

FAMILY TIME

A Publication of the Erie Family Center for Child Development



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Erie Team Joins National Home Visiting Research Collaborative



Erie Family Center staff recently traveled to Washington, DC to participate in the first Learning Session of a national research collaborative, the Home Visiting Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (HV CoIIN.)

One of three Home Visiting providers in PA invited to participate, the EFC team will focus Quality Improvement strategies to improve outcomes for mothers screening positive with

symptoms of Maternal Depression. Baseline data was collected in advance and displayed on a storyboard shared with other participants, including 11 state MIECHV leaders, 37 implementing agencies, and 2 tribal nations. Eight Evidence-Based Home Visiting models are represented among the participants, including many who implement multiple models as we do in Erie. Faculty consultants from John Hopkins, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Erikson Institute, MIT, U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the Education Development Center, will guide participating agencies through the learning process over the next 18 months.

A Learning Collaborative is a method of improvement to extend and adapt existing knowledge, adjusting practice as needed to achieve a common goal. The Home Visiting CoIIN will benefit the home visiting field by:

- Disseminating practices known to work
- Encouraging innovation
- Building leadership for Quality Improvements
- Promoting sustainability, and
- Demonstrating effectiveness of home visiting in large scale implementation.

Encouragement to develop highly innovative practices is common to the Learning Collaborative experience. The Erie team looks forward to "Thinking the Unthinkable" as we continue our involvement in this action-packed, data-driven collaborative.

SAVE THE DATE!

District Non-Attendance Day:
May 20 (Erie Family Center Open)

Parent Advisory Council Meeting
May 22, 12:00 - 1:00 pm (EFC)

1-2-3 Magic at EFC
Fridays May 23 and 30, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm (EFC)

Memorial Day - ESD/EFC CLOSED
May 26 - Fatherhood Groups at Union City Family Center and Gaudenzia not scheduled due to holiday

Caring Closet Volunteer Training
June 3, 9:00 - 10:00 am (EFC)

Systematic Training for Effective Parenting (STEP)
Wednesdays, June 4 - July 9, 6:00 - 7:30 pm (EFC)

1-2-3 Magic in North East
Saturdays June 7 and 14, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Earl C. Davis Primary School, North East

Parent Advisory Council Meeting
June 9, 12:00 - 1:00 pm (EFC)

Last Day of School for ESD Students
June 10

Building Bridges Committee Meeting
June 11, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm (EFC)

Caring Closet Uniform Swap
June 17, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm (EFC)

Motherhood Support Initiative, EFC
Wednesdays, 10:00 am - Noon
Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Foundations of Fatherhood
See calendar for locations and times

For more information, call

874-6990



Honoring Judy

On March 25th, the Erie Family Center lost a dear friend and colleague when Judy Hauser passed away. Judy had a background in nursing and was a strong advocate for women. She joined the EFC staff in 2006, working part-time as a parent educator serving local shelters. Judy also facilitated the Motherhood Support Initiative groups in the West County, and the Strengthening Families Program throughout the city and county. Selected as one of the twelve “Dynamic Dozen” in 2000, Judy lived her faith daily by serving those with the greatest needs, especially women whose spirits seemed “broken.”



The best thing about Judy was her commitment to the families she worked with, her own family, friends and co-workers. She voluntarily attended a variety of community meetings to advocate for families, particularly for families raising children with special needs. Judy enjoyed hosting gatherings of co-workers when an SFP group graduated, and could be counted on to help out at nearly every parent-child event at the Family Center.

Although officially a part-time consultant, Judy was a full-time member of the EFC team, and will be greatly missed. On behalf of all the staff and the families Judy touched, we offer our condolences to Judy’s husband, John, her children and their families.

EFC Welcomes 2 New Staff

Healthy Families America at the Erie Family Center welcomes two new staff! **Kelly Gool** and **Betty Meeder**, new HFA Family Support Workers, joined the home visiting staff in mid-April and hit the ground running.

