



Family Matters!

The Oklahoma Family Resource Coalition Newsletter

Volume 33

3rd online newsletter!

Spring, 2009

From the President's Perspective



Elliot and GranSharon

The OFRC Family Matters Conference promises to be an outstanding event. You will have the unique opportunity to hear **Gordon Neufeld, PhD**, an international speaker who has worked with families for the past 35 years. Dr. Neufeld has done groundbreaking work in developmental psychology, studying parent and child attachment. The OFRC Board feels very fortunate to be able to bring Dr. Neufeld to our annual conference.

The OFRC Board is also pleased to announce that **Dr. Robert Brooks**, Keynote speaker for the 2007 Family Matters Conference, will be returning to Tulsa to speak **March 26, 2010**. Mark your calendar and watch for details as Dr. Brooks was one of the most popular OFRC Family Matters speakers and we are pleased to respond, "Yes, he is coming back".

Check the OFRC website <http://www.ofrc.org/> for details of both of these upcoming events.

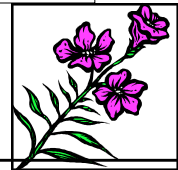
If you have not been to the OFRC's updated website take a minute to see all the information in a brand new format. You can also watch a short video of a presentation by Dr. Neufeld in a parent seminar. Stay in touch with OFRC by

visiting the website often.

The OFRC Board is actively working to provide as much information as possible concerning families, legislation affecting families, and information about training opportunities so let us know what else would be helpful.

We look forward to seeing each of you at the Family Matters Conference.

Sharon Bentley
OFRC President



OFRC SPRING CONFERENCE!

"The Attachment Puzzle: Putting the Pieces Together"

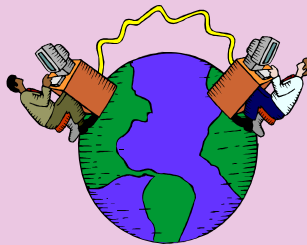


Keynote Speaker: Gordon Neufeld, PhD

**Friday, April 17, 2009
Springlake Metrotech,
Oklahoma City**



Add the OFRC Website www.ofrc.org to your "Favorites" to stay current with OFRC News, calendar of Board Meetings and links to other resources, etc.



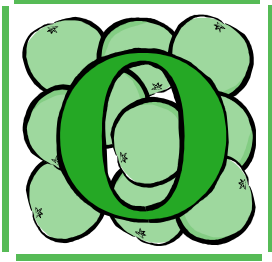
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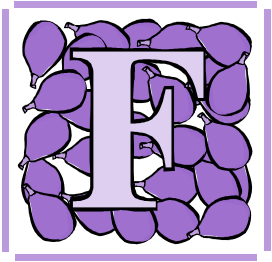
Spotlight...



Gordon Neufeld, Ph.D. is a highly respected Vancouver-based clinical psychologist with over 35 years of experience with children and those responsible for them. A foremost authority on child development, he is an international speaker, a best selling author ***Hold On To Your Kids***, and a leading interpreter of the developmental paradigm.



While best known for his breakthrough insights on attachment and aggression, Dr. Neufeld has created a coherent and powerful working model of development that is highly effective for parents and professionals alike. He is not only a seminal theorist but also a seasoned therapist and an inspiring teacher. While formerly involved in university teaching and private practice, he now devotes his time to teaching and training others, including educators and helping professionals. Dr. Neufeld has earned a widespread reputation for making sense of complex problems and for opening doors for change. His personal experience includes being a father of five and a grandfather to three.



Dr. Neufeld's unique synthesis of the developmental literature and his exceptional ability to make children understandable has made him much in demand as a speaker. ***His style is dynamic, his approach is refreshing, and his effect is to affirm intuition.*** His insights are regularly sought by experts and media alike, and he appears regularly on radio and television. Dr. Neufeld consistently receives outstanding ratings for his courses and seminars.



