

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

2010/2011 ~ Issue #2

Preparing for the Next Twenty Years

by Michael Flynn, President, FRYSCKy, Inc.



Irvine (KY) • Isn't it amazing how fast time flies? It seems like only yesterday we were all scurrying about trying to prepare for the new school year to begin, making sure we were prepared for our students and that our students were prepared for us. Fall and the Fall Institute were just a glimmer of things to be looked forward to and Christmas was completely out of sight.

Now we are moving about our daily routines as if we had never had a summer break or Christmas break and routine is our norm, even as Spring Break looms on the horizon (YAY!).

Most importantly, we have successfully celebrated our 20th anniversary with "fun, food, and friends." I would like to take this opportunity to say, "Thank You" to all of you who chose to attend the 2010 Fall Institute. The conference hosted over 800 participants and the celebrating and enthusiasm of our peers was energizing. I hope each of you found something useful to take back to your centers that will assist you in moving forward as we embark upon the journey towards our next 20-year milestone. I would also like to extend a "Thank You" to each of the folks who served on the conference planning committee. This event would not have met been possible without your efforts and they were truly appreciated.

Meanwhile, I encourage each of you to continue doing the good work that you do with your communities, families, and students. However, I also encourage you to take a break and enjoy your own families. After all, what good have we done in this world if we've helped others and neglected our own?

As President of your Coalition, I want to assure you that the board is working diligently to provide a better support network to you and to serve the best interest of all coordinators as we enter a new legislative session. Several old and new initiatives are in the implementation stages for this upcoming session. Being a short session with an unheard of open budget has resulted in the coalition taking on a couple of new initiatives, which many of you have already heard about from your regional representatives. Personal

and regular contact with our legislators is extremely important and I urge each of you take advantage of every opportunity to make these contacts, not just during the days of the session, but also during these weeks leading up to the session. We especially want to welcome our new legislators and let them know how very much we appreciate their support.

The *Faces of FRYSC Campaign* will continue this year with an additional spin on it. We will be distributing USB keys to our legislators featuring programs going on in their regions. Please assist your regional representatives in getting the necessary information gathered on time. The Legislative Page selections will be announced very soon and we look forward to seeing many of you in Frankfort in February.

In closing, I would like to say that I am privileged and honored to work with and serve such an amazing organization with so caring and hard working people. We truly are unique because of the unity of all our differences. Always remember that "We (You) are changing the world of tomorrow through the children of today.

Regional Roundup

Region 6 (Todd County) ~ SAFARI Fine Arts Camp by Kelli Templeman

Elkton (KY) • Todd County Family Resource and Youth Services Centers teamed with 4-H, GEAR UP, and Gifted and Talented to host a two day SAFARI (Sun and Fun All About Recreation and Imagination) Fine Arts camp. Fifth and sixth grade students identified as gifted and talented in visual and performing arts were selected to participate. High school students were hired to supervise the participating students as well as to serve as teen counselors when needed. The first day began with a trip to the County Music Hall of Fame and the famous Studio B recording studio in Nashville Tennessee. Students got the opportunity to play on the piano that Elvis used in the actual recording studio where he recorded most of his hit songs. The day was completed with a visit to the Frist Art Museum where the students visited the Chihuly blown glass exhibit and worked hands on in the Art Quest Gallery. The second day of camp was held at our local Community and Theater House. Dancers and ballet performers from the

New Performing Arts Company were brought in to work with our students on creative dance, theater, and much more. The performers worked with our students to actually perform a scene from Romeo and Juliet at the end of the day as well as to learn other creative dances. The students who participated in camp are still dancing and talking about this amazing camp experience.



Regional Roundup

Region 10 (Floyd County) ~ *Working Together for Families by Sharon Collins*

Maytown (KY) • The Family Resource and Youth Services Centers and the schools that they serve are very lucky to have a collaborative partner like the Maytown Learning Center located in Langley, Kentucky. The Maytown Center is a place where people of different ages, faiths expressions, backgrounds, families and incomes bring about good in community by helping each other unlock the potential God has given each of them through volunteer opportunities, community activities, and working together on community projects. A partnership with the Louisville Kentucky ministry, Crossroads Missions, has brought over 600 people a year to Floyd County to repair homes and build relationships with the people here. Several of these volunteers help out with summer programming at the center. The Maytown Center is directed by Daniel and Beth Chauncey.

The Right Beaver Family Resource and Youth Services Centers of Floyd County (which includes Duff FRC, May Valley FRC, Allen Central Middle YSC, and Allen Central High YSC joined the summer programming to help with funding and recruiting students:

Summer Celebration was held June 11, 2010 as a kick off to summer activities for children in the area. A total of 69 children attended this evening event. They were treated to a fun filled evening of games, a free cookout and a schedule of upcoming summer activities offered at the Maytown Center during the summer.