Kelly’s background includes a Bachelor’s degree in Developmental Psychology, and extensive experience in working with people with disabilities. Betty has a Bachelor’s degree in Social Work, and has worked in the education and human service systems. Through her previous employment, Betty gained experience with home visiting and working with diverse populations.

They have both jumped right in and have begun working with families, while looking forward to completing the Healthy Families America Core Home Visitor training in June.

PA Family Center Network Week

During the week of April 21 – 25, the Erie Family Center joined 43 other Family Centers across the state planning activities in observance of PA Family Center Network Week. EFC hosted a Parent Café on April 23rd and invited local legislators to join the conversation. Staff from Representative Ryan Bizzaro’s office, and Representative Pat Harkins’ office attended and participated in the Café activities, engaging enthusiastically in conversation with parent leaders.

Parent Advisory Council members also met with Erie County legislators to discuss their role as advisors to the Erie Family Center, as well as the benefits their families have received through participation in the Center’s family support programs.

Recent News at EFC



The Pennant Project - "Making Connections"

The Family Art Collection at the Erie Family Center is expanding with the current display of pennants created by EFC families as part of the Pennant Project. Families have designed banners to represent how their needs have been met with positive people and resources through their involvement with the Erie Family Center.



Parent Cafe - April 2014

The theme for the April Cafe was "Making Connections -- Families Matter!" Facilitated by parent leaders, the conversation centered around identifying positive, pro-social connections that strengthen families.



Music and Movement Event at the Erie Family Center

Movin' to the Music was held at the Erie Family Center on March 20th. The Pre-K class, along with a handful of other families, enjoyed learning how to integrate music into every day living. Participants enjoyed singing, dancing and learning new games that encouraged positive interaction between parents and children.



Strengthening Families Program

The Spring session of the Strengthening Families Program in North East will wrap up this June. Six parents and 11 youth will be graduating after 14 weeks of learning how to create positive change in their families.



First Day of Trout Fishing Season

The fish were biting and the kids were grinning on the first day of Trout Season when Erie Family Center families gathered at Presque Isle to participate in the free fishing day hosted by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and the Sons of Lake Erie. This is the fourth year Family Center staff has hosted parents and children who wish to attend the event.



Prom Project at the Caring Closet

Thanks to Lisa Bannister for sharing her Prom Project collection with the students at Erie's Public Schools. Over 30 young people received beautiful prom dresses, shoes, jewelry, and other dress clothing.

Recent News at EFC (cont.)



Thank You to Sherwin Williams Painters and the United Way of Erie County

Many, many thanks to Sherwin Williams and the United Way of Erie County for the colorful makeover completed at the Children's Caring Closet during the United Way Annual Days of Caring in April. Dustin Noel, Manager of the West 26th Street store, led the Sherwin Williams team with help from Jerry Eibel, Branch Manager at the Peach St. store, and Sharyn Hillhouse, Color Specialist. We appreciate the United Way's support of this project and the help to make the connection with Sherwin Williams. Dustin's paint crew included managers and sales associates from stores in Erie and Crawford counties, and all materials and supplies were contributed at no cost. It ended up being a 2-day project, but these volunteers persevered until it was complete, including a brand new epoxy coating on the floor. It turned out beautifully and refreshed the space tremendously – again, we are grateful to our community partners for supporting the Caring Closet in unexpected ways!



SHERWIN-WILLIAMS.



United Way of Erie County

Caring Closet Events

Volunteer Training

Tuesday, June 3rd • 9:00- 10:00 am

Uniform Swap and Summer Clothes Bonanza

Tuesday June 17th • 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Both events held at the Erie Family Center



Call 874-6990 to RSVP

DON'T FORGET!

We'll soon be making **FAMILY TIME** available electronically both via email and through our new website. The electronic version of **FAMILY TIME** will be delivered in full color with exclusive stories and photos that won't be available in print. The print version will still be available, but we encourage you to join our ongoing effort to reduce printing costs and protect the environment.