His website is <http://gordonneufeld.com/> He will be speaking in Sweden, Germany, and Mexico in 2009. For a sneak peak, check out his You tube presentation at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcaMsZrElE>

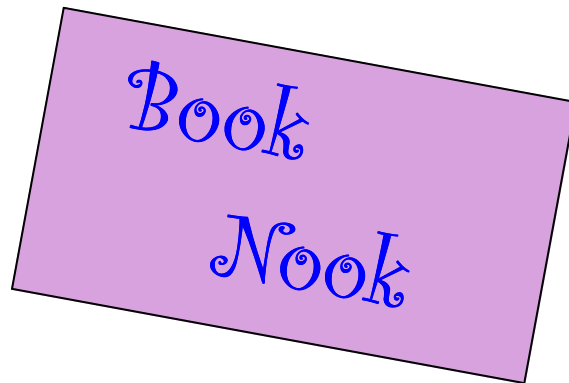
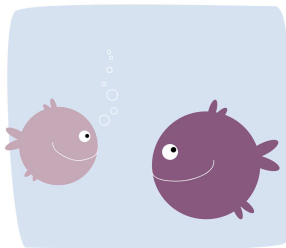


Family Week November 22-28, 2009

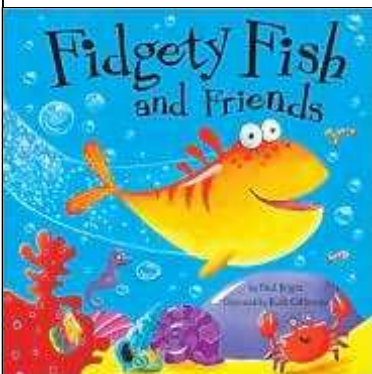
OFRC is once again planning for "Family Week" held Thanksgiving week. The Family Week committee has begun to network with other organizations and agencies wanting to promote information, activities, and community resources to support and strengthen families.

We will be using the National Family Week theme "Connections Count" with emphasis on connecting with community as well as family members. If you would like to participate with us please, contact Sherie Trice, 405-271-7611 or by e-mail sheriet@health.ok.gov.

For more information about National Family Week across the U.S. please visit www.nationalfamilyweek.org.



The book Fidgety Fish and Friends written by Paul Bright is one of the cutest books I have read. The book is a collection of rhymes based on a popular series of underwater adventures by Ruth Galloway. The words



Paul Bright uses are fun and unique, and also have great pictures. The children were so engaged in the book and absolutely loved it. I recommend the book to any teacher or parents to share with their children.

CERTIFICATION NEWS!



We have been very busy certifying and recertifying people on all three levels of OFRC Certification - **Assistant, Practitioner and Specialist**. To save space in this newsletter I am going to write about the 21 newly certified people in groups.

The newly certified individuals, who are Child Development Specialists with the OSDH Child Guidance division, are **Lisa Tuder, Katie Wiens, and Danielle Valle**. Katie received her Specialist certification in April, 2008, Lisa was fully certified as a Specialist in July, 2008 and Danielle completed her Specialist requirements and certification in November, 2008. Congratulations to all these individuals! Jane Humphries recertified as a Specialist in 2008 and is the new Director of Child Development Services, Child Guidance, in OSDH.

Sooner Start has been encouraging their Child Development Specialists to become certified and five people completed the certification process. Kim Wofford, with Tulsa County Sooner Start finished her certification in May, 2008 and Suzanne Drover, also with Tulsa County certified in August, 2008. Rita Stanley with Muskogee County Sooner Start completed her Specialist certification in August, 2008, Sarah Henry, from Norman finished in September, 2008 and Angelia Burke, Oklahoma County Sooner Start certified in October, 2008. Becoming certified as a CCPS Specialist and working for Sooner Start also allows the agency to recoup some of their expenses by billing for services. Congratulations to our new CCPS Specialists with Sooner Start!

