



Indi Kids Newsletter

January 2010

Happy New Year Important Reminders:



Just a few reminders for Indi Kids families:

- The weather is cold, but please remember that it is a Department of Public Welfare regulation that you must shut your car off while dropping off or picking up your child(ren).
- We schedule our staff based on the children's schedules. If there will be a change in your child's schedule, please let us know regardless of whether the change is permanent or not
- University Center

- Families—You will need a new tag for your dashboard at drop-off and pick-up times. The old tags have expired. Please stop by the office for a new tag.
- We take the children outside everyday for fresh air and gross motor play unless the windchill is 25 degrees or below. Please make sure your child has a coat, snow-pants, gloves or mittens, hat and boots. Please keep an entire set of extra clothes at the center (or

bring them back and forth in a backpack) as well.

- If your child is sick, please keep them at home. Germs spread very easily and quickly in school and group care centers. Help us minimize the spread of colds/flu this season by keeping sick kids home.
- If you have not received a parent handbook please see a teacher or call the office at 724-349-1821.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day— January 18th

I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. This is why right temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil triumphant. Martin Luther King, Jr. Nobel Peace Prize Acceptance Speech, Dec. 10, 1964



Indi Kids

University
Early Care and
Education Center

Ben Franklin
School-Age Center

Homer-Center
School-Age Center

Trinity
School-Age Center

Horace Mann
School-Age Center

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University Center

Positive Behavior Support Grant -Update

As you may remember from our October newsletter, Indi Kids is collaborating with ARIN IU 28 in the implementation of the Pyramid Model of Positive Behavior Support at the University Center. The Pyramid Model of Positive Behavior Support is a unified tiered framework of evidence-based promotion, preven-

tion, and intervention that will support the social competence and behavioral development of all young children.

Our Core Leadership Team met in December for the first time and will continue to meet monthly and share information with their colleagues. Lisa Nymick

(external coach) and Stephanie McAdoo (internal coach) travelled to Harrisburg for a coaches training last month. Training for all staff on the 1st of 4 modules will begin on January 18th. The first module focuses on: Promoting Children's Success: Building Relationships and Creating Supportive Environments.



Outside Play Time

As the weather gets cooler and we move closer and closer to winter, we want to take this time to remind you of our policy for taking the children outdoors to play. We take the children outside to play everyday as long as the windchill is above 25 degrees. We do play in the snow! Getting the exercise and fresh air is extremely important. It is also impor-

tant that your child have a snowsuit or coat and snow pants, mittens or gloves, boots and a hat. If you are having trouble getting your child appropriate outdoor clothing for the winter months, please let us know and we will try to help. We do have some extra items here so if you occasionally forget we will use the spare items.

If your child is not well



enough to go outside on particular day, they may not be well enough to be at the center either so please talk with a teacher if you have any concerns. If you request that your child stay inside, we will need a doctors excuse since this will cause a need for extra staffing on our part.



What you need to know if your child needs medicine while at the center:



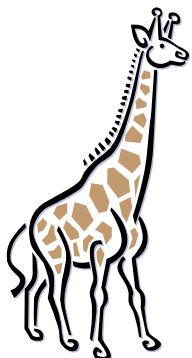
If your child needs medication while at the center, please remember the following:

- You must complete the medication log each time your child needs medicine.
- You must give the medication directly to an Indi Kids teacher. We will keep the medication in a locked container.
- Prescription medication must be prescribed to your child and have their name on the label.
- Over the Counter medication must have your child's name clearly marked on the bottle. Indi Kids staff must carefully follow the directions on all OTC medication.
- All medication must be in the original container.

Indi Kids illness and medication policy can be found in the Parent Handbook. Parents are also given the policy to read and sign upon enrollment. If you need a parent handbook or would like another copy of the illness and medication policy, please call the office at 724-349-1821.

Free Tax Service

ICCAP—Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) has provided free tax service to low to moderate income families for four years in Indiana and Surrounding counties. ICCAP will begin providing free tax service January 21, 2010. For more information and to schedule your appointment call 724-465-2657 and ask for the Asset Building Department.



Save the Date - The 7th Annual Family Fun Fest will be held on Saturday March 20th at the Indiana Mall.

Indi Kids

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**Teaming with Families to Provide
High Quality Care and Education**



Indi Kids

The goal of our program is to work with parents for the fullest development of their children socially, physically, and emotionally. The program environment is one that stresses interaction and exploration with adults, other children, and an assortment of experiences and materials. Since children's play is a vehicle for and an indicator of their social, emotional, and intellectual growth, child-initiated, teacher-supported play is one of the essential components of the program. Indi Kids is responsive to the individual strengths and developmental needs of each child. Teachers foster children's self-confidence, independence, curiosity, and problem solving skills. In an environment of mutual trust, caring staff members help children search for and form their own questions, ideas, and meaningful solutions. Children enjoy the pleasure of learning through direct experience.

Parents and Staff of the University Center:

If you have a security card to enter the University Center, it is extremely important that you remember to bring and use your card to enter the building. There may not always be someone at the buzzer to let you in. To avoid waiting to get in, please carry your card with you. If you have lost your card, notify the office immediately.

