

FRAGA Gab



From The Director's Desk

By Paula Bacon, Director

Here are updates on several issues at hand:

Chattooga. We have submitted a funding request to the Regional Office so that we can renovate and relocated classes to Trion. At this time we won't know how long the approval process will take but at least we are another step closer.

Ringgold Early Head Start. Is still closed until we can determine the cause of the odors and insure it is corrected. Thank you to the staff who are filling in for open positions at other centers. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Budget Cuts. Based on the information regarding President Trump's "skinny budget", it is proposed that the Department of Health and Human Services which funds Head Start may have an 18% budget cut. There is nothing definite at this time regarding HS but the rumors are that we may see a 10% cut. However, NHSA is asking us to contact our representatives and ask them to sign on to the Jenkins-Clark letter asking for Head Start to remain a funding priority. If you haven't already done so, an email was forwarded from NHSA with a link to do so.

Family Development Credential. We are excited to have all our FSS and those in our TN HS program to begin a 10-week FDC course with Jon Walker Enterprises. You may remember Jon from our preservice and know that he is a dynamic and innovative individual. We look forward to seeing what wonderful training he brings to our FSS.

Mock Review in CCP. At the end of April Jerry Parr will be conducting a mock review of our four partnership sites: Whitfield Dalton Day Care, Ringgold CNI, Murray CNI, and Treasures' Academy. I know his expertise will help insure that we are meeting all the mandates for the new CCP classes.

**Rock Spring HS/EHS is now a LICENSED Center!
CONGRATULATIONS!!**



**Family Resource Agency
of North Georgia**

**Head Start/Early Head Start
Pre-K Program**

***We Build
GREAT
Children!***

Inside this issue

- Melissa's Page 2
- Quality Corner 3
- In the Spotlight—
Sharon Narey 3
- BUSTED! 3
- Employee of the Month 4
- Caught in the Act 5
- TPITOS Training 5
- Announcements 6
- Puzzles 7
- Coach's Corner 8
- Family Matters 8





Melissa's Page

By Melissa Metcalf, Asst. Director

HAPPY Spring Break!!!

Chattooga Pre-K Visit. Congratulations to the Chattooga staff for an AWESOME Program Visit March 24, 2017. Judy Blasengame, Bright From The Start Pre-K consultant, said in her email "WOW! Many positive changes have been made in the arrangement of furnishings and materials. I am so impressed with the changes."

WAY TO GO, Karla, Kara, and Fitz. I appreciate all you do for our HS/Pre-K children.



Sharon Narey, Mental Health Consultant

I'm sure that everyone can join me in singing the praises of our amazing Mental Health Consultant, Sharon Narey. Sharon has spent countless hours supporting our staff and families. Her love and commitment to our agency is obvious to everyone she meets...and I do mean EVERYONE. She has been spotted stopping people at various locations all over town, telling them how to enroll their children in Head Start. Nita Thatcher has been with her on several occasions when she was approached by a current or former Head Start parent, thanking her for what she had done for them or their child. Thank you, Sharon, for your dedication to our staff and families! **We LOVE you!**



QUALITY CORNER

*Hello sunshine, warmer weather and flowers. What a fun time of year with so many learning opportunities! Here is a simple spring sorting activity that can be completed in the classroom, just be sure to remember to refer to the **Poisonous Plants and Safe Plants Procedures** for approval of plants that can be used.*



Thank you Terri Caylor (MU) and Judy Smith (CS) for sending in ideas for the Teacher Resource Site.

We encourage all of you to show off and send them in!

*~Submitted by Betsy Taggart, QM,
Brandy Young, QM
Karen Mussared, QM*





**You
Are
So...**



Samantha McNabb and Rachael Clay were BUSTED for having a well run classroom the day of an On-Site Field Trip. On Thursday, March 2nd, Tiger Creek had an On-site Field Trip with Heritage Middle School. The visitors came dressed up like Dr. Seuss characters. The children cleaned as soon as Samantha told them their friends were there, and many even offered extra help to the centers that were not done cleaning. The classroom did an excellent job following instructions and staying engaged during the individual stories and playing.

Thank you for everything you do and keep up the GREAT WORK!