A large group of individuals from Cherokee Nation Head Start have taken the time and made the effort to become certified. Cherokee Nation, an organizational member of OFRC, is to be commended for encouraging their people to become certified and supporting them through mentoring them, as well as financially. The following individuals are now certified Child and Parenting Assistants: Linda Huntington, Helen Ingle, Barbara Littledave, B. Elaine Ramsey, Mary Reynolds, Judy Lee Robinson, Sandra Turner, Kathy Webb and Teresa Whitlock. Congratulations to all of you!

The Practitioner level is for the person who has a B.S. degree as well as meeting the specific coursework requirements. Karen Ryder completed her CCPP certification in March, 2008. Cynthia Dotson became a certified Practitioner in November and Patty Kosterlistzkey was certified in December, 2008. Again, our Congratulations!

Currently there are three people who are conditionally approved for Specialist certification but need to complete specific coursework requirements in order to be fully certified.

The complete list of certified individuals is in another part of this newsletter. The Certification Review Committee had a busy year in 2008 and we are delighted that so many individuals have chosen to become certified by OFRC. Thank you for all of the time and effort you have put into your certification. Thank you also to the people who have reviewed applications and proctored exams for OFRC. We appreciate your help.

Kay Murphy, Certification Chair

The Oklahoma Family Resource Coalition recognizes the following Certified Professionals for the 2008/2009 membership year:

Certified Child and Parenting Specialists

Adams, Mark
 Austin-Thomason, Kim
 Bentley, Sharon
 Bertram, A. Glee (Absher)
 Bland, Becky
 Boersma, Mary Ann
 Boysen, Mary
 Burke, Angelia
 Burris, Gayla
 Burrows, Stacy
 Chaboya, Nancy
 Chronister, Anna
 Clark, Fran
 Cole, Kathy
 Cowan, Janice
 Cowell, Laurie
 Criswell, Nema
 Dailey, Bobbie
 Daniels, Danette
 Deveron, Diana
 Davidson, Sherre
 Deist, Cathie
 DeMartra, Vernetta
 Drover, Suzanne
 Fanning, Kris
 Freeland, Shari
 Garrett, Cynthia
 Godfrey, Stuart
 Hamilton, Traci
 Henry, Sarah
 Hickinbotham, Trena
 Hubbard, Janice
 Land, Lisa
 Larmon, Kim
 Ledford, Denise
 Marcotte, Debra
 Mason, Earlene
 McClour, Christine
 Moler, Kim
 Morrow, Liz

Moseby, Kristen
 Nida-Casto, Krysten
 Overman, Jayne
 Owens, Pamela
 Papin, Carol Lee
 Parrish, Christi
 Phillips, R. Katy
 Potts, Diane
 Ramming, Pamela
 Rains, Kari
 Ratzlaff, Amy
 Richardson, Gina
 Robins, Melissa
 Rogers, Glenda
 Sasnett, Kimberly
 Scott, Carol
 Sears, Kaye
 Sears, Robyn
 Singleton, Dawn
 Smith, Karen
 Sollenberger, Sharon
 Stanley, Rita
 Strom, Tanna
 Terrill, Denise
 Trice, Sherie
 Tuder, Lisa
 Valle, Danielle
 Volz, Barbara
 Weston, Diane
 Whiteside, Sandra
 Wiens, Katie
 Wise, Pam
 Wofford, Kimberly
 Woodruff, Kim
 Wright, Barbara
 Youngker, Leslie



Certified Child and Parenting Practitioners

Bohannan, Ginger
 Byrd, Ranae
 Dobyms, Debi
 Dotson, Cynthia
 Drew, Ramona
 Emmons, LaDell
 Jenkins, Judy
 Kerr, Karen
 Kosterlistzkey, Patricia
 Leach, Patricia
 Reed, Patricia
 Ryder, Karen
 Schrader, Terri
 Sturdivant, William
 Thompson, Rhonda

