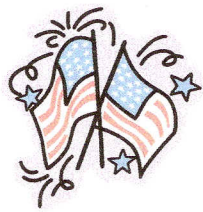


# KIDS FIRST FOCUS ON FORT SMITH



July 2010

Vol. 5 Issue 7

## KIDS FIRST HOLDS 4TH OF JULY PARADE

### DIRECTOR'S CORNER

KIDS FIRST held a parade celebrating Independence Day on Friday, July 2. Like any good 4th of July parade, there were floats, riding clubs, and a whole lot of Uncle Sams and Lady Liberties. With patriotic music piped through the intercom system, the classes went out the back door, around the building and back through the front door to the delight of the many parents who came to watch. The rooms all did very patriotic and imaginative decorations to show their spirit.



**The Piglets had a flag float**

**Rabbits (right) and Pooh's (below) made Uncle Sam and Statue of Liberty costumes**



**Leah as Lady Liberty**



**The Owl's float**

**The Tiggers (right) and Hunny Pots (below) were the KID FIRST Riding Club**



**Yee-haw!!**

**The babies in Owl's made matching shirts**



Dear Families,

I hope everyone enjoyed our 4th of July Parade. We had a great family turnout. Thank you for coming.

Just a reminder of the importance of having your child here on a daily basis. Children who attend daily are able to receive the optimum amount of services prescribed to them.

Enjoy the rest of the summer, but remember the safety rules:

- Buckle up in the car
- Wear sun screen every day
- Wear closed toe shoes
- Near or in the water, don't forget the life jacket.

Karen Tyler, Adm. Director,  
CDA, BA, M. Ed.

KIDS FIRST, Fort Smith

## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

This month's employee of the month is Virginia Kennedy. Virginia just celebrated her 2nd anniversary with KIDS FIRST in June. Virginia is married and has 1 son. Virginia came to us after retiring from the Fort Smith School system where she taught Spanish.

Virginia is one of our administrative secretaries and generously volunteers her time as interpreter for our Hispanic families. Be sure to congratulate Virginia when you see her.



# PARENT MEETING PLANNED

A parent meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, July 27th at the KIDS FIRST Fort Smith clinic. Guest speaker will be Rick Foti, executive director of the Community Services Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse

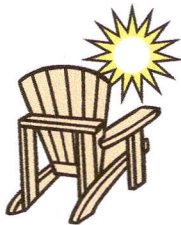
including a food pantry. Mr. Foti will be here from 2-3 pm to let our families know about what is available to them. Be looking for more information including a registration form on your child's cubby. If your child rides the bus, make sure to check backpacks on a daily basis for information.



provides a variety of services for qualifying families in-

## Perfect Attendance

Summer's here and vacation time is upon us, but thirteen children had perfect attendance for June. They include: Yovani A, Brandie B, Chris C, Kinsley E, Malachi E, Zowie E, Gamble F, Austin M, Alejandro O, Trevor S, Dawn S, Sandy T, and Jayden



Wi. Thank you to all the families that got their children here everyday. We understand with the price of gas, that it can sometimes be a hardship to all our families and staff. We appreciate your attendance on a regular basis.

## Project Nurture

### Nurturing Idea for July

Choose a simple project to show love to someone this week. Brainstorm with your child, who may have great ideas and will "own" the idea more if they are involved in the planning. Some suggestions: Help care for an elderly neighbor's yard; Have a yard sale and/or lemonade stand and donate the money to a special cause; Make a meal and card for someone who has been sick and needs some "tender loving care."



#### WHAT IS PROJECT NURTURE?

Project Nurture is KIDS FIRST's Infant Mental Health Program. Our goal is to promote the social and emotional well-being of KIDS FIRST infants, toddlers, and families through secure and nurturing relationships.

# July Birthdays

The KIDS FIRST birthday list for July is short, but very sweet. Angelina B, Alyssa C, Sasha W, Emiliano P, and Ella T are all celebrating this month. Happy birthday also to our staff celebrating, Crystal Edwards, Grandma Lillie, and Sara Harvin. Happy birthday to everyone.



## Anniversaries

This month 2 employees celebrate anniversaries with KIDS FIRST. Sandra Garrison, LPN has been here for 12 years and Sue Gilliam, SLP has been here for 14 years. Congratulations!

## Croppin' for KIDS FIRST

KIDS FIRST Fort Smith is doing something new. We are having a fundraiser called Croppin' for KIDS FIRST. It is an event for scrapbookers in the area. It will be held on Saturday, July 24th. We will be "renting" tables and space for scrapbookers to do their crafting without the interruptions of daily life.



Tables are available for \$15 in advance or \$20 the day of the event. If you would like to attend or volunteer, contact Norma at 785-9091. Flyers are also available, if you would like to post them at your church or other places in the community.