~Submitted by: Betsy Taggart, QM

April Employee of the Month: Sara Davis

Employee of the Month for April 2017 is
Sara Davis, Mentor/Coach at the Admin Office.



"Who is that snapping a selfie with the queen of Conscious Discipline, Dr. Becky Bailey? Well, it's Sara Davis of course. Sara will leave no stone unturned when seeking resources and support for our teachers. She devotes many hours to her own professional development in order to expertly share what she has learned with others. When she's not in the classroom working alongside a teacher, you will find her researching ideas, ordering resources, or making hand-made items for the classroom. She lights up when she talks about the resourcefulness and creativity of our teachers. She has a true heart for supporting teaching staff.



Caught in the Act!



Ashley Monzingo (left) and Deborah Smith (right), EHS Teachers at Catoosa—CNI (photo, left). Ashley and Deborah have been having behavioral issues with a child. They have encouraged the Mom to go back to school, so the child will have a better home life. They love the children and families and help them anyway they can. I am very happy to have them on my team! They are truly inspiring!



Beverly Bearden, Accounts Payable at Admin (photo, left). Beverly is always quick to help out anyone she can. She is always there to lend a hand even if it is not in her department. She really goes ABOVE and BEYOND to be a GREAT team member!



Gidget Griffin, Center Manager at Ringgold EHS/Ringgold Primary HS, Tiger Creek HS, Catoosa—CNI, and Treasures Academy (photo, left). She is a great Center Manager who promotes teamwork and watches out for her staff. She is also very concerned for her staff when they are sick. She offered to drive me home from Tiger Creek when I had gotten back from the doctor, which would have been out of her way, but she did not care about the distance.



Leslie King, Child Development/Family Service at Lakeview HS/EHS (photo, left). Leslie started her new position as an FSS back in November but because of being short staffed at the center, she has been needed in the classroom a lot. She always has a smile on her face and is always willing to do what is needed.



Chelsey Rhoads, Center Supervisor at Morris Innovative and Valley Point HS/EHS (photo, left). Chelsey is new to her position and has taken on the workload of 3 centers already! She never fails to answer when we have a problem at our center, even if she is at another center. She is a GREAT Center Supervisor!



Julie Adams, EHS Teacher at Catoosa—CNI (photo, left). Julie is always willing to help others. She helped a mother that is need of dental care. She helped her find a dentist and is going with her to the appointment. She truly cares for the children and families. Thank you Julie for all that you do!



Michelle Howard, Child Development Manager—Supervision (photo, left). Michelle offered her assistance by working in a classroom to help and support new teachers. She interacted with the children, served lunch, and helped guide teachers. Thank you Michelle for helping out when you saw a need.



Caught in the Act...Continued!



Kayte Babbitt, HS Teacher at Treasure’s Academy (photo, left). *Kayte keeps a positive attitude at all times despite the behavioral issues of a child. She has focused to really get to know the child as well as his family. She has made him feel comfortable in her room and has taken the title of “School Mom” to him. I want to thank you for making a positive impact on this child’s life!*



Gwen Parrott, EHS Teacher at Battlewood HS/EHS (photo, left). *Gwen goes above and beyond to make her EHS run so great! She loves and cares for the children as if they were her own. She has been doing many different jobs this year because we have been short staffed this school year.*



Stephenie Mitchell, Child Development Manager—School Readiness at Admin (photo, left). *Stephenie offered her assistance to support new teachers in a challenging classroom. She helped guide the teachers, danced and played games with the children and served lunch to provide support to the classroom. Thank you Stephenie for your support and assistance when needed.*



Jamie Brown, Pre-K Teacher at South Walker HS/EHS/Pre-K (photo, left). *Jamie goes above and beyond when planning lesson plans. She thinks outside the box and fully envelops the children in the theme they are studying for the week. During a theme on Dinosaurs, the children became Paleontologists after learning what that career was all out. They “chiseled” a “dino egg” and brushed away the “dirt” to discover a “dino skeleton”.*

TPITOS



TRAINING



It takes a big
heart
to help shape
little
minds.

Here are a couple of pictures from the TPITOS Training at the February In-Service.





EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Volunteer Appreciation

Thursday, April 20, 2017 10am-1pm

Tennessee Valley Railroad

Invitations have gone out to those volunteers with the most hours from each of our programs (Head Start, Early Head Start, CCP). Congratulations to Charles Shockley, Chattooga Head Start. He has been chosen for Parent of the Year. Also, Congratulations to Sara Crawford, Battlewood Head Start. She has been chose for the Volunteer of the Year, with 101 volunteer hours. *WOW!!* On April 20th, we will be meeting at the Railroad and will recognize our Parent of the Year and Volunteer of the Year. We will then enjoy a box lunch from Jason's Deli and the train ride will follow.

Staff Appreciation Day

Friday, May 26, 2017 9am-1pm

Hidden Hollow Resort

We will recognize those employees who have been with us a long time. We will recognize the Teacher of the Year and the Employee of the Year. We'll then go outside and enjoy walking one of the two trails, take a canoe ride, or play games (corn hole, horseshoes, basketball, ladder ball, etc...) or just stay in the screened porch and play cards, or just talk and relax. Please bring a folding chair and any yard games you have. Debbie will send more information to the centers as we get closer to the date.



Spring Sudoku

Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the letters F L O W E R B U D.
Don't guess - use logic.

		B		E		O		
	U	F	W		O	E	D	
			L		R			
B		E		O		W		U
		U		W		L		
L		W		F		R		B
			O		B			
	E	D	F		W	U	B	
		R		U		F		

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G
A
M
E
T
I
M
E

Spring Word Search

W	G	A	B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	Y	O	Z
H	I	B	L	E	S	P	A	W	I	N	X	L	C
T	J	N	F	T	E	C	H	E	A	R	T	H	A
E	R	G	D	X	R	S	T	R	H	G	U	W	B
G	A	E	A	Y	A	U	A	E	A	R	O	G	U
R	I	S	B	L	O	K	D	P	I	C	T	R	N
O	N	D	T	R	D	R	S	S	R	H	P	A	E
W	F	E	P	E	I	F	G	S	F	I	S	S	D
I	A	S	D	B	R	T	G	P	T	C	L	S	R
N	J	P	F	L	O	W	E	R	X	K	O	J	A
G	M	A	P	O	L	Y	A	I	D	S	Y	T	G
T	A	F	L	O	W	T	R	N	B	I	R	A	P
T	R	E	E	M	X	I	N	G	H	C	R	A	M

Word Bank

Spring	butterfly	bees	garden
March	Easter	bird	growing
April	eggs	rain	sprout
May	flower	tree	bloom
Earth	chicks	grass	windy

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FRAGA HEAD START



Coach's Corner

By Sara Davis, Mentor/Coach

Are the consequences you give children, related or logical consequences, when they make a mistake? As a parent I have to revisit this question all the time. If your child hits his brother, then taking away his video games for a period of time doesn't teach him what he should do when he gets angry or when he hurts his brother. A related (or logical) consequence would be to have him think of a way to repair the relationship with his brother (write him a note, make him a card, etc) and to talk about ways of handling his frustration or anger so that he has tools to keep him from hitting (deep breaths, walking away..).

The other day in the kitchen my daughter said, "I love making mistakes because I learn something new". I wish I could have that mindset when it comes to making mistakes! Consequences can be used to teach a child, or they can be useless. Your intention and attitude determines which one occurs, either it's a teachable moment or missed opportunity.



Family Matters

By Talisyn Ridley, Family Services Coordinator

The month of April is National Child Abuse Prevention month. Our Family Service Staff will be hosting training's at their April Parent Meetings on this topic. Each parent that attends this month will get to take home a magnet to place on their refrigerator to help remind them of the "Ten Reasons to Stand Up for Children."

Here are the "Ten Reasons to Stand Up for Children"

1. Children are the heart of the future.
2. Everyone can make a difference in a child's life.
3. It's easier to build strong children than to repair broken adults.
4. All children are special.
5. There's no excuse for child abuse.
6. Children thrive when adults care.
7. Protecting children is everybody's job.
8. Each child deserves to be cherished.
9. Children are the most valuable natural resource.
10. Because they can't always stand up for themselves.

*Happy
Easter*