Certified Child and Parenting Assistants

Adams, Linda
 Ballard, Marilyn
 Dean, Loretta
 Green, Pam
 Ingle, Helen
 Hankins, Barbara
 Higgins, Kathy
 Huntington, Linda
 Kerr, Charlotte
 Littledave, Barbara
 Ramsey, Elaine
 Reynolds, Mary
 Robinson, Judy
 Turner, Sandra
 Warren, LaDonna
 Webb, Kathy
 Whitlock, Teresa



SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPECIAL FAMILIES

Families of Children with Special Health Care Needs and/or Disabilities interested in and wishing to participate in leadership and advocacy activities are invited to attend a second:

"Joining Forces Conference"

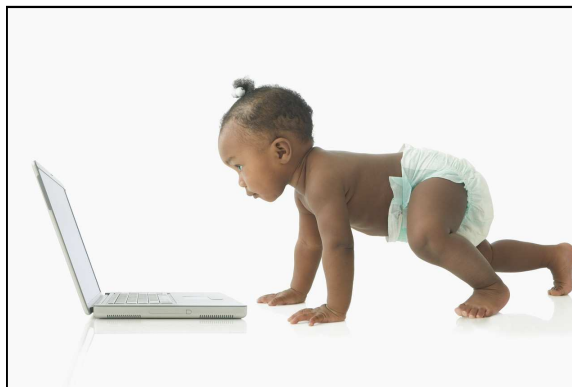
April 25, 2009, 7:45 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Metro Technology Center Springlake Campus
1900 Springlake Drive, OKC 73111

The mission of this conference is to provide leadership skills and opportunities to promote family and professional partnerships throughout Oklahoma. This conference is **free!**

For more info go to the Oklahoma Family Network Website (oklahomafamilynetwork.org) or contact Joni Bruce, Executive Director at jbruceofn@sbcglobal.net or 405-203-8745.

"Reaching Across the Plain"

March 7, 2009
Moore Norman Technology Center
Statewide Down Syndrome Conference. For more information go to: conferenceinfor@saco.org



"On The Road-Family Perspective Conferences"

March 10, 2009 - Enid
March 31, 2009 - Shawnee
For more information contact: Sally Selvidge, Family Outreach Coordinator,
OASIS at (800) 426-2747

*Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take,
but by the moments that take our breath away.*



FAQ'S ABOUT CERTIFICATION

What is the hardest part of applying for certification?

Sitting down in the chair or by the computer and filling out the paperwork. Second would be getting your transcripts and work verification. The hardest part is not procrastinating!

Can I find out ahead of time if I have the right coursework to become certified?

We are always willing to do a pre-review of your coursework and background for certification. The Certification Chair needs an unofficial copy of your transcript and a list of any trainings you may have had that you want to include in your application. Send to Kay Murphy or Amy Ratzlaff.

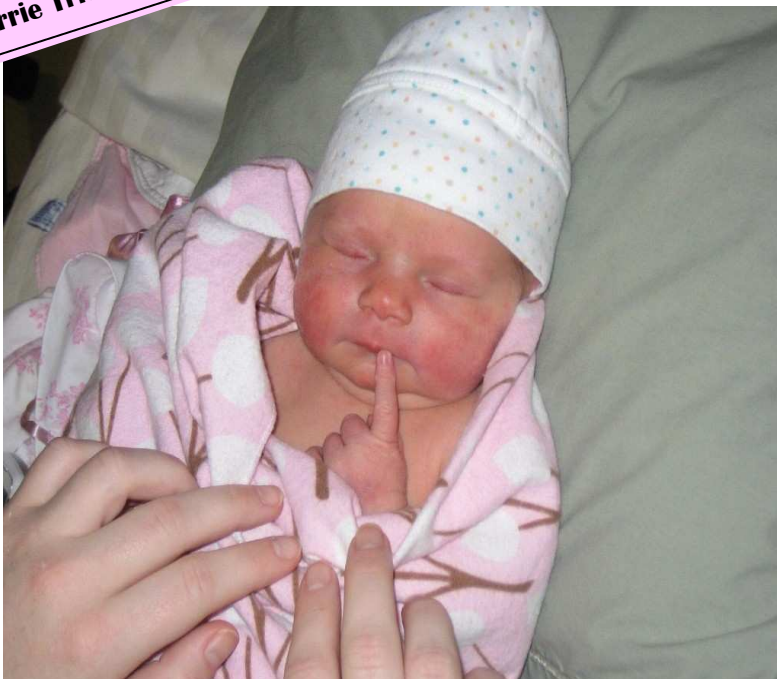
How do I find out what is required for a certification application?

