

MARCH — MARCH — MARCH... through the snow we go!

NJAEYC Southern Chapter is busy again, planning Spring activities and hoping to get you all involved with your children and parents. We have opportunities for you for the Month of the Young Child, as well as advocacy opportunities. We are even recruiting officers for our board... so read on in this short newsletter to see what we can all do together to work for children and families and our early childhood profession. Keep in mind... Spring will be here in just three weeks!

Please share this with your families... **Celebrate the Month of the Young Child**

IN CONCERT... YOSI (Of Yosi and the Super-Dads) just for us!

When: Friday Evening... April 16, 2010

Two shows! 6:15 - 7 PM or 7:15 - 8 PM

(Feel free to wear PJ's to the "late show")

Where: Burlington County Human Services Building
795 Woodlane Rd. Westhampton, NJ

(Only 20 min. via 295 from Rt. 70 for you Camden County folks)

Cost: Family 4-pack for only \$10.00 or \$3.00 per single ticket

Due to the low cost, everyone must have a ticket to enter the event.

How to order: Share with your families the form below. Have checks made payable to NJAEYC Southern Chapter and return ASAP to the address above Attn: Joanne Kirk.

NAME OF PURCHASER _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Program your child attends _____

Number of tickets _____ Check enclosed for \$ _____

Early Show (6:15 – 7PM) _____ Late Show (7:15 – 8PM) _____

Month of the Young Child

April is the Month of the Young Child across the nation, sponsored by NAEYC. Use this month to call attention to the fine work being done by our profession on behalf of young children and families. Spotlight your programs by doing the following:

- Invite "distinguished" guest readers from the community to visit your programs such as the mayor, the police or firefighters, the local principal, or the children's grandparents.
- Ask your local government to issue a proclamation in honor of the month of the Young Child. Ask the mayor to come to the center to a parents' meeting to issue the proclamation or ask families to join you at a town council meeting for the proclamation.
- Sponsor an art exhibit or a music event. Let parents in on the action by having tables open to participate in pre-school art fun or have a "sing-a-long" or make your own instruments to play.
- Attend the Yosi concert as a "program group." Wear your school shirt if you have one, or make t-shirts. (Blank shirts are inexpensive at the craft store and can be a family project with fabric markers.
- Attend the Resource Fair at Burlington Co. Human Services Building on the day of the Yosi concert... 4/16/10 from 4 - 6 PM.
- Have your program participate in an art show at the venue above. Your group can have an exhibit space 5 feet wide by 8 feet high. Bring "fun-tac" or tape to hang your creative artwork (not too heavy) to display your art during the first week of April. Be sure to reclaim (*i.e.*, take down) your artwork during the first week of May, or it will be lost to you! Questions, call Joanne Kirk at 609-261-6834 x5150, or e-mail at jokirk@bccap.org. Label with first name only and center names. Art open for viewing from 4-8 pm on 4/16.
- Register by 3/11 to attend the Camden County Childcare Conference focusing on Families on March 20, 2010 from 8:30 - 3 PM at Camden Co. College. Flyers detailing the conference were mailed to our membership. Earn training hours and learn new skills to work effectively with families ... for only \$35 including a fabulous lunch.

GET READY FOR THE VIRTUAL MARCH ON CONGRESS... MARCH 4TH FOR CHILDCARE AND HEAD START...

AS WE HAVE IN YEARS PAST, WE AND OTHER NATIONAL COALITION PARTNERS ARE URGING EVERYONE TO CALL CONGRESS ON MARCH 4TH, 2010 AS WE "MARCH FORTH" FOR CHILD CARE AND HEADSTART / EARLY HEADSTART FUNDING. THIS YEAR'S ACTION THEME IS "**FAMILIES EARNING / CHILDREN LEARNING**" WHICH REMINDS CONGRESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE PROGRAMS FOR OUR ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND THE NEED TO PROVIDE NO LESS THAN THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET REQUEST FOR THOSE PROGRAMS.

GET READY NOW FOR THIS IMPORTANT CALL-IN DAY. CONGRESS IS AT THE BEGINNING OF ITS BUDGET PROCESS. PRESIDENT OBAMA HAS PROPOSED INCREASES IN THESE KEY PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES. WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT CONGRESS REALIZES THAT THEIR CONSTITUENTS STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT THESE INCREASED INVESTMENTS ARE NECESSARY. THANKS TO ONE OF THE NATIONAL PARTNERS IN THIS EFFORT AFSCME, ALL PARTICIPANTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE FOLLOWING TOLL-FREE NUMBER TO CONTACT CONGRESS ON MARCH 4TH. 1-888-460-0813

ENCOURAGE YOUR STAFF AND PARENTS TO *MARCH FORTH* ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES!

TO GET INVOLVED IN THIS COMMITTEE PLEASE CONTACT KATHRYN NICHOLLS: CHAPTER ADVOCACY CHAIR AT CENTREOAK@VERIZON.NET

Call for Nominations for NJAEYC Southern!

- Co-President (to work alongside Joanne Kirk)
- Vice President for Professional Development
- Treasurer

If you are interested in serving, please contact Theresa Caputo (Nominations chair) caputot@pinj.org.

Please check our website for updates of chapter business. We are in the process of firming up our closing event in May... Find out first at our website www.njaeycsouthern.org. We are awaiting program confirmation for May.

Month of the Young Child offers:

DVAEYC.org — For information on the DVAEYC Annual conference April 8-10, 2010. If we get a group of 100, we can get a \$60 discount per person! For info on this fabulous conference visit the website.

Early childhood professionals may receive 1 free admission to the Please Touch Museum (4231 Ave. of Republic, Philadelphia, PA) during the week of 4/11-4/17 with school ID or NJAEYC membership card. Questions? Call Lauren Rose at 215-581-3181

The Children's Discovery Museum on Springdale Road, Cherry Hill is offering a buy-1-get-1-free admission for more than two people. (No other discounts apply / not redeemable for cash.) Questions? Call 424-1233 x311

Don't forget to order tickets for the YOSI concert... Promote this to your children. It is a chance to see a live performance for an unbeatable price!