To begin receiving this newsletter electronically, please call the front desk at 814-874-6990 or email eriefamilycenter@eriesd.org to be added to the list.

FOCUS ON: 1-2-3 Magic

1-2-3 Magic is a parent education program dedicated to help parents build strong, positive relationships with their children and overcome the stress that can take the fun out of parenting. The program offers easy-to-learn parenting solutions that are research-based and proven effective for age groups from toddlers through adolescents.



The 3 Steps to Success Include:

1. **Controlling Obnoxious Behavior:** Learn how to get your kids to stop unwanted behaviors.
2. **Encouraging Good Behavior:** Teach your kids how to use appropriate behaviors.
3. **Strengthening Your Relationships:** Reinforce the bond between you and your children.

2 NEW Summer Sessions!

Fridays May 23rd & 30th

10:00 am - 1:00 pm • Erie Family Center • 913 Payne Avenue

Light lunch included. Childcare and transportation assistance available.

Saturdays June 7th & 14th

9:00 am - 12:00 pm • Earl C. Davis Primary School • North East

Light breakfast included. Childcare and transportation assistance available.

Sign Up Today at **814-874-6990**

This FREE prevention program is one of several made possible through the financial support of the Erie County Department of Human Services/Office of Children and Youth Services, and the Erie Family Center.

Systematic Training for Effective Parenting

Systematic Training for Effective Parenting (STEP) is a “classic” parent education program that has been taught in many communities since the early ‘80s. The strength of the program is the group experience for parents in which the values of democratic child-rearing are promoted. The topics focus on positive discipline techniques that encourage respect and equality in the communications among all family members.

Because children behave and develop differently at different ages, STEP offers three course options including Early Childhood STEP for parents of children under age 6, STEP for parents of school-age children, and STEP Teen for parents with children in their tweens and teens.



STEP Program Topics

- Understanding Yourself and Your Child
- Understanding Beliefs and Feelings
- Encouraging Your Child and Yourself
- Developing the Courage to be Imperfect
- Listening and Talking to Your Child
- Helping Children Cooperate
- Discipline That Makes Sense
- Choosing Your Approach

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

June 4th - July 9th

6:00 - 7:30 pm at the Erie Family Center
Childcare and Transportation assistance available

The course is FREE but seating is limited!

For more info or to RSVP: Call 814-874-6990

This FREE program is provided by the Erie Family Center for Child Development with support from the Erie County Department of Human Services/Office of Children and Youth Services.

Feature on Pennsylvania Yellow Dot Program

During a recent visit with State Representative Curt Sonney, we discovered the Pennsylvania Yellow Dot Program. We thought this would be especially helpful for families with small children, especially those with special needs. We pursued the Yellow Dot Program, and now have a stack of Yellow Dot program kits and instructions available for all interested families. Learn more about the Yellow Dot Program below, and make sure to ask your home visitor or caseworker for a Yellow Dot program kit today!



About the Yellow Dot Program

Pennsylvania's Yellow Dot Program was created to assist citizens in the "golden hour" of emergency care following a traffic crash when they may not be able to communicate themselves. Placing a yellow dot in your vehicle's rear window alerts first responders to check your glove compartment for vital information to ensure that you receive the critical medical attention you need.

The program is a cooperative effort among the Pennsylvania Departments of Transportation, Health and Aging; the Pennsylvania State Police; the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission; and first responders and local law enforcement.

How The Program Works

Participants complete a personal information form, which includes the participant's name, contact information, emergency contact information, medical history and medications, allergies and the participant's doctors' contact information. A photo – showing only the participant's head and shoulders – is then taped to the front of the completed information sheet.

The yellow dot decal provided in the program kit is placed in the lower left corner of the vehicle's rear window. The top of the sticker should be no higher than 3.5 inches from the bottom of the window. This decal alerts first responders that vital information can be found in the vehicle.

