



*April 2009  
Child Abuse Prevention Month*

### *Child Abuse Prevention Month Activities*

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, Kansas Children's Service League kicked off this year's Child Abuse Prevention Month activities with the CAPitol Kickoff in Topeka, KS. This year's Kickoff included advocacy training, meetings with legislators, and presentations by Kansas Attorney General Steve Six, Secretary of SRS Don Jordan, and Children's Cabinet Executive Director James Redmon. Over 100 people participated in this year's Kickoff.

Be on the lookout throughout April for state and local activities, including: public service announcements, proclamation signings, letters to the editor, and blue ribbons. For information and resources about how you can participate in CAP Month activities, visit [www.kcsl.org](http://www.kcsl.org).

### *Kansas Fatherhood Coalition*

Over the past 30 years, fathers have increasingly been regarded as important to their children's development (Lamb, 2000; K.D. Pruitt, 2000). Men's disengagement or sporadic involvement in the lives of their children has raised concerns for children's well-being. Research has shown consistent correlations between fathers' hands-on, positive relationships with their children and the children's enhanced cognitive, emotional, and social adaptation.

The Kansas Fatherhood Coalition is a statewide network of agencies, organizations, and individuals working together to promote healthy father involvement in the lives of children. The Coalition hosts the annual Kansas Fatherhood Summit to focus on fathers and provide resources and tools to parents and providers to strengthen father involvement. Over 120 parents and providers from across the State participated in this year's Summit, held April 2-3 in Wichita, KS.

The Coalition welcomes a diverse membership and has included volunteer representatives from various Kansas organizations. Membership on the coalition is open

to interested parties and members participate both by conference call and in-person. For information about becoming a member of the Kansas Fatherhood Coalition, visit <http://www.ksfatherhood.org>

Kansas is fortunate to house the National Center for Fathering – a nonprofit, scientific and education organization founded by Dr. Ken Canfield. The Center has a variety of resources for parents and providers to support development of healthy father involvement. For more information and to access Center resources, visit their website at [www.fathers.com](http://www.fathers.com).

## *Resources*

### *Kansas Parent Information Resource Center (KPIRC)*

The Kansas Parent Information Resource Center, often referred to as KPIRC, is the federally funded technical assistance center on parent involvement for the state of Kansas. KPIRC provides technical assistance, training, information and resources to schools, early childhood programs, families and others across the state on parent involvement under No Child Left Behind. New resources from KPIRC are continually updated via our [website](#). Recently added resources include: A Parent Involvement Guide for Kansas Teachers and A Family Guide to Multi-Tier System of Support (MTSS). Additionally, 2 new DVDs are available from KPIRC, "Talk With Me, Read With Me, Sing With Me," and "Parent Power!" These DVDs are available free of charge on YouTube and can be found at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/kpirc>

### *Strengthening Families and Communities: 2009 Resource Guide*

The [2009 Resource Guide](#) is now available! The Children's Bureau publishes a prevention resource guide each year to support service providers in their work with families and communities. This year's guide uses a strengthening families approach to child abuse and neglect prevention. You'll find information on infusing the protective factors into your work, tools and strategies for engaging community partners, and tip sheets for parents and caregivers.

### *Child Welfare Information Gateway*

The Child Welfare Information Gateway provides information and resources on protecting children and strengthening families. The website provides a wide range of topics from prevention to permanency, including child welfare, child abuse and neglect, foster care, and adoption which can be found at: <http://www.childwelfare.gov>

## *In the Literature*

*The Changing Face of the United States: The Influence of Culture on Early Child Development.*

The cultural beliefs, values, and behaviors within a family all have an impact on early child development. This new report is an important review of the issue and a summary of the latest research dealing with the impact of culture on early childhood services. This research summary was made possible through generous funding by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the Bernard van Leer Foundation. You can access the full report online at: [http://www.zerotothree.org/site/R?i=SzQ3RLvGJW\\_YsBf9Fz7iJg](http://www.zerotothree.org/site/R?i=SzQ3RLvGJW_YsBf9Fz7iJg)

*Obama Pledge Stirs Hope in Early Education*, Sam Dillon, *The New York Times*  
Despite the recession, President Obama has emphasized his interest in making strategic investments in early childhood education. To read more go to:  
[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/12/17/us/politics/17early.html?\\_r=1&hp](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/12/17/us/politics/17early.html?_r=1&hp)

*Fewer Children Victims of Abuse and Neglect in 2007: Annual child maltreatment report released*, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

The Children's Bureau, Administration for Child and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has released the Child Maltreatment 2007 report. The report is released every April to coincide with beginning of the National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month. Some of the key findings included are the number of children who were victims of child abuse and neglect. This is the lowest it has been for the previous five years. Nationally, 59% of child victims experienced neglect, 10.8% were physically abused, 7.6% were sexually abused, and 4.2% were emotionally or psychologically maltreated. The full report is available online at:

[http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/stats\\_research/index.htm#can](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/stats_research/index.htm#can)

### *Upcoming Events*

*Kansas Inservice Training System Summer Institute*

The KITS (Kansas Inservice Training System) Summer Institute, "Evidence Based Practices for Effective Collaboration with Families," will take place June 16-19, 2009, in Lawrence, KS. For more information, visit: <http://kskits.org/training/KITSSummerInst.shtml>

*The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Governor's Conference for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Save the Date!* The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Governor's Conference for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect is November 4-6, 2009, at the Capitol Plaza in Topeka, KS.

*Questions or comments about the KSF Plan newsletter? Contact us at [ksfplan@ku.edu](mailto:ksfplan@ku.edu).*