

NEWS CHILD CARE



Spring 2013 Issue



GREETINGS FROM THE MANAGER OF CHILD CARE SERVICES

Greetings and Happy Spring!!

Just the word spring seems to put a zip into everyone's footsteps. New ideas, new projects, a form of reenergizing and rejuvenating our workplace and our home.

Certainly 2013 is a year of change and certainly a whole new way of supporting child care through our new funding formula.

Child Care services is very excited to see how the changes in the funding formula are going to build upon and strengthen the Quality Child Care Services you provide for the Children and their families of Brantford and Brant.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the information shared in this newsletter please contact me at 519 756-3150
Kim Romano, Manager of Child Care Services

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

The Child Care Quality Assurance and Licensing Branch have developed a province-wide website for child care licensing.

Once it is established the website will allow operators to access information and complete licensing activities in a quick, simple and straightforward manner.

The website will launch in Spring of 2013.

Training and support will be available to assist operators and staff in learning how to use the website.

Here's an interesting link regarding the benefits of children receiving an early high quality education:

http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/story/2012/11/27/td-early-childhood-education.html?cmp=rss&utm_source=twitterfeed&utm_medium=twitter



ECE JOB FAIR AND EDUCATION FAIR

OEYC: Brant in partnership with The City of Brantford Child Care Services and the ECE Department of Mohawk College held the second annual Job Fair.

The January 24th event was well attended.

One participant who was relocating to our area came all the way from Northern Ontario.

Save the Date

Thursday January 30, 2014 for next year's job fair

Continue to spread the word about our Facebook Group to your staff



Please let families know about Fee Subsidy. If you require fee subsidy brochures please contact our office.

Child Care Services will be closed Friday March 29 and Monday March 30, 2013

BEST START WEBSITE

There are exciting changes on our Best Start Website. We have created a whole new tab specific to the works of the Best Start Network. Here you will find our membership lists, Terms of Reference, Approved minutes from the Network from 2012/13 and so much more. Earlier copies of the Child Care newsletters are on the website as well under stats and reports.

Check them out at www.ourbeststart4brant.ca

COMMUNITY ACTION RESEARCH PROJECT

Research shows that not all types of families participate equally in community programs and services.

As part of Mayor Friel's Prosperity Initiative a Neighbourhood HUB is in the consultant stages with the hopes of one being established in the Eagle Place/Echo Place area.

This action project focuses on the "hard to reach" families in our community.

This cooperative project includes community agencies like the City of Brantford, Best Start Network, GEDSB, Health Unit, Laurier University and so many more.

If approved The HUB will make it easier for children and their families from 0 to 99 to participate in their neighbourhoods and communities and to find and receive the services they need.

It will be an addition to the Services provided at the Bellview Best Start Early Learning and Parenting Centre.

It's an exciting time. Stay tuned for more information as this project moves forward.

COMING SOON... OneHSN Child Care Waitlist

At our operators meeting on February 22nd we told our operators of a very exciting program that we will be implementing in Brantford and Brant with all of our Licensed child care programs.

We are excited to be a part of **ONELIST** and look forward to working with you to make waitlists easier to manage for both you and the families you serve.

Top 10 Benefits of using a ONELIST wait list program:

1. Centralized web-enabled information and application resource
2. Easy to use by everyone
3. Parents can sign-up to multiple waiting lists with a single application
4. Significant intake administration time reduction by the provider during the application
5. Reduction of post-placement communication time by providers
6. Ability to retrieve detailed information about children/parents quickly
7. Incorporation of Early Learning Resource (ELR) information (should we decide)

8. Waitlist administration uses priority filtering based on current business rules
9. Access to all waitlists and client information is current and accurate
10. Comprehensive reports help to understand the child care needs of the public (i.e. more infant programs, etc.) to support planning and enhance services

BEST START NEWS

Watch for the tenth edition of the **Best Start Magazine**.

Oh yes we said, "TENTH"

We believe we've only scraped the surface of providing information and materials that help parents and caregivers.

We want our children to strive to be the **Best** that they can be.

Year Four ELP sites are listed on page four of the new "Tenth" Best Start Magazine.

The Best Start Parent Fair Task Force is in high gear getting ready for the **Best Start Parent Fair**.

The event will be held Saturday April 13th, 2013 at our new location at the Brantford Civic Centre from 10-2pm.

Come spend an entertainment packed day with magicians, dancers, children's sing-a-longs and of course Jungle Jamz the animal trainer!