



"Take a Flower to Childcare Day" Lifts Up WV Childcare Providers and Raises Awareness About the Important Role They Play

To honor West Virginia's 2,400 dedicated childcare providers, the West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund, through its [Kids First Communities Campaign](#), sponsored a statewide **Take a Flower to Childcare Day** on Tuesday, October 21, 2008. The goal of **Take a Flower to Childcare Day** was to raise awareness about the important role high-quality childcare plays in the healthy development of young children and the economic future of the state.

Taking part in this statewide celebration of childcare providers was easy...parents, young children and community leaders simply presented their childcare providers with a single flower of their choice. And we're happy to announce that the event was a huge success! Log on to <http://www.wvkidscountfund.org/take-flower.php> to read What Childcare Providers said About Take a Flower to Childcare Day... Log on to <http://www.wvkidscountfund.org/gallery-take-a-flower.php> to see photos from around the state taken on Take A Flower to Childcare Day.

The Regional Family Resource Network receives Planning and Coordination funds from the WV Department of Health and Human Resources, which includes federal Medicaid funds and WV General Revenue funds. Programmatic funds are also received from Boone County Community Foundation, The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation, Prevent Child Abuse West Virginia, Rush2Brush from Valley Health and The West Virginia Division of Tobacco Prevention Clean Indoor Air Program operating under the Department of Health and Human Resources and the Bureau for Public Health.

BOONE COUNTY NEWS

The Boone FRN meets on the third Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Danville Community Center at 731 Hopkins Avenue, Danville. If you are not on an RFRN distribution list to receive regular invitation reminders for meetings, please call Michele at 414-4470 to confirm. Anyone who is interested in improving services to children and families in Boone County is welcome to attend whenever they can. Call Michele if you need directions or if you would like to speak for 15–20 minutes about your program and/or agency.

Boone Stop Watch is the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition for Boone County. Meetings are usually held following the Boone FRN monthly meeting in the Danville/Madison area. The webpage for Boone Stop Watch is <http://regionalfrn.org/brochure.pdf>

In October, a regional Kids First Community Meeting was held at Park Avenue Restaurant in Danville in the evening with Boone County residents and service providers in attendance.

KANAWHA COUNTY NEWS

The Kanawha FRN meets on the second Thursday of each month in the Kanawha Valley Room in the Schoenbaum Family Enrichment Center in the west side of Charleston at 12 Noon. Bring your own lunch to eat at the meeting. If you are not on an RFRN distribution list to receive regular invitation reminders for meetings, please call Michele at 414-4470 to confirm. Anyone who is interested in improving services to children and families in Kanawha County is welcome to attend whenever they can. Call Michele if you need directions or if you would like to speak for 15–20 minutes about your program and/or agency.

The Kanawha Early Childhood Committee has been leading the Kids First Community of Boone, Clay, Kanawha & Putnam Counties. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for Monday, December 8 at 9 a.m. in the Charleston Room of the Schoenbaum Family Enrichment Center.

Kanawha County Communities That Care Coalition usually meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 12 noon at the SFEC. However, due to the holidays and conferences, the November & December 2008 meetings will be combined and held on Tuesday, December 2, 1–3 p.m. at the Schoenbaum Family Enrichment Center in the west side of Charleston. If you would like to attend, please contact Project Assistant Michele Bowles at mbowles@kanawhacountyctc.org so that there will be enough lunch for everyone. Anyone wishing to work on substance abuse prevention in Kanawha County is encouraged to attend and become actively involved. The website for Kanawha County Communities That Care is <http://www.kanawhacountyctc.org/>

PUTNAM COUNTY NEWS

The Putnam FRN meets at 10 a.m. on the second Friday of each month at Teays Physical Therapy Center at 3910 Teays Valley Road in Hurricane. Please do not bring dark-colored drinks into the building. If you are not on an RFRN distribution list to receive regular invitation reminders for meetings, please call Michele at 414-4470 to confirm. Anyone who is interested in improving services to children and families in Putnam County is welcome to attend whenever they can. Call Michele if you need directions or if you would like to speak for 15–20 minutes about your program and/or agency. There are several active task teams whose goals and objectives are documented on the RFRN Strategic Work Plan:

Putnam Young Child Task Team supports and collaborates with Putnam Pre-K collaborative and serves as the Advisory Council for the Apprenticeship for Child Development Specialist Training program in the Putnam Career & Technical Center in Eleanor. The Young Child Task Team specifically focuses on child abuse and prevention efforts in Putnam County through a grant from Prevent Child Abuse West Virginia.

Putnam Youth Wellness works on prevention efforts focused on youth wellness. Putnam Youth Wellness is collaborating with Putnam on Wellness of four Truth and Dare Challenges scheduled in each of the four county middle schools over the next several months. These events are funded by an Oral Health grant and a Tobacco Prevention grant.

Putnam on Wellness works on increasing healthy behaviors in people of all ages in Putnam County. In addition to the above grants, Putnam on Wellness also has a grant to increase county participation in the President's Physical Fitness Challenge.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

November 13 & 15, 2008 - Kanawha County Public Library's Main Library will host workshops designed for nonprofit grant seekers. The Thursday, November 13th workshop will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and the Saturday, November 15th workshop will be held from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in the library's Technology Center, second floor, 123 Capitol Street, Charleston. Olivia Bravo will present an overview of the Foundation Center Online, an electronic database that lists more than 90,000 available foundations that donate money to worthwhile organizations and projects. Call Olivia Bravo, Documents/Foundations Librarian, 304-343-4646, ext. 264 to reserve your spot in one of the workshops.

