

PREVENTION SERVICES NETWORK



Partnering, Supporting, Nurturing

June 2010

Volume 3, Issue 6

Prevention Services Network is a community wide collaboration dedicated to strengthening families, and helping them become resilient to child abuse and neglect. This newsletter is designed to reach out to families and providers with current research and information about community resources that support prevention.

The Importance of Dads

The May issue of Young Children Magazine, the publication from the National Association for the Education of Young Children, is dedicated to the important role that men play in the lives of children. The following information comes from an article in the magazine subtitled, "The Importance of Infant-Father Attachments," and supports the belief that fathers are integral components in the positive development of their children.

Research says:

- School-age children who have good relationships with their fathers are less likely to exhibit disruptive behavior, experience depression or lie. They were also more likely to present positive behaviors.
- When fathers are more involved in their children's education, including attending school meetings and volunteering, children are more likely to get A's, enjoy school, and participate in extracurricular activities. They were also less likely to repeat a grade.
- Children who grew up with more involved fathers were more comfortable exploring the world around them.
- Early positive father-child interactions reduced cognitive delays in infants.
- Children of highly involved fathers showed better progress in math readiness.
- Involved fathers showed higher levels of patience with tasks that promote cognitive growth, such as waiting for a child to attempt a task, verbally describing a task to a child, and modeling a task.

Sometimes, fathers take a secondary role, especially when the children are infants, but the article suggests that fathers can form bonds immediately after babies are born. A study referenced in the article demonstrated that when babies born of cesarean section were placed on the bare chests of their fathers because they were separated from the mothers, "they stopped crying, grew calmer, and became drowsier faster than did babies in the control group who did not have skin-to-skin contact. Becoming drowsier faster is a positive outcome because sleep is important as the baby recovers from being born...(the father) should thus be regarded as the primary caregiver for the infant during the separation of mother and baby." (Erlander et al. 2007, 105)

Fathers need to be encouraged and welcomed as active participants in parenting, beginning at the birth of their children.

FATHER'S DAY TURNS 100 YEARS OLD

Father's Day will be 100 years old on June 20, 2010, and a Spokane, Washington woman is credited with being the founder of the annual celebration. Sonora Smart Dodd, often referred to as the "Mother of Father's Day," was 16 years old when her mother died in 1898, leaving her father William Jackson Smart to raise Sonora and her five younger brothers on a remote farm in eastern Washington.

In 1909 when Sonora heard a Mother's Day sermon at Central United Methodist Church in Spokane, she was inspired to propose that Fathers receive equal recognition. The following year she took the idea to the Spokane Ministerial Alliance. Sonora suggested June 5 (her father's birthday) be established as a day honoring all Fathers but the pastors felt they needed more time to prepare sermons.

June 19, 1910, was designated as the first Father's Day and sermons honoring Fathers were presented throughout the city. However, it was several years before Father's Day gained national prominence. In 1924 President Calvin Coolidge recognized Father's Day and urged the states to do likewise.

Sonora's pivotal role in the creation of a national Father's Day celebration was recognized in 1943 at a luncheon in her honor in New York City. Two plaques commemorating her role are affixed to a two-ton granite boulder at the Spokane YMCA.

In 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed a proclamation calling for the third Sunday in June to be recognized as Father's Day and requested that flags to be flown that day on all government buildings.

President Richard M. Nixon signed a proclamation in 1972, permanently observing Father's Day on the third Sunday in June.

Today Father's Day is celebrated from Antigua to Zimbabwe in over 50 countries around the world. Visit the referenced website where this information was taken to read more about Sonora Smart Dodd, including a listing of poems she wrote and the celebrations that will be held in her honor in Spokane. (fathersdaybirthplace.com)



PSN Drop-In Hours

The Prevention Services Network Family Resource Center, located in the Kenosha County Human Services Building at 8600 Sheridan Road, Kenosha, is open every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00 for parents to drop in and talk to someone about parenting concerns, pick up information about community resources, and find out about programs and services of the PSN.

TEEN DADS

There is constant concern and attention to the issue of teenage mothers, but very little attention given to the teenage fathers. They are barely factored in the situation and are sometimes depicted as immature and irresponsible.

Time magazine highlighted a recent study partially funded by the Ford Foundation. The study revealed that many young fathers are not only willing but eager to help their partner and offspring. The project, coordinated by New York City's Bank Street College of Education, offered vocational services, counseling, and prenatal and parenting classes to nearly 400 teenage fathers and prospective fathers in eight U.S. cities. "At the end of the two-year program, 82% reported having daily contact with their children; 74% said they contributed to the child's financial support; and almost 90% maintained a relationship with the mother, whom they had known for an average of two years."