4-H Day Camp was held on July 19, 20, and 21st. A total of 29 children attended daily. Heather Nelson with the Floyd County Extension Office provided the daily activities for the children with the help of Judy Handshoe-Duff FRC, Donna Bartrum- May Valley FRC and Pam Meyer- Allen Central Middle School YSC as well as the Maytown Center Staff and volunteers.

Race Week was a partnership with the schools and Maytown Center offering two- four day camps for different age groups. These were a huge success for the middle and high school students. They were able to build go carts and race them against each other, all while learning the importance of team work and good decision making skills. They also played games and were involved with several other fun activities with the volunteers. The last day all the students were treated to a day at the Kentucky Splash Park in Williamsburg, KY. This trip was funded through a KY ASAP grant written by Sharon Collins the YSC Coordinator at Allen Central High School.

"Back to School Bash" was held on August 3, 2010 at the Maytown Center. A total of 60 children and 30 parents attended. A variety of carnival type games, a pie eating contest, corn hole, face painting and a cookout. Free school supplies were also given out. A KY ASAP grant was written to help fund this activity by Judy Handshoe Coordinator at Duff Elementary FRC.

The coordinators from Right Beaver FRYSC's served by the Maytown Center are very excited to partner with the Maytown Center. Sharon Collins, ACHS YSC coordinator, said that she has tried several summer camps and activities over the past 12 years but has never had the turnout of students that has been at the Maytown Center like this year. This is a testament to the great work that Daniel and his volunteers do with our kids. We are very lucky to have them and I know all the coordinators will continue to partner with them and do what we can to help support the programs.



Picture from Floyd County ~ See article on Page 3.

Region 1 (Fulton County) ~ Backpack Feeding Program Gets a Great Start in Fulton by Tracy Pulley

Fulton (KY) • Although many families in the Fulton Independent School District receive some form of public assistance it can still be a struggle to get enough to eat. That's why The Family Connection, Fulton Independent's FRYSC, is launching the Backpack Feeding Program, a weekly supplemental food provision for the district's neediest students.

"We have already received enough donations to sponsor 44 students," says coordinator Tracy Pulley. "That money allows us to place a small bag of food in the students' backpacks every Friday to help throughout the weekend."

Pulley says the community response has been overwhelmingly positive. "Eighty-nine percent of our students qualify for free or reduced lunch, and 43 percent of the children in our county live in poverty," she says. "There is no doubt that our families need this help, and our residents have stepped up to provide it."



Sponsors include the First Baptist Church of Fulton, Fulton's First United Methodist Church, Union Church, The People's Place / Twin Cities Assembly of God, Trinity Episcopal Church, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church and Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The program is administered by the Purchase Area Development District in Mayfield.

The FRYSC Family Connection of the Fulton Independent School District, sponsored a student/parent garden club over the summer. The Grubs Club spent May, June and July planted and harvested vegetables in Fulton's Ferry-Morse Community Garden. Pictured, left to right: Tavarius Joy and Linus Pulley. Other club members not pictured: Vivien Pennington, Kire Tribble and Blake Slaughter.



United Way's Second Annual "Stuff the School Bus" Helps Children in Need

by Marianna Romero (Region 1 ~ McCracken County)

PADUCAH (KY) • United Way of Paducah-McCracken County, in collaboration with the McCracken County and Paducah City FRYSCs hosted its second annual "Stuff the School Bus" school supply drive for area children in need on July 24, 2010.

"Essentially the plan was to collect enough school supplies that we'd be able to distribute to every single city and county school for children in need," said United Way Executive Director Ashley Wright. "Our goal was to make sure that no child have to walk into the classroom without all of the supplies they need to start the school year off."

"We know budgets are cut and school resource centers are not able to buy the school supplies they were buying last year, or even the year before, for those students" she said. "And so this is one of the ways that we hoped we could help make sure kids are getting what they need to be ready [for school]."

The school supplies that were collected were evenly distributed between all of the schools in the Paducah and McCracken County school districts.

The "Stuff the School Bus" event was sponsored by USEC. Some of the businesses that contributed school supplies early to the project included BB&T Bank, the City of Paducah, CSI, First Presbyterian Church, GEO Consultants, James Marine, Paducah Bank, Pasta House and Jackson Purchase Energy.

For questions about the Stuff the Bus event contact the United Way of Paducah-McCracken County at (270) 442-1691 or one of the McCracken County or Paducah City FRYSCs.



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FRYSCKy Business is the official newsletter of the Family Resource and Youth Services Coalition of Kentucky, Inc. (FRYSCKY). The newsletter is published three times annually.

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FRYSCs Across Kentucky



