



FRYSCKy BUSINESS

*The Official Newsletter of the Family Resource and Youth Services Coalition of Kentucky, Inc.
Bridging Barriers and Changing Lives Since 1991*

SPECIAL EDITION

Twenty Years of Success and Still Moving Forward

by Michael Flynn, President, FRYSCky, Inc.



Irvine (KY) • Please allow me to begin by introducing myself. I'm a native of a small rural community in Irvine, KY and a graduate of Estill County High School. I attended Eastern Kentucky University where I received my bachelors degree in Psychology. Currently I'm working on my Master's Degree in Educational Leadership. I now reside in Richmond, KY with my wife Kathy and our wonderful one-year old son Aiden O'Bryan. Also, residing in our home are our four furry family members; Buffy, Cali, Britches, and Princess. The family is rounded off with one other unnamed member, our seven-year old gold fish.

I have been the coordinator of the Estill County Middle School Youth Services Center and have been blessed to be a part of the FRYSC family for seventeen years. I came to my position with the center by chance, but it definitely did not take long for me to realize that I was a part of something very special. These many years I have been continually amazed by the many coordinators that I have encountered and the amazing work each do and the lengths that they are willing to go to serve the students of our great Commonwealth.

Equally has been my amazement of the hard work the FRYSCky Coalition Board members have put forth in advocating and supporting the interests of each coalition member during my time on the board. I believe that my time on the board has helped me to better understand the global influence our centers are having on the families and students of our schools. While it has been hard work, I do believe that I have become a better coordinator through my experiences with the board. I encourage each of you to continue your involvement with the coalition and take advantage of any opportunity that you may have to be a part of Coalition initiatives.

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I begin my role as your new FRYSCky Coalition President. I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to work with such strong and reassuring

mentors in former presidents Rebial Reynolds and Tana Jones. I only hope to live up to their examples of selfless leadership.

Furthermore, my excitement is not only because of my opportunity to continue serve you as your president, but also that I'll have the opportunity to do so as we enter our twentieth year of existence. This brings me to extending a personal invitation to each of you to register for and attend the 2010 "Celebrating 20 years of Success with Kentucky's Families and Children" Annual Fall Institute in Lexington, KY. This year's Fall Institute will be an opportunity for us all to reflect upon where it is we've come from and celebrate our many successes, while expressing our gratitude to many of the personal and community partnerships we've developed over these many years.

In these times of economic hardships and budget shortfalls, it is very easy to fall prey to the over whelming stresses of finding additional resources for an ever increasing client base in communities that are already stretching dollars too thin. However, this time of reflection will hopefully give many of us the rejuvenating charge that we need, while helping us all to realize that it's never been an easy job, but rather one that has been embraced by caring and compassionate people who have been willing to do "What ever it takes." This is the secret to our successes.

Once again I extend my appreciation for the opportunity to serve as your president and I look forward to the working with each of you as we face what ever challenges and successes the future holds for us, our centers, but most of all our students and families. I close with one of my favorite quotes, by Neal Postman. "Children are the living message that we send to a world that we will never see." So, see it or not, keep up the good work because we are changing the world of tomorrow through the children of today.



FALL INSTITUTE 2010

*Celebrating 20 Years of Success for
Kentucky's Children and Families*

November 10-12
Lexington Convention Center

Registration and/or Exhibit Information
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Regional Roundup

Region 6 (Pulaski County) ~ Somerset, KY • *Pulaski County Schools FRYSC Appreciation Week*
by Kathy Hall

As a FRYSC Coordinator I am privileged to have a job that will never be boring. Once again our school district has taken the opportunity to recognize the myriad of services provided in a FRYSC. Many times we will never know the difference that is made. But I thought I would share a note written by a student who gave permission with the condition that any identifying data would be removed.

"I am writing to express what I really wish I could say to you. If I could picture what a Guardian Angel looks like and acts likeit would be you. You have been here for me when no one else has really been here for me. I know that I can be difficult to be around and most of the time because I have been using anger to try to push people away for so long.....because I don't want to let anyone close so they can't hurt me. But I promise you mean a lot to me. If you could take a look inside of my heart an see the breaks and empty spaces you would see that what I've been through has torn me apart than maybe you could understand me better. But fight me till the end if this is what it takes....I only ask that you please never give up on me."

I have reflected on the note often in the past couple of weeks and see the fragility and the strength that becomes the bond between each FRYSC staff member and the students we serve. It is hard for me to pick one program of focus that reflects more importance than another. What I do see that makes the difference is the collaboration, focused leadership, strong moral adhesion to good decision making, compassion, perseverance, trust, and a strong commitment to serving our youth.

This year our FRYSC Coordinators nominated our Superintendent for the Friends of FRYSC Award which was presented to Tim Eaton during our FRYSC Appreciation breakfast. Our Superintendent plans to retire at the end of this fiscal year. His commitment to our students has resulted in:

- Increased test scores
- Full integration of school resources including FRYSC
- Active engagement of all community resources
- Improved transition scores
- A good work environment and too many other accomplishments to list

As we transition through the end of the school year, changes in staff, budget issues, and life changes, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve as a FRYSC Coordinator.

RIGHT ~ Tammy Gay presents Superintendent Tim Eaton with the Friends of FRYSC Award





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FRYSCs Across Kentucky