Statistics show that teenage fathers usually have lower incomes, less education and more children than do men who wait until at least the age of 20 to have children. This may be because once a teen finds out that he has gotten his girlfriend pregnant, he feels he must support his child, so he compounds one mistake with another and drops out of school. "When they leave school, they head right for a low-paying job," says Amy Williams, the executive director of the Teenage Pregnancy and Parenting Project in San Francisco. "Their own internal drummer says to them, 'If you are going to be a good father, you have to get a job.' " Few are able to perceive the trap they are falling into. Says a counselor: "Five years down the line, they won't have skills to qualify for much more than work in a fast-food restaurant."

Statistics show that the fathers of teenage fathers were seldom in the picture and as a result, these young men have no clue what it means to be a father. Debra Klinman, project director of the Bank Street College study of teenage parents: "A lot of fathers want to love their babies and do the right thing for them, but they don't see how to do what is right."

Programs designed to assist teenage fathers are still relatively few, but there are promising results from participants in these programs. One young man quoted in the article who is now 21, and has a 17 month old, is himself the child of teenage parents. He was helped by the Teenage Pregnancy and Parenting Project in San Francisco, where he is now a counselor. He told the reporter, "My father was a parent when he was a teenager. My mother and grandmother were. It didn't stop with me or with my brothers. I know it will stop with my son."

Read more: <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1074862-2,00.html#ixzz0oa9ACd4H>



TO VIEW PREVIOUS ISSUES OF THE PSN NEWSLETTER, LOG ON TO
<http://www.co.kenosha.wi.us/dhs/Divisions/CFS/Newsletter/index.php>



Dad Facts Dad Facts

What do you need to safely bathe your baby?

What do you need?

Baby bath tub

Slip resistant pad for tub

Towel and washcloth

Baby wash and shampoo

A small amount of warm water (2-3 inches for a newborn) in the tub or sink.

A toy or two

Baby or unscented lotion

Safe Substitutions:

kitchen or bathroom sink

wash cloth/ hand towel in the bottom of the sink

Unscented Dove or Ivory

Plastic cups, empty water bottles, empty containers

So how do you do it?

- Have all materials within reach before beginning
- Unplug all electric appliances like hair dryers or curling irons so they don't get knocked in the water
- Test the water temp with your elbow or wrist to ensure that the water is not too hot for baby, a bit warmer than room temperature is good.
- Give your baby sponge baths on a solid and sturdy surface until their umbilical cord has fallen off and the area is closed and healed.
- Wipe your baby's bottom front to back to avoid infections.
- Hang on...those babies are very slippery when they are wet and soapy.
- Wash your baby starting with their head and working your way down.
- Once you have started the bath, never leave your baby in the tub alone!
- When the children are older, play with them. Bath time can be fun for both of you!
- Soap will dry out baby's skin, so remember to lotion them up when you are finished with the bath.

Come to the PSN Family Resource Center for copies of all the "Dad Facts."



PSN NEWS AND TIDBITS



Women's Circle is taking a break for the summer. Watch the PSN Newsletter for new sessions starting in the fall.



Parenting classes offered by Kenosha Area Family and Aging Services, Inc. are eleven weeks long and are held at the PSN Family Resource Center, 8600 Sheridan Rd., Kenosha.

The classes are free, however, there is a \$10 refundable book deposit.

Only three 11 week series are available for the remainder of 2010!

Mondays 6/7-8/16, 1-2:30 pm. Instructor, Katie Bohn

Wednesdays 7/14-9/22, 3:30-5pm. Instructor, Kathy Sullivan

Tuesdays 8/31-11/9, 9-10:30. Instructor, Katie Bohn

**If you have questions or wish to register, please contact
Kathy or Katie at 658-3508**

School is out for the summer! Keep your kid's minds active by checking out the summer activities offered at the **Kenosha Public Library**.

The library offers programs for kids of all ages, from infant and toddler storytimes, to teen photo contests!

Library schedules can be accessed on the web at

<http://www.mykpl.info/>



Save the Date

PSN Plaza

Thursday, June 10, 2010

9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Kenosha County Center
19600 75th Street, Bristol, WI

Stop in and talk to a
PSN Service Coordinator about resources for your family.
Pick up information about
parenting and child discipline. Find out ways to strengthen your family and
keep your children safe!

THANKS FOR BEING BLUE!

It may take a village to raise a child, but it takes an entire community to “Turn the Town Blue.” The 2010 Campaign for Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) Prevention challenged Kenosha County to “Go Blue” to promote awareness of CAN.