Place the completed information sheet, with the attached picture, into the Yellow Dot folder, and then place the folder into the vehicle's dashboard glove compartment.

How to Use Yellow Dot

- Fill out the medical information sheet, with one sheet per person participating in the program. If any of your information exceeds the space provided on the sheet, you may attach a separate sheet with the applicable information to the sheet.
- Affix a current photo of the participant's head and shoulders (approximately 3 inches by 3 inches in size) to the front of the information sheet. If a photo is not available, the sheet should still be included in the folder so the medical information is available.
- Place the Yellow Dot program folder with completed medical information sheets inside your vehicle's dashboard glove compartment.
- Place the yellow sticker on the inside of the vehicle's rear window. When facing the rear of the vehicle, the sticker should be placed in the lower left section of the rear window. The top of the sticker should be no higher than 3.5 inches from the bottom of the window. The sticker will not affect the rear defroster's operation.
- If necessary, the sticker can be attached no higher than 3.5 inches from the bottom of the vehicle's rear side windows.

Learn more about Pennsylvania's Yellow Dot Program at www.YellowDot.pa.gov. And don't forget to ask your home visitor or caseworker for a program kit today!

PENNSYLVANIA
YELLOW DOT PROGRAM



**LISTEN Don't Label
ASK Don't Fear**
CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

216,978 children and youth were served in Pennsylvania's public mental health system in 2012.

The State Leadership & Management Team for the PA System of Care Partnership in collaboration with Office of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) invites you and your organization to join the 2014 "Listen Don't Label, Ask Don't Fear" statewide campaign to celebrate Children's Mental Health Awareness. We need and value cross-system partnerships to promote this life impacting message about the importance of positive mental health for children and young adults. Pennsylvania will join more than 1,000 Awareness Day celebrations across our nation this May.

As a first step, your organization can show support for this year's campaign by sharing this announcement with colleagues, community partners, family and friends. Second, take action to engage your organization to participate in *one, some* or *all* of the following campaign activities:

- Post the "Listen Don't Label, Ask Don't Fear" web badge on your organization's website during May
Download web badge at www.pasocpartnership.org/awarenessday
- Like the PA System of Care Partnership Facebook page www.facebook.com/PASystemofCare
- Follow us on Twitter @PASystemofCare #NoLabelNoFear
- Wear green on May 8th
- Encourage people you know to take Youth Mental Health 1st Aid training
Contact: Pat cambrifp@upmc.edu
- Promote the Public Service Announcement (PSA) in your community during May
Download PSA at www.pasocpartnership.org/awarenessday
- Display the campaign poster around your organization
- Donate or purchase "Listen Don't Label, Ask Don't Fear" cinch sacks for a local youth group, school or planned Awareness Day event. Ordering information www.pasocpartnership.org/awarenessday

Thank you for helping to build the awareness that fosters acceptance and recovery
for our children and young people!

In Service,
State Leadership & Management Team

Lynne Ackerman
OCDEL System Partner
Darlene Black
OCYF System Partner
Keith Graybill
Juvenile Court System Partner
Amy Grippi
OCYF System Partner
Alex Knapp
Youth Partner
Corey Ludden
Youth Partner

Rosemarie Mann
Family Partner
Kenneth Martz
Drug & Alcohol System Partner
Stan Mrozowski
Children's Mental Health System Partner
Mike Pennington
Juvenile Justice System Partner
Valarie Oulds-Dunbar
Family Partner

James Palmiero
Education System Partner
Shane Platt
Youth Partner
Karan Steele
Family Partner
Ladona Strouse
Family Partner
Ahmad Williams
Youth Partner

May 8, 2014 is designated Children's Mental Health Awareness Day by
the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)





