

PROGRAM UPDATE
September 13, 2004- November 9, 2004

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PARENT EDUCATION:

National Extension Parenting Educators' Framework (NEPEF)- Part 2 Colleagues from Maternal Infant Services Network and Early Childhood Direction Center facilitated this all-day training with assistance from our Program Secretary, Pat Finch. Thirty-one participants continued work we had begun in April on a parenting education model and appropriate use of resources. For everyone, the interactive distance learning with Cornell Prof. Rachel Dunifun was his or her first experience using this technology. Training evaluations show progress toward: building a sense of community among parenting educators, increasing knowledge of the process of parenting education, providing useful content for parenting educators. Participants requested additional training, and found it helpful to work across agencies and to learn about resources.

"What's a Parent to Do? Helping families deal with bullying and with kids who are out of control", annual satellite downlink from Coop. Ext. in Iowa on Nov. 30 and Dec 7. Prepared and disseminated marketing materials. Response is slow; timing of broadcast may be a factor (6:30 – 9:00 p.m. in holiday season). Some may feel they have had a lot of training in bullying.

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION:

Little Ones' Library (LOL)- Despite being postponed to a rain date that was also a Jewish holiday, *Truck Day* was again a big success. Community support is evident in the number of volunteers as well as the attendance of over 50 children. Music is an important part of early literacy and Larry Balestra's delightful *Musical Petting Zoo* captivated both adults and children as they tried an array of instruments and learned how they make sound and differences in their sounds. Little Ones Inc. is fundraising in an effort sponsor the library after the end of Dec. We are preparing for final special events under CCE-UC, *Reading is Magic* (Nov) and *Bedtime with Books* (Dec), and preparing for the transition.

Rondout Valley Early Childhood Workgroup-The *Not-So-Scary Halloween Celebration* for young children did not go as planned but was a success in it's own way. We had expected space to ourselves for young children. However, youth and adults from other activities at the community center also had access to our space. It became "like a family holiday with a mixture of adults and children of all ages." We still met our goals of providing age appropriate activities for young children, disseminating information packets, and modeling age appropriate party activities. Plans have begun for the second annual *I Just Loved That Book* in the spring.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -- FAMILY:

Rondout Valley Educational Foundation- Prepared section of proposal on Potential Sources of Funding; worked with committee on additional sections of the proposal for the Board of Education. The committee is doing well in meeting workplan goals and adhering to its timeline.

Advancing Youth Development (AYD)- Co-facilitated two of six sessions of the Advancing Youth Development Training Institute. These are always opportunities to not only provide information for participants, but also to learn in more depth about the youth work in which participants are engaged.