The OFRC website, www.ofrc.org, has 3 parts of the application (A, B & D) and can be downloaded from there. The application process is also described.

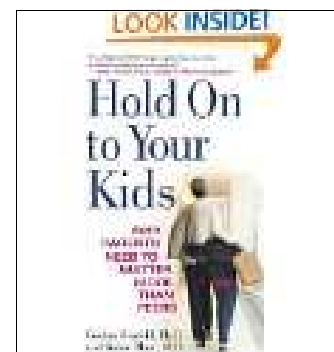
Where do I get the Certification application?

There may be many certification application packets floating around. Be sure you use the packet revision from 2005 to complete your application. The entire packet can be purchased from Amy Ratzlaff, Administrative Director. Send \$10 to Amy at 427 S. Buchanan St., Enid, OK 73703 and she will send you the packet.

**Adelyn Grace Myers-McGee
22 inches, 8 lbs 13 oz
Sherrie Trice's beautiful granddaughter**



Can't Take Credit Cards!!



Dr. Neufeld's book, "Hold On To Your Kids" will be available at the Family Matters Conference for \$20.00, but we don't have any way to take credit cards, so please bring cash or a check! Books in limited supply!!



Child Abuse Prevention Month Seeks Community Involvement

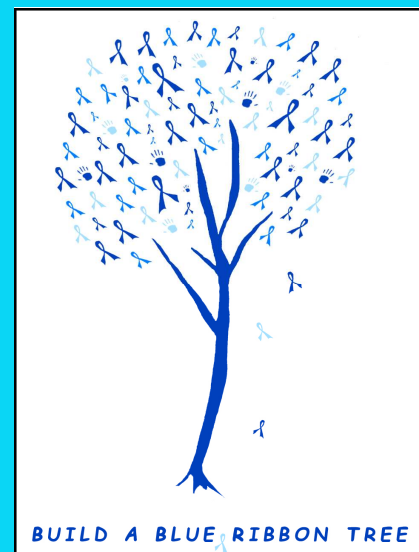
It Only Takes a Minute to Make a Difference in the Life of a Child

Small, positive actions can make a difference in the life of a child. The focus this year for April, Child Abuse Prevention Month, is to highlight those actions that each of us can take to help raise safe, healthy, resilient children. The theme **“It Only Takes a Minute to Make a Difference in the Life of a Child,”** brings hope that all children can get a good start in life if the adults around them take small actions that add up to a pattern of supportive community and family environments in which children can grow and develop into productive citizens.

There are lots of small, positive things we can all do to help protect and nurture our children that only take a minute. A few words of praise and encouragement to a child, listening carefully to what a child has to say, showing a child you care, saying ‘I love you’ – all are simple actions that added together have been shown to have a profound impact on a child’s life. In these very real ways, we can all support children and strengthen families.

The OSDH Family Support and Prevention Service encourages you to get involved with some of the local activities being planned in your area related to Child Abuse Prevention Month, including the following:

- Invest in a “Child Abuse Prevention” Specialty License Plate to kick off the month!
- Participate in “Building a Blue Ribbon Tree for Kids” in your neighborhood!





