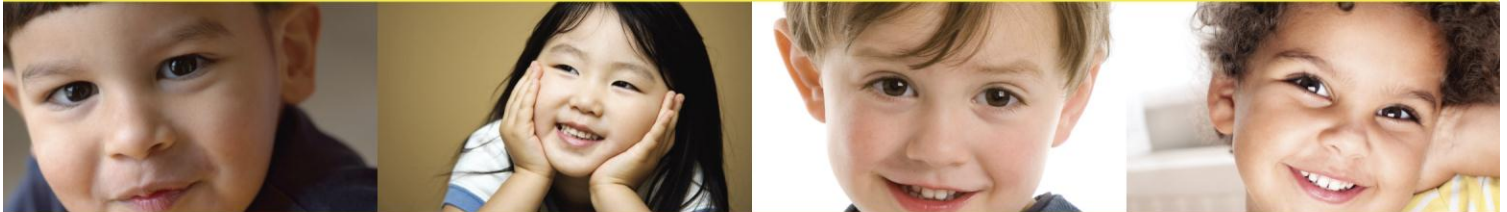


NEWS CHILD CARE



SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM THE MANAGER OF CHILD CARE SERVICES

2012 has been a very busy year here at Child Care Services and with the Best Start Network. Looking back on this year we have seen many accomplishments. We have created a new work plan together with more achievable goals. We have re-established Committees specific to Child Care and have brought back them back to the forefront, where we can focus on them. These are specifically the Child Care Advisory and the Recruitment and Retention committees. Already so much work has been accomplished in these committees. Brantford Best Start Network Submitted a response to the Modernization paper with the leadership of the Child Care Advisory.

It's a time of transition and transformation while the implementation of early learning kindergarten continues to take place over the next three years, we will continue to do our best to monitor, support and strengthen

the child care system. To support the change as most of you are aware we received some new dollars. With these new dollars from our partners in the Ministry of Education we have been very busy filling transformation technology requests (computer), toys and equipment requests and also business transformation requests. Health and Safety requests have also kept us very busy. It is great to see that the Ministry is putting Child Care in the forefront as well.

I want to take just a few minutes to thank each and every one of our service providers, Home Child Care providers, and our community partners for believing in quality child care and supporting the families you serve. I want to thank all of the staff here at Child Care Services as well for going above and beyond to serve the families and children as well.

Christmas is a time to reflect and be thankful. I would like to wish you all a very happy and healthy Holiday Season, Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years!



RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

As most of you are aware the Recruitment and Retention Committee has been very active in Brantford and Brant. We have been working with the local high schools and talking to the Guidance councillors about getting the right students to enter the field of Early Childhood Education. There is quickly becoming a shortage of qualified Early Childhood Educators and we are trying to be proactive in providing the resources for students considering a career in ECE as well. As part of our role in being proactive we have developed a Facebook page, it is called ECE Recruitment and retention and you will recognize it by the lime green ECE in a cube. This page has links to the eycbrant website which now has an educator tab. This section highlights upcoming events, such as the Job Fair in January, Professional Development, and job postings.



You will notice as well the pull out section in our Best Start Magazine is dedicated to Recruitment and Retention as well, and looks fabulous! Please check us out and Like our page so you will continue to get the address.

DID YOU KNOW?

The OEYC: Brant in partnership with the City of Brantford, Child Care Services and the ECE Department of Mohawk College invite you to Brant's second ECE Job and Education Fair on Thursday January 24th from 5pm to 8pm.

Join us at 30 Bell Lane and visit agency booths, drop off your resume, inquire about current job postings, learn more about local early years agencies and early years post secondary courses.

If you are an agency interested in having a booth please contact the OEYC: Brant.

If you are a current or future ECE or in a related field then mark your calendars for this event and help us spread the word.

Early Childhood Educators are needed in Brant for our expanding field- ***"Bringing Out the Best in All of Us!"***



BEST START NEWS

By now everyone has received their fall copy of the Best Start Magazine.

This edition is our Ninth Best Start Magazine and has informative articles and a special pullout section where you can discover rewarding careers and opportunities in the field of ECE.

If you require additional copies please call Child Care Services at 519-756-3150.

CHRISTMAS CLOSURES

Child Care Services office will be closed December 24, 2012 until January 1, 2013. Office will reopen on January 2, 2013.

We hope everyone has a safe, wonderful Christmas and a fantastic, healthy New Year in 2013.

WHAT MAKES OUR COMMUNITY WORK...?

Tina participated in this joint program of the School Boards and the City to bring Grade 7 & 8 students to City departments. They learn what type of jobs there are in the municipality and what each position does. Approximately 150 students attended.

MAKING BRANTFORD MY HOME is a new community information fair that brings newcomers to Brantford Brant in touch with local services and resources. Tia and Tina represented Child Care Services on November 3, 2012.

SAVE THE DATE!



The **Best Start Parent Fair** will be held Saturday April 13th, 2013 from 10am - 2pm at its new location at the Brantford Civic Centre 64 Market Street.

WAGE SUBSIDY NEWS

We are pleased that for the 2012 year that we are able to pay out 100% of your Wage Subsidy pressures. You will be receiving your Gant Utilization statement early December and these amounts should be included.

As spaces continue to grow in the community so does our pressure list, for the first time ever we have over 1 million dollars in pressures for the Wage subsidy list. We are very thankful for some of the ELCD Early Learning and Child Development dollars that have helped offset some of the pressure list.

WE ARE STILL GROWING...

Total number of Licensed spaces in Brantford/Brant: 2333

Infants 66
 Toddlers 270
 Preschool 720
 JK/SK 334
 School Age 943