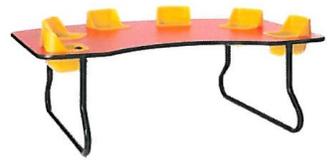
Glenna Bailey at gbailey@rvcds.org serving the southern counties.

Sarah Hicks at shicks@rvcds.org serving the eastern counties.

Yvonne Frederick at yfrederick@rvcds.org serving the northern counties.

Do You Have One of These?

Group feeding tables such as this can seat up to 8 babies and might appear to be a good thought. But best practice tells us otherwise. Looking at ITERS-R, comfortable and support seating is required. Group feeding tables provide no support, legs are left dangling, seats are slippery and often broken.



ITERS-R also states that infants should be fed individually and in small groups of 2 or 3 as they grow. Group feeding tables do not allow for individualize attention which may lead to needs not being met. In addition, toddlers are limited in their ability to leave or join a group activity at will. Often times, these tables are used to merely contain the child or serve as a ‘time out’ placement.

So, If you are considering purchasing one of the group feeding tables, please don't. If you already have one or more, make plans to replace them. During the coming year, participants in WVIT, ITQuIP and Great Beginnings will be offered table replacements as fund allow.

Mind in the Making

Many of you have now completed *WVIT II: Relationship Based Care* and are wondering what to take next. You enjoy the module series, going in-depth on a topic, networking with fellow infant/toddler providers and learning. Yes, that's it. You are a lifelong learner!

According to the *Mind in the Making* series, one of the major tasks of teaching young children is to become a learner—about children, their development and how they learn best. Good teaching requires engaged lifelong learning.

So, check out the *Mind In the Making Module* series. It is offered around the state by your local Child Care Resource and Referral Agency. The *Mind in the Making Modules* are a 12-part learning process that uses research on children's development on how children learn and how teachers can encourage engaged learning. You will begin a *learning adventure* about how YOU affect the lives of children and foster growth in every aspect of learning.

This is a must take professional development opportunity for everyone working in child care. And, there are resources given to help you implement what you are learning. Sign up for the next class in your area. You'll be glad you did!

And so will the children and families you work with.

Approved Infant/Toddler Curricula for Tier II Quality Status

The West Virginia Infant/Toddler Specialist Network, along with staff from Early Head Start, developed the infant/toddler list of approved curricula for use with children ages birth to 3 years. Many curriculum frameworks were reviewed using specific criteria to establish a list of curricula that are developmentally appropriate to the ages served and that are linked to the WV ELSF.

Beginning January 1, 2013, all *child care centers* applying for Tier II quality status will need to use a curriculum from the approved list to meet Tier II standards. A list of approved curricula specifically for family child care and facility programs will also be developed in the coming months.

For *child care centers* applying for Tier II quality status the approved curricula are: *Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers, and Twos*, second edition, revised 2011 and *Tender Care and Early Learning—Supporting Infants and Toddlers in Child Care Settings*, second edition, 2011.

Many of you are familiar with *Creative Curriculum* and may be using it with your preschool classes. *Tender Care* is part of the HighScope curriculum series that is also on the pre-school list of approved curricula. Either choice will allow you to have a seamless curricula program for birth through five. ~ Submitted by Jessica Dianellos



Look for us on the web
www.wvit.org