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Whole Child Connection

Big Bend Connection

is now the premier online directory of services for the whole family and the whole community. Resources and services for Jefferson, Madison, and Taylor counties are now online.

Service Providers

Do you have new programs? Have some of your initiatives ended recently? If so, please contact [Heather](#) to update your entries in the Resource Guide.

Are you interested in

Community Update October 2011



September's Guest Speakers:

- **David McCoy, M.S.**, gave a presentation on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). ASD affects approximately 1 in 100 children of all races and economic status. The average age of detection is 4 years old. Children with ASD have better outcomes if they receive intervention before the age of 3 so that they can acquire verbal skills before entering kindergarten. Go to FSU's First Words Project, firstwords.fsu.edu, for more information. For a video glossary, go to AutismSpeaks.org.
- **Tameeka Williams**, Halle Martin Foundation, spoke about the additional stress that parents of children with ASD face. The Halle Martin Foundation has started Operation Parent Rescue to provide emotional support and practical assistance for parents. For more information, go to HalleMartinFoundation.org or call 294-0592.
- **Sharon Kant-Rauch**, Tallahassee Democrat, spoke about her new series, "Community Hands" which features agencies and organizations that need volunteers or specific donations for new projects or renovations. Past stories included: new mattresses for ECHO and volunteers to help sort through donations at the Allen Outreach Center. If you have a project, contact Sharon Kant-Rauch at 671-6539 or srauch@tallahassee.com.
- **Kim Kelling-Enstrom**, WFSU, discussed

becoming a Direct Service Provider through the Whole Child Connection? If so, contact [Heather](#) for more information.

WCL/LCS KidCare Outreach Project

The Leon County Schools (LCS) KidCare Outreach Project continues to assist families with the Florida KidCare application process. We encourage families who may need health insurance to take advantage of the school events that the LCS KidCare Outreach Project is attending. Along with school events, they will also participate in several community events throughout the year. The next scheduled community event:

October 26, 7:30 a.m.-1: 30 p.m. - City of Tallahassee Benefits and Wellness Event, at Jack Mclean Community Center, 700 Paul Russell Road, Tallahassee FL 32301.

For additional information about Florida KidCare or for application assistance, please call the Leon County Schools Outreach Specialist, Jennifer Leon at (850) 414-5110. You may also call Florida KidCare at 1-888-540-5437 or visit www.floridakidcare.org

WCL'S QR CODE

Scan to stay in touch with Whole Child Leon.

"Immunization: A Dose of Reality" which will air on WFSU Wednesday October 12th at 10:00pm and again on Sunday, October 16th at 1:30pm. This documentary features powerful testimonials from families affected by vaccine-preventable diseases, as well as interviews with world-renowned vaccine experts. Visit www.ImmunizationTruth.com for clips from the show.

Our next Professional Network meeting is Monday, October 24th at Noon.

Guest Speakers Include:

- **Shan Pompey, Director of Emergency Services, Refuge House**
- **Becky Pangelley, Program Coordinator, Fostering Achievement Fellowship**

Email [Heather](#) if you would like to be added to the Professional Network invitation list.

Share Event at Red Elephant - Monday, October 10th

Join us for a "Share Event" at both locations of Red Elephant Pizza, Monday, October 10th.

Stop by either of our two Red Elephant locations- dine in or carry out- for lunch and dinner, and tell your server you are here to support the Whole Child Leon Social-Emotional Action Team's Free Developmental Screenings and 15% of these revenues will be donated by Red Elephant.

Midtown - 1872 Thomasville Road, 222-7492 and **Kerry Forest** - 2910 Kerry Forest Parkway, 668-7492.

Click [here](#) for a flyer with more details.



To use the code:

1. Make sure you have a smartphone (Android, iPhone, etc.)
2. Make sure you have a QR scanner/decoder. If you don't, there is an App in the Market of all smartphones called **Barcode Scanner**.
3. Take a picture of the code.
4. Once the picture is taken, decode it with the App of your choice.

Parkway Farmers' Market @ the Y



Sanguon Hale

Whole Child Leon and the YMCA have partnered to establish a weekly Farmers' Market at the YMCA's Garden Annex, 2001 Apalachee Parkway. This market sells

Free Infant, Toddler, and Preschool Developmental Screenings - Friday October 28th

FREE Infant, Toddler, and Preschool Developmental Screenings

For children 6 months - 5 years.

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY - Call 850-487-2630 for your appointment. Please call by October 17th, 2011.

Free screenings will be held on October 28, 2011 from 8:30am - 12:30pm at Children's Medical Services, 2390 Phillips Road, Tallahassee. Screenings provided by the Capital Area Association for Infant Mental Health and the WCL Social-Emotional Development Action Team.

Areas Screened Include: Vision, Hearing, Motor Skills, Speech, Language, Cognitive, Behavior, Growth and Dental

Click [here](#) for a flyer on the Free Developmental Screenings.

Thank you to all the partners who make these screenings possible!!!



**Whole Child Leon
Social-Emotional
Development**
ACTION TEAM

Whole Child Intern Update

Whole Child Leon is proud to have a computer kiosk set up on the first floor in the Leon County Courthouse. The kiosk is located within the family

resource center and is an excellent way for parents and guardians at the courthouse to get connected to



Kimberly Bednark

fruits such as mangoes, pears, and cactus fruit; vegetables such as tomatoes, avocado, pumpkins; and raw honey. All of the vegetables are organically grown.

Making sure our entire community has access to fresh, local fruits and vegetables is a challenging mission that we are addressing head on. Come and get your fresh fruits and veggies!