There are many participants to thank who helped make this campaign successful. We would like to highlight some of them, but know there are many more than could possibly be listed.

Kari Hembra, a teacher at Bradford High School organized service learning projects focused on how to strengthen families and build protective factors. Some students created posters, made blue bracelets and blue ribbons, and painted the windows at the school. The students then joined teachers and students from Reuther High School for a Power of Prevention March on Friday, April 16th from Kenosha Area Family and Aging Services, Inc. to the Kenosha County Human Services Building. The students wore blue tie dyed T-shirts printed with “Power of Prevention March,” and carried large posters.

Upon arriving at the Human Services Building, the students participated in the Power of Prevention Celebration, and learned about community efforts to promote the Strengthening Families/Building Protective Factors training and the new grant from the Center for the Social Emotional Foundation of Early Learning that will be implemented through A Child’s Place Child Development Center.

Students from St. Joseph’s High School wore blue and collected money that will be used to purchase prevention materials for the Prevention Services Network Family Resource Center. You may have seen the great picture in the Kenosha News of these students standing together to form a huge blue ribbon.

Staff from the Kenosha County Department of Human Services decorated their work stations and the halls surrounding them. Huge blue ribbons were painted on exterior and interior windows and staff wore blue ribbons given to them by, Ron Rogers, the Director of the Division of Children and Family Services.

Brian Kaspar, a Carthage College student and intern with Children’s Service Society, organized the social work club at Carthage to assist with hanging blue ribbons on 6th Avenue street lamps. He also helped host a resource fair at Carthage with materials about prevention and was the creative force behind the slide show of pictures that ran during the prevention celebration.

Many, many others helped including Stephanie Wagner from Express Employment Services who demonstrated the impact of one person taking on a campaign. With the help of her church, she made and distributed over 1200 blue ribbons to the over 130 businesses she contacts on a regular basis, and encouraged their participation.

Thanks to all who made this year’s event the best yet. We look forward to your participation next April.

INFANT AND TODDLER COOPERATION

As adults, we often think of cooperation as getting children to do what we want. Truthfully, that is compliance and not cooperation. Cooperation is more time consuming to achieve, but it is also more rewarding because it involves both parties agreeing on a solution.

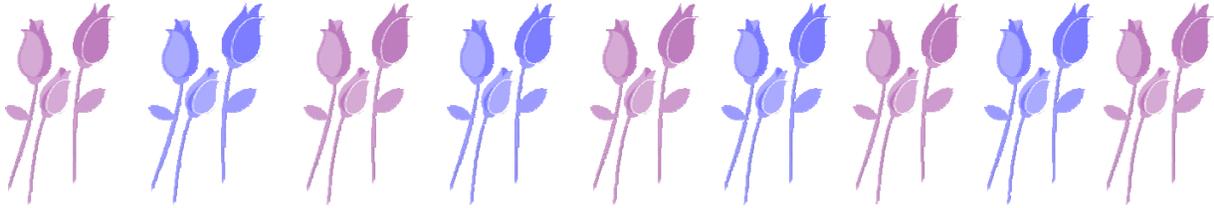
It is a joint effort and involves a knowledge of child development and an intentional effort to develop a cooperative spirit in children right from birth. Children need to learn how our rules and expectations are good for them and us.

The following examples demonstrate how cooperation grows throughout the first three years of life.

- A three month old wakes up and cries because he is hungry. His mother hears him, and is just finishing up the dishes. She tells him, "I'll be with you in a minute. I know you're hungry." The baby quiets and sucks his fingers. He is learning that while he might have to wait sometimes, his needs are important and will be met.
- A 14 month old is happily dropping socks and t-shirts from one laundry basket into another. His grandmother says, "Thank you for helping me sort the laundry. If you come with me to the washing machine, I'll let you press the buttons. When we are finished working and we can go for a walk." The young toddler is learning that being part of a family is working together to complete daily chores.
- Two 30 month olds reach for the same red shovel in the sandbox. As they each grab on to it, they also each scream, "Mine." One of the dads walks over and gently separates the two, handing the red shovel to one and a bull dozer to the other. He models how the bulldozer can pile the sand and then it can be shoveled into a bucket. These children are learning how to resolve conflict, cope with disappointment, and build relationships through cooperative play.

It sounds like common sense, but it does take effort on the part of the parents to patiently work on these skills.

The information in this article was taken directly from a publication from The Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning. To learn more about building social and emotional competence in children, visit their website www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel Look for future articles in the newsletter about social/emotional competence and how to strengthen this important skill.



