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NEAT-R Corner

We have been working with representatives from our Early Head Start partners to create a nutrition assessment tool for toddlers, and it is ready to be distributed and piloting is now beginning!

We will be holding a meeting with each of our EHS partner programs to discuss the NEAT-R and plan for its implementation with families. Two of the meetings have already been completed.

On September 1, our Eight-CAP representative, Jillian Ritter, led a meeting with her co-workers. Our second meeting was held on September 22 during a North East Michigan Community Service Agency (NEMCSA) staff meeting, and Kate presented to home visitors from Cheboygan, Alpena, Ogemaw, Iosco, Arenac, and Bay counties.

We have a meeting scheduled with GCCARD in Flint on October 6th. We also have a meeting with Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency (MMCAA) (representing Mecosta, Osceola, Clare, Gladwin, and Sanford counties), scheduled for October 12 and Community Action Agency (CAA) in Jackson and Hillsdale counties scheduled for October 19.

If you would like to participate in any of these meetings, or if you do not see your agency listed and want to facilitate scheduling a meeting, please contact Kate at our office by phone: 1-517-355-6744, or e-mail: smithk81@msu.edu.

The Recruitment Race

LOOK AT THESE BARS RISE!

NEAT-R Corner continues

We provide training on the assessment, along with giving each program site a Tool Kit to be used in conjunction with the NEAT-R. These Tool Kits contain handouts for each question on the NEAT-R, along with real world objects to demonstrate appropriate portions. For instance, each kit contains a racquet ball to demonstrate the size of a toddler’s stomach and a 4 ounce cup to show the maximum amount of juice a toddler should have daily. These Tool Kits are being provided to each of our Early Head Start partners.

We hope to begin receiving feedback from EHS home visitors concerning the NEAT-R assessment in November, and will continue to review the assessment and revise until next spring. A final version of the NEAT-R assessment will then be made available to all eight of our Early Head Start community partners. If you are interested in learning more about the NEAT-R, please contact our office.
Welcome New Data Collectors!
On September 10, eight new Data Collectors were trained. We are grateful to these women for their efforts so far and look forward to a long relationship!

Clare County:
Priscilla Birch is a senior at Michigan State, majoring in dietetics.

Muskegon County:
Latesha Thomas works at Child and Family Services as a program coordinator/early childhood mental health consultant. She is married with one daughter.

Debra Jones is a Grand Valley State graduate student. She is married with 4 children, and enjoys family time and learning.

Ingham County:
Asha Barber is a graduate student in marriage and family therapy at Michigan State. She is researching factors contributing to minority family connectedness.

Bay/Saginaw Counties:
Heather Reed has worked for 6 years at EHS in the thumb of Michigan and is a graduate student at Michigan State for child development. She has 2 children and lives in Saginaw County.

Tuscola County:
Angie Burkey is a family and community educator for EHS in Huron County. She has a B.A. in early childhood education from Aquinas College. She enjoys reading, camping, and spending time with her family.

Isabella/Mecosta Counties:
Sarah Stockton has a B.A. in child development and has been working for Early Head Start in Clare Country for the last 3 years.

Jackson County:
Evon Beavers is a student at Jackson Community College, studying early childhood development. She is a parent-partner and activity coordinator Family Service and Children’s Aid. She has 3 children, 2 boys and 1 girl.

Welcome also to our new office volunteers!

Stacey Jonas: Stacey is a senior at Michigan State studying Dietetics. She hopes to have her own practice working with childhood obesity and eating disorders. She loves traveling, shopping, and camping.

Charlotte Peltier: Charlotte is a junior at Michigan State studying Nutritional Sciences. Her interests include singing and watching MSU basketball. She plans to attend Medical School in 2008.

Kate Moon: Kate is a senior at Michigan State studying Dietetics. She wants to work with children, and have a show on the Food Network. Kate works at a pool teaching swim lessons and water aerobics.

Sarah Cullen: Sarah is a senior at Michigan State studying Dietetics. As a mother of 2, she has an interest in Pediatric Nutrition. She hopes to obtain her RD and attend graduate school.

These ladies join Kate Smith, Michelle Henry, and Mollie Geiersbach in making sure this office runs smoothly. Thank you to ALL of our wonderful staff for helping make this project a success.

NEAT Research Office HOURS
Monday - Friday
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

If you have any news, comments, questions, or ideas to share in the NEAT newsletter...please call our office at (517) 355-6744, fax at (517) 355-5002, or email Kate (smithk81@msu.edu)

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