

Welcome the Children: *Cultural Connections*

June and July 2007 - *Summer Edition*

Volume 11

Hello Everyone! We hope you are having a wonderful summer!! We have been involved in some exciting projects this summer and are excited by the plans we have made for the upcoming school year. See below for more details:

Open Session: Register Now!!: September 12-13: WTC Module 1: Cultural Diversity and WTC Module 2: Second Language Development and Working with Families. Come join us for two full days of excitement and learning on these important topics! The sessions will be located at 2001 Pershing circle, Suite 300 North Little Rock, AR 72114. Please complete the attached registration form and return it to Darlene Kurtz at kurtzdarlenej@uams.edu To reach her by phone: 501-682-9900 or 800-342-2923 (V/TDD).

Other Upcoming Workshop Sessions and other WTC events:

The following sessions have been developed upon request by specific programs. These sessions are full at this time.

- **July 23-25:** WTC Exhibit at School of 21st Century National Conference in Little Rock – Come by and visit us!
- **August 8: Russellville** for Friendship Community Care Personnel for an overview of WTC workshops.
- **August 14:** Little Rock School District Pre-K staff ‘Teaching Strategies’ from Module 2
- **August 15 & 16:** Module 1 in Alma at Western Arkansas Child Development, Inc
- **August 15-16:** Modules 1 & 2 in Pine Bluff at Jenkins Memorial Center with WTC Community Trainer, Teki Hunt Jimenez
- **August 17:** Colors of the Earth Session at UAMS Head Start
- **August 23-24:** NW Education Services Cooperative in Farmington for both “ I said, you said, then the Interpreter says...” and Module 1 workshops
- **September 27-29** Family Child Care Conference Batesville

Interested in hosting WTC training in your area? There is still time to schedule a training session for this fall, but hurry!! WTC provides free training to early childhood professionals across Arkansas. If you have a group of 20 to 35 people who work with children and families in the early childhood arena and would like us to come to your area to provide training on any of the following topics:

- **CORE Module 1: Cultural Diversity** with an emphasis on Latin American Culture (7hrs full day or 3hrs condensed)
- **Colors of the Earth:** Integrating anti- bias lessons into everyday curriculum (3hrs)
- **Making the Cultural Connection: Using Real Objects in the Classroom** (3hrs)
- **CORE Module 2: Second Language Development and Working with Families** (7hrs full day or 3hrs condensed)

- **I said, You, said, and then the Interpreter says...** (90 mins)
- **Developing Professionalism for Bilingual Interpreters** (3hrs)

Please contact Sabrina Zarco zarcosabrinae@uams.edu or Darlene Kurtz kurtzdarlenej@uams.edu for more information. By phone: 501-682-9900 or 800-342-2923 (V/TDD).

Save these dates: April 30 – May 2, 2008 we will hold the 3rd Annual Welcome the Children Celebrating Cultural Harmony Conference at the Wyndham Riverfront Hotel in North Little Rock, AR

Articles of Interest: *(Please note that any opinions included in articles are not necessarily those of WTC staff.)*

Spanish is a Growing Language for Immigrants: This article addresses a concept that is covered in both Module 1 and Module 2 of Welcome the Children training. It discusses various perspectives on how growing communities in the United States are mixing English and Spanish words within conversations as well as creating new words that are created from a root English word with the characteristics Spanish grammar and pronunciation. Find it here: <http://deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,1249,680193702,00.htm>

Pre-K funding Spotty in AR: This article covers some of the creative approaches public schools in AR are trying as they face limited funding sources for Pre-K facilities. <http://www.nwarktimes.com/adq/News/194374/>

Check out these websites: These are some popular sites that have been featured in the past. They update their content periodically, so check them out:

University of Kansas Diversity Calendar: This web-based calendar has a variety of dates – holidays, celebrations, etc. with explanations about the days included. It's a great resource as you plan for the upcoming months! <http://www3.kumc.edu/diversity/>

The National Center for Cultural Competence: This website is overflowing with exciting resources in the area of cultural competence that would be especially useful for educational administrators. <http://www11.georgetown.edu/research/gucchd/nccc/>

To subscribe or un-subscribe: If you wish to be added or removed from Welcome the Children e-mail distribution list, please e-mail Tanya Miller at millertanyas@uams.edu and put "add me to the WTC e-mail list" or "remove me from the WTC e-mail list" in the subject line.

Comments/ Questions: Contact Tanya Miller at millertanyas@uams.edu , 501-682-9900 or 800-342-2923 (V/TDD). Or visit us at our website: www.uams.edu/welcomethechildren

Past issues of WTC Cultural Connections are available at the "What's New!" link on our website or follow this link: http://www.uams.edu/welcomethechildren/whats_new/

Welcome the Children: Cultural Connections is a monthly distribution of information about events, articles, and other resources that relate to the Welcome the Children Project. Funding for Welcome the Children is provided by the Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education. Project administered by Partners for Inclusive Communities (Partners), a program of The Department of Pediatrics, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. Partners is Arkansas' University Center on Disabilities.