

PROGRAM UPDATE
November 10, 2004-March 1, 2005

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PARENT EDUCATION:

Enrollment for *What's a Parent to Do?: Helping families deal with bullying and with kids who are out of control* satellite downlink from Iowa on Nov 30 and Dec.7 was only 8 (vs. 31 for *Multicultural Perspectives on Parenting* in 2003), but participants found the broadcast and the small group discussions very worthwhile. Low enrollment may be due to topic (there have been lots of bullying trainings), close to holiday season and broadcast at dinnertime. The 2005 topic is *The Impact of Couple and Marriage Relationships on Parenting* Dec 2 and 9, midday broadcast time. We have no control over topic or the scheduling.

Community Agencies Concerned with Parenting-February meeting focused on the impacts of program reconfigurations when funding changes and new contracts are made. Due to the high incidences of autism, in April we will offer a public forum with local speaker(s) on the topic.

ABCs of Parent Education-Attended this Cornell in-service, a valuable opportunity to learn about programming and resources statewide and to hear faculty opinions on our work.

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION:

Little Ones' Library (LOL)- In Nov. magician Terry Morgan regaled participants with *Reading is Magic* and in Dec. the LOL held its final event, *Bedtime with Books: Happily Ever After Tales*. Jan.1 Friends of Little Ones, Inc., a not-for-profit group, assumed LOL operations. LOL is now Little Ones' Learning Center. Programming has been reduced but remains similar to that under LOL. I am assisting in transition. I applied for a Community Partnership Award for LOL through the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. Chances of winning are slight, but it is a way to honor the team who worked so hard on LOL for 5 years, and if we were to win, \$500 would be used for planning and technical assistance for a Family Reading Partnership for Ulster Co. <www.familyreading.org>

Rondout Valley Early Childhood Workgroup-The second annual *I Just Loved That Book* will be Mar.11 at the Rochester Community Center. Volunteers and free books are coming in well. Planning April promotion of the Month of the Young Child.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -- FAMILY:

Rondout Valley Educational Foundation- Our proposal to develop a foundation was accepted by the Board of Education and work continues on by-laws.

Foster Care "Ambassadors"-Working with the home finding staff of DSS Foster Care Unit to build an awareness of the process of becoming a foster care home by educating active community members. They can educate about foster care in their localities. This may result in additional applications from potential foster care homes. Our first community event is Mar 23 at the Town of Rochester Community Center and the Rochester Youth Dep't. is assisting.

Allee-Eberts Community and Economic Vitality Award-Assisting with preparation of an award nomination for faculty who re-invented support for parent education programming in our changing CCE system. This application recognizes that human development is a critical component of community development.