June 2010 Parent Talk Lunch

Parent Talk Lunch is a community collaborative lunch sponsored by Prevention Services Network, the Kenosha County Division of Health, Goodwill Industries, Early Head Start and Kenosha Area Family and Aging Services, Inc.

These organizations provide funds and staff time to bring a weekly lunch to parents served at the Kenosha County Human Services Building, 8600 Sheridan Road, Kenosha, WI 53143 in Room North Two.

Each week a nurse from the Kenosha County Division of Health presents on a health related issue and the other partner agencies present on other issues of interest to families.

LUNCH is FREE but registration is required

Call A Child's Place Child Care Center at 697-4754 to reserve a spot.

There is no guarantee of lunch if you are not pre-registered.

Child care is free if spots are available. Call A Child's Place at 697-4754 to reserve a spot.

Call Kathy Burns, PSN Outreach Specialist with questions: 697-4628.

Wednesdays from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

**June 2nd: Preparing for Summer
West Nile Virus and Summer Bug Safety**

**June 9th: Celebrate Summer
Summer Safety**

**Parent Talk Lunch is taking a break for the summer.
See you in September!**

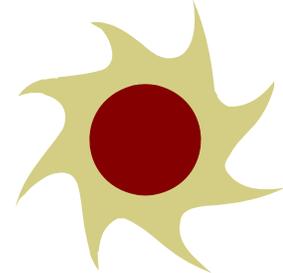
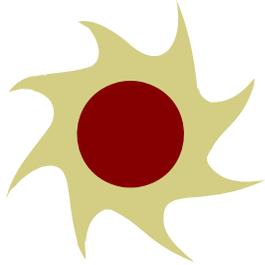


COME—LEARN—GROW



PSN Spotlight Series

Every Tuesday Afternoon 1:00 to 2:00



June 1st: No Spotlight today

June 8th: Summer Activities

Presented by Prevention Services Network Staff

June 15th: Gang Prevention and Summer Safety

Presented by Donna Rhodes

Kenosha County Division of Children and Family Services

June 22nd: Resources for Dads

Presented by Prevention Services Network Staff

June 29th: Car Seat Check and Giveaway

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

CALL 697-4635 TO REGISTER

Presented by Erin Donaldson, Safe Kids Coalition
and Beth Mattson, PSN Service Coordinator

Weekly Door Prize!

PSN Spotlight Sessions are held at the
Prevention Services Network Family Resource Center
8600 Sheridan Road, Kenosha, WI 53143
(262) 697-4651



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June 2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1. International Children's Day. Make summer plans with your children today.	2. It's fight the filthy fly month. Keep your food covered to discourage these nasty pests.	3. The rose is June's flower. Look for roses in the neighborhood	4. It's national fruit and veggie month. Make a fruit or garden salad and let the kids help.	5. National Environment Day. Clean up around the outside of your place.
6. National Family Day. Celebrate all that is special about your family.	7. Take a walk and look for birds. Can you identify them by their song?	8. Best Friend's Day. Ask about your children's best friends and what they like about them. Tell them about yours.	9. Be cautious about sun exposure. Use sun block.	10. Children's book author, Maurice Sendak's birthday. Read, "Where the Wild Things Are."	11. Make chalk drawings with your kids on the sidewalk or driveway.	12. Catch lightening bugs after dark.
13. Look for boats at the lake front. Bring paper and crayons and draw one.	14. It's Flag Day. Teach your children about our flag and what the lines and stars mean.	15. Smile Power Day. Test the power of your smile by smiling all day.	16. In 1963, Valentina Teveshkova became the first woman to go up in space.	17. Eat your veggies day. Try a meatless meal to celebrate.	18. Sally Ride became the first U.S. woman in space in 1983, 20 years after Valentina.	19. Juneteenth Day. The last slaves were emancipated on this day in 1865.
20. Happy Father's Day.	21. Summer Solstice the longest day of the year.	22. Go down to the lake and read a book.	23. Make sure there is no standing water around your house to keep mosquitoes from hatching.	24. Never leave your children alone in a car. Cars heat up quickly in the summer.	25. Log Cabin Day. Visit the library and learn about these handmade homes.	26. Full Moon. Is anything more beautiful than a summer-time full moon?
27. Sun glasses day. Protect your eyes from the sun by wearing sunglasses.	28. Paul Bunyan day. Read about this fictional character and his big Blue Ox.	29. Hug Day. Everybody needs one sometimes.	30. Go outside and play a game of tag with your kids. It's good exercise.			