

March-2015

Volume 2 Issue 3

**Upcoming Events**

**March**

Tuesday, 3rd 6:30-8:00pm  
"My Sibling has Autism,  
Now What?" MCC  
Founders Room. \$15.00,  
space is limited. Mail  
payment to Deb Hansen,  
821 W. Platte Avenue, Fort  
Morgan, CO 80701.

Friday, 6th "A Chocolate  
Lover's Affair" Morgan  
County Family Center  
Annual Fundraiser tickets  
are \$25.00 Call MCFC at  
867-9606

Tuesday, 17th MCFCCA  
Meeting, 6pm in Brush, "I  
am Moving, I am  
Learning". Contact Teresa  
Klein 842-2134

**SAVE THE DATE!!**

Early Childhood  
Symposium Saturday, May  
16, 2015 Morgan  
Community College  
6+ hours of training to  
include 3 hours of  
social/emotional training.  
QRIS/PDIS session with  
Q/A and lab time as we  
walk you through the PDIS  
system. Official flyers and  
registration information  
will be available soon.

**Morgan County and Colorado Shines; Where is the Connect? I am sure by now you have all heard through one information system or another about the new quality system that is taking place in Colorado. The Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS) and Professional Development Information System (PDIS) have been piloted at different communities around the state and Morgan County providers will soon be able to participate as well.**

**The PDIS system is an online database for professionals to store their experience and training around early childhood. This is updated and maintained by the provider and will guide different professional development goals and available resources based upon your professional development plan. There will also be online training opportunities through the system that count towards continuing education hours for your license. This system will be available to all early childhood educators in early April 2015.**

**The QRIS system is a recognition of your programs quality level based on predetermined research based evaluation tools, staff education and experience and demonstrated competencies of the program. There were some high priority sites selected for the pilot portion of QRIS; but by summer of 2015, all licensed programs are encouraged to begin applying for higher quality levels.**

**Every licensed program is already a part of the QRIS system. If you have a license, you are entered as a level 1. It is up to each individual program to pursue higher levels of quality. Morgan County has several local resources to help answer questions, provide information and offer support around either the QRIS or PDIS systems. Feel free to contact any of the following:**

**Maria or Mary at the Morgan County Family Center 867-9606  
Barbara Wilson with licensing (800) 799-5876 or  
Pam at the Morgan County Early Childhood Council 867-6200**

**Morgan County Early Childhood Newsletter is a collaboration between Morgan County Early Childhood Council and the Morgan County Family Center with funding from Morgan County Department of Human Services and the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation**

**Child Care Resource & Referral-Maria 867-9606 Professional Development Coordinator-Pam 867-6200**

## UPDATES AND UPCOMING

### **!!CHANGES TO NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION!!**

Beginning in April 2015, the monthly newsletter will be sent out electronically. We ask all early childhood professionals who would like to continue to receive the newsletter to do one of two things.

Make sure either Maria at the Family Center (867-9606) or Pam at the Council (867-6200) has your email address.

Notify us that you would prefer to continue to receive the email in hardcopy and we will continue to deliver it to you that way.

### Calling all child artists!

Baby Bear Hugs would appreciate a few local child care programs have their children participate in an artistic display at BBH 20th Anniversary "IMAGINE" celebration. BBH would like to display drawings from children when asked the question "draw what comes to your mind when I say "IMAGINE". Cheri Walters is willing to come to your program and pick up the artwork. If you would like to participate, please contact her at [cheri.walters@babybearhugs.org](mailto:cheri.walters@babybearhugs.org) or [970-867-4847 ext.5003](tel:970-867-4847). Artwork needs to be completed by the end of March.

### Doll Day Participation

Colorado Children's Campaign is once again hosting Doll Day at the state capital. As part of Doll Day, 2-foot cardboard dolls decorated by children, concerned citizens and advocates across the state, will be presented to legislators to remind them that children and their families should be a high priority as they make important policy decisions. Morgan County Early Childhood Council has 4 dolls available if you would like your program to decorate one to be on display at the capitol. We realize the turnaround is a bit soon as we need them returned to our office by March 13th. Call Pam at MCECC if you would like one delivered to your program.

### Summer Early Childhood Education Course Schedule

Pull out those professional development plans! Morgan Community College has released their ECE Summer Intensives schedule. If you are thinking about pursuing your director qualifications, ECE teacher, director renewal or associates degree, now is the time to put your plan into action. The schedule is as follows:

ECE 103 Guidance for Young Children: June 15-18

ECE 120 Intro to Early Intervention: June 22-26

ECE 220 Curriculum Methods: June 8-10 (ending at noon on the 10th)

ECE 226 Creativity & the Young Child: June 10-12 (beginning at 1pm on the 10th)

ECE 240 Admin. Of ECE Programs: July 6-10

ECE 241 Admin. Human Relations: July 20-24

If week long courses don't work for you; visit their website for a list of over 12 ECE online courses. There are dollars available at MCC for scholarships. Deadline for applying is April 1st. Fill out the general scholarship application and MCC staff will appropriate scholarships based on your information. You do not need to fill out multiple scholarships at the college!