

Early Education Resources in PA

October 2005

This publication briefly describes several Early Childcare and Education resources located in Pennsylvania. Combined with your Regional Key contacts, these agencies offer many services to Early Learning providers, parents and the community. A brief description is listed with contact information and any available websites. Not all services are available in all counties. Please contact your Regional Key or the specific program for availability in your area.

• **Regional Keys**

Website: www.pakeys.org

Central Region: Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Somerset, Union

Telephone: (570)327-6949

Toll Free: (800)860-2281

Northeast Region: Berks, Bradford, Carbon, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Northampton, Pike, Schuylkill, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wayne, Wyoming

Telephone: (610)437-6000

Toll Free: (800)528-7222

Northwest Region: Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Potter, Venango, Warren

Telephone: (814)836-5898

Toll Free: (800)860-2281

Southeast Region: Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia

Telephone: (215)271-1267

Toll Free: (877)660-2273

South Central Region: Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, York

Telephone: (717)854-3539

Toll Free: (800)864-4925

Southwest Region: Allegheny, Fayette, Greene, Washington, Westmoreland

Telephone: (412)255-1175

Toll Free: (877)349-4850

• **Early Intervention(EI)**

Early Intervention services and supports are designed for families with children, birth to school age, who have developmental delays/disabilities. Early intervention builds on the natural learning opportunities, routines, and activities unique to each family and community which enhances the family/caregiver relationships with children.

For information and referral call:
1(800) 692-7288.

• **Early Intervention Technical Assistance(EITA)**

EITA is a part of Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, provides professional development to early intervention/early education providers. For more information on EITA and Early Intervention in Pennsylvania: www.pattan.net.

• **Pennsylvania Department of Education(PDE)**

Website: www.pde.state.pa.us

PDE has created the Early Learning Standards (ELS). ELS are a statewide tool for early learning providers to measure the growth and school readiness of 5 year olds in care. These standards list activities to help ready children to meet the challenges of beginning school, as well as breaks down how each measurement can be converted into common observational measurements such as: Hi-scope; NAEYC Performance Standards; ECERS; PA Academic Standards; Core Body of Knowledge. PDE website also includes information regarding the newest Pre-K initiatives as well as Head Start information.

• **BUILD**

The Build Initiative is designed to help states build a coordinated system of programs, policies and services that:

- respond to the needs of families;
- carefully use public and private resources; and
- effectively prepare young children for a successful future.

Pennsylvania is one of five states selected to participate in this national initiative.

To enroll in the Pennsylvania Build list serve, contact Cathy Carretti with your name, address, phone number and email address at ccarretti@state.pa.us or (717) 783-9783.

To learn more about the national Build project, visit the following website: www.buildinitiative.org/

• **Early Childhood Education Linkage Systems (ECELS)**

ECELS is operated by the PA Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (PA AAP). ECELS Provides health professional consultation, training, and technical assistance to improve early childhood education programs in Pennsylvania to regulated and non-regulated child care facilities.

Contact your Regional Key or call:

PA Only: 800-24-ECELS

Phone: 484-446-3003

Fax: 484-446-3255

E-mail: ecels@paaap.org

www.ecels-healthychildcarepa.org

Early Education Resources in PA

October 2005

• **Children's Trust Fund (CTC)**

State funded community based initiative which addresses child abuse, neglect and prevention issues. For more information contact your Regional Key or call: (717) 705-2910
www.dpw.state.pa.us

• **SACC Pennsylvania School-Age Child Care**

Projects are a statewide network linking local, state, and national resources to support the best practices and innovative service delivery models in school-age care for Pennsylvania's children. This program provides technical assistance, funding, training, and standards for programs operating before and after school. For more information contact your Regional Key.