- Participate in “Child Abuse Prevention Day” at the State Capitol on Tuesday, April 14. There will be speakers, displays, booths and the winners of the statewide poster contest will be recognized.
- Call your local library to see what types of materials and videos are available for parents and child care professionals.
- Volunteer to serve on the local Child Abuse Prevention Month Action Committee for this year and next year.
- To get involved in Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer efforts, contact Jennifer Hunter at 1-800-742-2272.

For general information about child abuse prevention activities or any of the information listed above or materials and ways to get involved, call the county health department in your area or contact Sherie Trice, OSDH FSP Service at (405) 271-7611.



Great Child Abuse Prevention Conference !!!

“Never Give Up”

Derek Clark

April 24, 2009

8:00—4:00

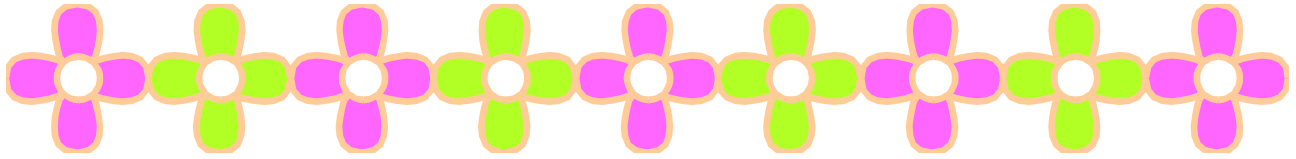
McAlester Expo

Registration deadline—April 10, 2009

Cost: On or before 4/10/09—\$30.00

After 4/10/09—\$45.00

Call: (580) 745-2858



“Thank you OFRC for your generous donation of the computer to our Early Childhood Program! It has enhanced our literacy program tremendously and many children have benefitted from it already. Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated.”

Sincerely, Sand Springs Early Childhood Center

**Want to be an OFRC Member?
Call Amy! (580) 747-4448**

OFRC Mission Statement

We believe that families are the primary influence in the lives of children. The mission of the Oklahoma Family Resource Coalition is to support resources within our communities that build on family strengths to ensure the best possible outcomes for Oklahoma families.

O.F.R.C. Board Members 2009

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Jenger Baker | Kim Larmon |
| Sharon Bentley | Teresa Ledbetter |
| Becky Bland | Jan Moss |
| Marilyn Cundiff | Kay Murphy |
| Tish Dehart | Amy Ratzlaff |
| Ramona Drew | Bill Sturdivant |
| Jane Humphries | Sherie Trice |
| Debby Ihrig | Diane Woodard |
| Tonya James | Kim Woodruff |
| Donna Jones | Barbara Wright |

Executive Committee

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Past President: | Louis Worley |
| President: | Sharon Bentley |
| President-Elect: | Debbie Ihrig |
| Secretary: | Kim Larmon |
| Treasurer: | Tish Dehart |



Debby Ihrig's granddaughter Mabel

This newsletter is just for us!

It is created two times per year to better inform those of us interested in strengthening families.

Our newsletter is always evolving and we welcome your input. Please contact us! We welcome book reviews, conference information, kids' quotes, parents' quotes and pictures!

SO SEND YOUR PHOTOS!!

Becky Bland: rebecab@health.ok.gov
Kim Woodruff: kimlw@health.ok.gov

Spring, 2009 OFRC Membership Application

Name: _____ Title: _____

Agency Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Street address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (Work) _____ (Home) _____ (Fax) _____

Committees on which you would be willing to serve:

Certification _____ Newsletter _____ Family Week Celebration _____

Membership _____ Nominating _____ Special Events/Conferences _____

Special Needs _____

OFRC Certification Packet (\$10) _____

OFRC Annual Individual Membership (\$35) _____

OFRC Annual Organizational Membership (\$100) _____

Please enclose check payable to: OFRC

427 S. Buchanan St.
Enid, OK 74703