



OKLAHOMA
FAMILY
RESOURCE
COALITION

Family Matters!

The Oklahoma Family Resource Coalition Newsletter

Volume 30

Fall, 2007

From the President's Perspective



Sharon Bentley, OFRC President, with her great niece Claire and nephew Patrick. They are 6th generation Oklahomans.

To the OFRC Membership:

"Family is woven deeply into the tapestry of Oklahoma. Families are the compasses that guide us. They are the inspiration to reach great heights, and our comfort when we occasionally falter." ---Brad Henry

As we prepare for our state's centennial, many Oklahomans can proudly reflect on their own family's history as it relates to the history of our state. Many of us can easily trace our family's Oklahoma heritage back to 1907. My family came to Oklahoma before statehood and I even have a cousin that is celebrating her 100th birthday along with the state this year. Building on the pioneer spirit, OFRC hopes to create an even better environment for Oklahoma families to build on in our future. In November, OFRC will host a seminar "Celebrating 100 Years of Oklahoma Families," with an eye toward ways family resource and support organizations can strengthen families. Although the problems and issues facing families today are much different than those of 100 years ago, strong families still provide a compass point imperative to a child's success. Many of you are working to strengthen, support and assist families through the professional and volunteer program you represent. One goal of OFRC is to provide an organization where you can work with others in our field to learn about existing programs and services, identify gaps in services and make strides toward meeting even more needs of families and children today.

The diversity of OFRC members are quite broad and have helped me better understand the wide range of issues confronting families today. The expertise of board members has also allowed me to learn a great deal more about services and solutions that are currently available. If you have suggestions or questions about ways Oklahoma can better meet some of the challenges we face in the 21st century please consider joining us for an OFRC Board Meeting.

OFRC continues many traditions and we are excited to launch a new tradition this year. In addition to our Spring Conference, we have added a Fall Seminar, sure to offer great ideas and inspiration. We continue to honor outstanding individuals like Kay Murphy, our 2007 Family Matters Award winner. I'm excited about the opportunities available, and anxious to learn more about what part you will contribute to the tapestry of Oklahoma families.

Sharon Bentley
OFRC President

SAVE THE DATE!!

OFRC Family Matters Conference

April 25, 2008

Location:
OSU Tulsa

*For more information, call
Kim Larmon (918) 825-4224*



NEWSLETTER NICHE!

Really! This newsletter is *just for us!* It is printed two times per year to better inform those of us interested in strengthening families. Our newsletter is always evolving and we welcome your input. If we have not responded individually to you when you said you would help on the Newsletter Committee, please call us! *We welcome book reviews, conference information, kids' quotes, parents' quotes, pictures, etc.*

Contact Becky Bland, Newsletter Chair, at (918) 224-5531 or Kim Woodruff at 918-689-7774 for suggestions and ways to make our newsletter more informative for all!