• **T.E.A.C.H.**



A program which offers scholarship programs to help child care professionals improve their qualifications in the early learning field. This program is available to any child care staff or family child care provider employed at a state-regulated child care setting. T.E.A.C.H. provides compensation to early learning staff. Participants are to commit to working at their particular sponsoring program for a year following their training in order to promote retention of highly qualified staff. For more information contact your Regional Key or call: Pennsylvania Child Care Association (PACCA)
Phone: (717)657-9000
Fax: (717)657-0959
www.pacca.org/TEACH/index.htm

• **Better Kid Care (BKC)**

The BKC Program provides a variety of training, educational materials and other resources. All BKC training meets requirements for DPW training hours, Keystone STARS, CDA, Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and Act 48 hours. BKC Educational materials and training opportunities include:

- Better Kid Care Introductory Kit for family child care providers
- *The Basics of Caring for Children in Your Home* notebook
- Satellite Workshops
- Distance Education Lessons Curriculum (Mail and Web-based)
- New Staff Orientation Curriculum
- Home-Based Caregiver Orientation Curriculum
- Mentoring Help Line: 800-859-8340
- Parent Education Materials
- E-Newsletter
- Employer Options for Child Care

Call Better Kid Care toll free at (800) 452-9108, for more information or visit the BKC Web site at:
www.betterkidcare.psu.edu

• **Mind in the Making (MIM)**

MIM promotes social, emotional and intellectual growth in children by encouraging child care providers, parents and teachers to combine these three aspects during early childhood development to improve learning.

For more information contact regional Key or:
Phone 717-213-2063
keltho@berksiu.org

• **What Do I Do With the Mad That I Feel?**

Family Communications, Inc. is a non-profit organization which provides early learning practitioners with valuable training sessions on managing anger issues and challenging behaviors in children. This company was developed and led by Fred Rogers of Mr. Roger's Neighborhood. For more information about training packages contact:

Annette Santella: 412-687-2990 ext 290
santella@fci.org or
Sam Newberry: 412-687-2990 ext.232
newberry@fci.org or visit the website:
www.fci.org/madfeelings

• **Health & Human Services Call Centers**

The Department of Health offers Health and Human Services Call Center. This center centralizes eight different Help Lines. Trained specialist can answer Help Line phones in several different languages and are able to serve many of the caller's needs in a single call. For more information contact your Regional Key.

- Healthy Kids Line 800-986-KIDS
- Healthy Baby Line 800-986-BABY
- Special Kids Network Line 800-986-4550
- Long Term Care Line 866-286-3636
- PA Recreation and Leisure Line 800-986-4550
- Adult Basic Line 800-GO-BASIC
- Lead Information Line 800-440-LEAD
- Brain Injury Help Line 866-412-4755
- TTY 877-232-7640

www.health.state.pa.us
www.helpinpa.state.pa.us

Early Education Resources in PA

October 2005

• **Parent to Parent**

Parent to Parent of Pennsylvania is a network created by families for families of children and adults with special needs. They connect families in similar situations with one another so they may share experiences, offer practical information and/or support.

For more information:
Toll free: (800)692-7288
www.parenttoparent.org

• **Color Me Healthy**

A nutritional program developed for children ages four and five. The program provides fun, innovative, and interactive learning opportunities on healthy eating and physical activity.

For information contact your Regional Key or call:
717-787-7698
vfekete@state.pa.us
gioia-fine@comcast.net

• **Pennsylvania Library Association**

Pennsylvania's libraries provide services which increase literacy and help both children and adults use all library resources. Currently, the PA Public Libraries, museums, public television stations and the Pennsylvania Department of Education have developed a program entitled "One Book, Every Young Child" which gives at-risk children, throughout the state, a book. The book given out the first year will be *Inside Mouse, Outside Mouse* by Pennsylvania author, Lindsay Barrett George. Ms. George will travel to 8 areas in the state to read her story. Meanwhile, the state museums have developed Traveling Trunks, with puppets and other interactive materials to enact the story at libraries and museums. Contact your Regional Key for your regional library contacts.

www.palibraries.org
www.pla.org/earlyliteracy.htm

• **Parent Child Home Program (PCHP)**

Research based, intensive home visiting program that promotes language, literacy and school through reading, playing and verbal interaction between parent and child.

(717) 705-2910
www.dpw.state.pa.us
www.parent-child.org

• **Family Literacy**

This program provides opportunities for parents to improve their basic learning literacy skills, educational levels, and their overall knowledge about child development. Adult education, parenting education, parent and child interactive literacy, and early childhood education are the four components which comprise the Family Literacy program.

For more information contact Regional Key or:

Bureau of Adult Basic & Literacy Education
Phone 717-787-6344
www.pafamilyliteracy.org
Email: msobkowski@state.pa.us

• **CyberStart**

This program is a multi-year technology and education initiative administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), in collaboration with the PA Department of Public Welfare (DPW).

Phone: 1(866)704-6305
www.cyberstart.net