



Issue 2, 2011

Notes from *Jamie*

Spring Cleaning! It's almost time to begin Spring Cleaning! As we come into the grant renewal season, please take this time to go into COPA and make sure that all of your program/staff data is accurate. Remove information that is incorrect and update where needed. The majority of the application this year will auto-populate from data you already have entered-including the budget and justification! Staff salaries, positions, program/site address, phone numbers, contacts, etc. Contact your ABC Data Specialist if you need assistance.

Summer Funding: Summer funding will not be available for Summer 2011 through ABC or special voucher funds. Please share this information with your families so they can begin making arrangements.

2011 Federal Poverty Level Guidelines have been released. Stay tuned to the ABC website for an updated chart.

State's First Volunteer Autism Registry and Resource Site Debuts

Arkansas families affected by autism have their first chance to participate in a volunteer registry that will track how many people in the state have autism spectrum disorders with the debut of a new website, ArkansasAutismAlliance.org. Families will also find a host of autism resources compiled on the site, which is a collaboration between Arkansas Children's Hospital (ACH), the Arkansas Children's Hospital Research Institute (ACHRI) and the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS).



This website, developed by Jill James, PhD, will help families understand what's happening with autism in Arkansas. Dr. James is the director of the Autism Metabolic Genomics Laboratory at ACHRI, a professor of Pediatrics in the UAMS College of Medicine, and an autism researcher. At ArkansasAutismAlliance.org, families can find links to local organizations, support groups, opportunities to participate in research, bios of Arkansas autism specialists and more.

The registry component will help researchers at the collaborating institutions find out more about how many people in Arkansas have autism spectrum disorders and where they live.

"Right now, we don't even know how many families in Arkansas are affected by autism," Dr. James said. "The registry could be a huge resource for helping us allocate resources to communities and understand where the needs exist."

Families are encouraged to explore ArkansasAutismAlliance.org and volunteer their information in the registry. The info will be maintained in a database, and families can agree to be contacted if they wish to participate in surveillance activities and research projects.



ARKANSAS FIT KIDS TRAINING

CHILDREN OF NC ARKANSAS
800/737-2237
Trainer: Jill Dockins
March 10, 2011
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Batesville School District
Pre-K Center Cafeteria
1900 Lyon St.
Batesville, AR 72501

To register call 1-800-737-2237. (12-12:30 will be a question and answer session for any questions you may have on ABC.)



We are very excited to roll out two new features in COPA this year. Training will be held this summer to help ensure you are comfortable in the use of these new applications...

- EDocs is a new tab that will be added which will allow you to scan and upload documents such as birth certificates, photos, etc. This will help eliminate paper files and is a very easy tool to use.
- COPANet—is finally here! This is a fully functional COPA intranet site available for ABC providers only. We will be able to distribute information to you on a much more personalized level.

2011-2012 Grant Application

The grant application will be available soon. Instructions will be sent out as the grant renewal process is open. We have made several revisions which we hope will make the renewal process easier for you this year.



Please don't forget to add your hearing and vision information to COPA.

Several programs have not yet entered this data which was a new requirement for the 2010-2011 year. If you need information, please contact your data specialist.



2011 50th AECA Conference Call for Proposals

Visit the AECA website at www.arkansasearlychildhood.org to submit your proposal by April 15,

ABC FINANCIAL TRAININGS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR NON-SCHOOL DISTRICT PROVIDERS (CENTER & FAMILY HOME). TO REGISTER SIGN UP THROUGH TAPP AT www.professionalregistry.astate.edu

Inclusion & Draft Minimum Licensing Requirements

March 18, 2011	Alma	9:30-12:30
April 06, 2011	Little Rock	11:30-2:30
April 19, 2011	West Memphis	10:00 – 1:00
April 29, 2011	Monticello	10:00 – 1:00
May 13, 2011	Batesville	9:30-12:30
May 20, 2011	Harrison	9:30-12:30
May 26, 2011	Jacksonville	9:30-12:30
June 09, 2011	Hope	9:30 – 12:30



For more details contact Sherrill Archer at 501-683-0973.