November 13, 2008 - WV Hate Crimes Task Force meeting, 2 - 4:00 p.m. at the U.S. Attorneys Offices in Charleston & Wheeling. This committee looks at the issues surrounding hate and bias crimes. Contact: Tracy Dorsey-Chapman, U.S. Attorneys Office, Southern District at 304-345-2200 or Tracy.Chapman@usdoj.gov or Christina Frizzell, U.S. Attorneys Office, Northern District at 304-234-0100 or Chris.frizzell@usdoj.gov

November 14, 2008 - FamilyCare will be offering a flu shot to the first 250 uninsured people that show up at Schoenbaum Family Enrichment Center on November 14th from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

November 17, 2008 - "Tie One on For Safety"; MADD's Kickoff Reception for This Year at The Governor's Mansion in Charleston. MADD West Virginia cordially invites you to help us kickoff this year's "Tie One on for Safety" (TOOFS) observance with a reception at the Governor's mansion on Monday, November 17th from 3:00pm to 4:30pm. West Virginia's First Lady, Gayle Manchin, is expected to be in attendance. The TOOFS annual observance takes place during the holiday season from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day. Individuals across our state are encouraged to tie red ribbons or place a decal on a visible location on their motor vehicle or on the outside of their home to show support for law enforcement efforts and as a reminder for everyone to drive sober this holiday season. Contact: Donna Hawkins at Phone: 304-776-0222 or Email: Donna.Hawkins@madd.org

November 17 & 19, 2008 - Free mammography screening offered by Charleston Area Medical Center through a special grant from the Salvation Army's Marguerite Capehart trust fund, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Women's Comprehensive Breast Center at Women and Children's Hospital (behind the hospital, in the medical building). To receive a free mammogram, **you must meet the guidelines established by the American Cancer Society.** The guidelines can be viewed at www.regionalfrn.org/CurrentEvents.html Limited space is available (18 screenings per day). To register (required), call 345-9051.

November 18 - 21, 2008. PEDIATRIC SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) Training at the Marshall University Forensic Science Center in Huntington. Contact: Debra Lopez-Bonasso at Phone: 304-366-9508 or Email: dlbannaso@aol.com

November 19, 2008 - West Virginia Children's Justice Task Force will meet at 3 p.m. Family Counseling Connection at 1021 Quarrier Street, Suite 414, Charleston. Please call or email Frank Fazzolari if you plan to attend at 340-3676 Extension 313 or ffazzolari@familycounselingconnection.org.

November, 21, 2008 - Charleston's One Night Without a Home Awareness Sleep Out at Magic Island in Charleston, 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. A formal program with conversation and music will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. For more information, call 344-8053.

December 15 & 17, 2008 - Free mammography screening offered by Charleston Area Medical Center through a special grant from the Salvation Army's Marguerite Capehart trust fund, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Women's Comprehensive Breast Center at Women and Children's Hospital (behind the hospital, in the medical building). To receive a free mammogram, **you must meet the guidelines established by the American Cancer Society.** The guidelines can be viewed at www.regionalfrn.org/CurrentEvents.html Limited space is available (18 screenings per day). To register (required), call 345-9051.

The Big Fix 2008—2009 Low cost spay & neuter program for cats and dogs. December 3— (male) dog neuter; January 7— (female) cat spay; February 11—(female) dog spay. The following participating veterinarians are participating and should be called for details: Animal Care Associates 344-2244; Avalon Dog/Cat Hospital 744-4721; Cross Lanes Veterinary Hospital 776-4501; Dunbar Animal Hospital 766-6407; Elk Valley Veterinary Hospital 965-7675; Gateway Animal Hospital 727-4331; Perry's Animal Hospital 949-2744; Good Shepherd Veterinary 925-7387; Kanawha Boulevard Animal Hospital 925-4974; North Gateway Animal Hospital 342-5700; Phillips Animal Hospital 342-3330; Pocatalico Animal Hospital 984-0064; Valley West Veterinary Hospital 343-6783.

For more information on events and opportunities, please log on to <http://regionalfrn.org/CurrentEvents.html>

*Due to effective community empowerment, RFRN cannot guarantee the scheduling of these events. Please feel free to verify events and meetings.
(for more meetings and community events please log onto your "County Calendar")*

Regional Family Resource Network

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Please visit our website for our current newsletter, media coverage, resource guides, Current Events, volunteer and learning opportunities coordinated by Regional Family Resource Network collaborative partners and other organizations.

The mission of the Regional Family Resource Network (RFRN), encompassing Boone, Kanawha and Putnam Counties is to facilitate a system of prevention, education, and early intervention activities aimed at enabling families, children, and their communities to reach their fullest potential through community-based planning activities.

We envision a family-centered, community-based environment that promotes comprehensive quality healthcare and educational/vocational/economic opportunities in a setting that encourages, values, and nurtures all of its members.