MAY 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Foundations of Fatherhood Locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simpson Cascade United Methodist Church: 1001 West 21st St. (Erie) • Community Nursing Services of North East: 7 Park Ave. (North East) • Erie Family Center (EFC): 913 Payne Ave. (corner of E. 10th & Payne Ave.) • Rice Avenue Community Library: 705 Rice Ave. (Girard) • Gaudenzia/Crossroads: 414 W. 5th St. (Erie) • Union City Family Support Center: 38 North Main St. (Union City) 						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Crossroads) 6:00 PM (Union City) Choose Your Path: 4:30 - 6:30 PM (EFC)	Fatherhood: 10:00 AM (Sassafras) 1:00 PM (North East) 6:30 PM (EFC) Early Dismissal for ESD Students: 1:00 pm	Motherhood: 10:00 AM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Girard) SFP 6-11: 3:30 - 6:00 PM (North East)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Happy Mother's Day!	Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Crossroads) 6:00 PM (Union City) Choose Your Path: 4:30 - 6:30 PM (EFC) Building Bridges: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (EFC)	Fatherhood: 10:00 AM (Sassafras) 1:00 PM (North East) 6:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 10:00 AM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Girard) SFP 6-11: 3:30 - 6:00 PM (North East)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Crossroads) 6:00 PM (Union City) Choose Your Path: 4:30 - 6:30 PM (EFC)	Fatherhood: 10:00 AM (Sassafras) 1:00 PM (North East) 6:30 PM (EFC) Non-Attendance Day for ESD Teachers & Students	Motherhood: 10:00 AM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Girard) SFP 6-11: 3:30 - 6:00 PM (North East)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) PAC Meeting: 12:00 - 1:00 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)	1-2-3 Magic: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Memorial Day: ESD/EFC CLOSED Fatherhood Groups at Union City Family Support Center and Gaudenzia not scheduled due to holiday.	Fatherhood: 10:00 AM (Sassafras) 1:00 PM (North East) 6:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 10:00 AM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Girard) SFP 6-11: 3:30 - 6:00 PM (North East)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)	1-2-3 Magic: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)



JUNE 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Crossroads) 6:00 PM (Union City) Choose Your Path: 4:30 - 6:30 PM (EFC)	Fatherhood: 10:00 AM (Sassafras) 1:00 PM (North East) 6:30 PM (EFC) Caring Closet Volunteer Training: 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (EFC)	Motherhood: 10:00 AM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Girard) STEP: 6:00 - 7:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)		1-2-3 Magic North East: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Earl C. Davis Primary School, North East	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
	Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Crossroads) 6:00 PM (Union City) Choose Your Path: 4:30 - 6:30 PM (EFC) PAC Meeting: 12:00 - 1:00 PM (EFC)	Last Day of School ESD Fatherhood: 10:00 AM (Sassafras) 1:00 PM (North East) 6:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 10 AM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Girard) Building Bridges: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (EFC) STEP: 6:00 - 7:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)		1-2-3 Magic North East: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Earl C. Davis Primary School, North East	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Happy Father's Day!	Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Crossroads) 6:00 PM (Union City)	Fatherhood: 10:00 AM (Sassafras) 1:00 PM (North East) 6:30 PM (EFC) Caring Closet Uniform Swap: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 10:00 AM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Girard) STEP: 6:00 - 7:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
	Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Crossroads) 6:00 PM (Union City)	Fatherhood: 10:00 AM (Sassafras) 1:00 PM (North East) 6:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 10:00 AM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (Girard) STEP: 6:00 - 7:30 PM (EFC)	Motherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC) Fatherhood: 6:30 PM (EFC)			
29	31	Please call 874-6990 for more information.					Foundations of Fatherhood Locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simpson Cascade United Methodist Church: 1001 West 21st St. (Erie) • Community Nursing Services of North East: 7 Park Ave. (North East) • Erie Family Center (EFC): 913 Payne Ave. (corner of E. 10th & Payne Ave.) • Rice Avenue Community Library: 705 Rice Ave. (Girard) • Gaudenzia/Crossroads: 414 W. 5th St. (Erie) • Union City Family Support Center: 38 North Main St. (Union City)