Mondays and Wednesdays
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., 2001
Apalachee Parkway.

Upcoming Events

Free Mammograms - In celebration of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Capital Regional is offering free digital screening mammograms for the entire month of October. Please obtain a doctor's order and call to schedule your appointment at 888-702-2152. All exams are read by a Board-Certified Radiologist (You will receive a separate bill of approximately \$100 from Radiology Associates for the reading/interpretation fee). Click [here](#) for the website.

Walk to Remember
Capital Area Healthy Start Coalition's Walk to Remember - National Pregnancy & Infant Loss Awareness Day, Thursday October 13th 6 - 7:30pm at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 1700 N. Meridian Road. Food & Activities for Children and Families begin at 5:30pm. Click [here](#) for a flyer. For more info, Tracy Coomer, 488-0288 x

resources within the community. Having this kiosk set up makes locating resources a much easier and convenient process for these families.

"I am enjoying helping families "get connected" at Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare on Wednesdays. I divide my time between the NICU and Pediatric units," said Kimberly.

Read for the Record

October 6, 2011, four friends of Whole Child Leon read to pre-K students at Wesson. *Llama Llama Red Pajama* was a big hit! **Thank you for Reading for the Record: Jenn D'Urso, Jo Landrito, Lori Westphal, and Courtney Atkins.**

Why do we participate in Read for the Record? When you sit down to read in community, you'll be standing up for children everywhere!

Millions of children in low-income neighborhoods are at

risk of school failure because they lack access to a high quality early education. More than six million children in the U.S. under the age of six **live in poverty**. In low-income neighborhoods, children start kindergarten 60% behind their wealthier peers - and research shows that **most will never catch up.**

Early education can set children on a path for lifelong success. **Children who complete quality early education programs do better in school and are less likely to dropout, be arrested, repeat grades, or require special education. The solution to closing America's early education achievement gap is simple:** Economists, teachers, and researchers agree that investing in high quality early education is the best way to set our children - and our nation - on a path for long-term success.

109, or click [here](#) to email.



4th Annual Farm Tour- On October 15-16, make plans to attend the fourth annual Farm Tour! Sponsored by New Leaf Market, this event is an opportunity for you and your family to tour thirty-two local farms in North Florida and South Georgia. Come learn from the farmers themselves about their day-to-day life, and how they produce the local goods that we enjoy. Families of all ages will enjoy a day of learning and fun! For more information visit

http://www.newleafmarket.coop/events/farm_tour/.

Refuge House's Domestic Violence Awareness Survivor Speak Out & Candlelight Vigil

- Wednesday October 19th 6-8:00pm at Tom Brown Park. For more information, email [Ghia Kelly](#).

Tallahassee Food Day - Youth Symposium

Sunday, October 23rd, 3:00 - 5:00pm at the Mary Brogan Museum. Click [here](#) for more details.

Power of the Purse Kickoff Reception - Monday October 24th 5:30 - 7:00pm at the Hotel Duval. Keynote Speaker is Triston Sanders, News Director for WCTV. Contact [Jessica Brown](#) for more information.

2012 Annual Benefits & Wellness Event for City of

The Whole Picture of Health



A WELLNESS & NUTRITION INITIATIVE
CHART (Community Health Action Response Team)

95210 for Health!

Five daily habits can help children and adults live healthier lives and sustain a healthy body weight.

- Get at least **9** hours of sleep
- Eat **5** servings of fruits & veggies every day
- Limit screen time to **2** hours or less
- Get at least **1** hour of physical activity
- Eliminate **(0)** sugary drinks and tobacco exposure

Healthy Shopping Tip

Here's a way to make sure every grocery trip is a healthy one:

When you get home from the store, sit down with your receipt

and three markers. Mark your receipt as follows:

Green for every fresh food you purchased, such as fruits, vegetables, and fresh fish.

Red for all of the not so healthy packaged foods, including cookies, crackers, and frozen pizza.

Blue for those in between foods such as instant brown rice

and Greek-style yogurt.

Ideally, at least 75% of the items in your cart should be green or blue.

If not, you may want to reconsider your food selections.

(Adapted from *Prevention*)

Whole Child Leon in the Community

Earthfare September 15th

Tallahassee Employees
Wednesday, October 26th,
7:30AM - 1:30PM
Jack L McLean Community
Center.

YMCA Trick or Trot - 5K and 1 mile fun run on Friday, October 28. 1 mile fun run begins at 5:30pm, 5k starts at 6:00pm. Wear your costume and enter the costume contest! YMCA at Southwood, 701-0461 for more details.

Community Action Team Meeting Save the Date for a Circuit-wide meeting on Friday, November 4th, 11:00am - 12:30pm at the Early Learning Coalition offices, 1940 N. Monroe Street, Suite 70.

Putt One for Progressive - November 7th, 8:00am registration and 9:00am Shotgun Start. Go to progressivepediatric.org for more information.

Health in the City - Neighborhood Health Services is partnering with the Epilepsy Association of the Big Bend to have a fundraiser on Thursday, November 10, 2011. "Health in the City" will take place at the Monroe Street Conference Center from 6pm - 10pm. Call 513-3272 for sponsorship and ticket information.

We're on the Web!

The [Whole Child Leon Online Event Calendar](#) gives information on a wide array of local events for kids and for people who work with kids.

If you have news you would like to share, [email it](#) and we'll make sure it gets onto the WCL Website in the Community



Kimberly Bednark

Dimensions



Homer Rice, Courtney Atkins, Kim Kelling-Enstrom

See the many 'dimensions' of the Big Bend area on the second, third and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm ET on WFSU-TV. Courtney Atkins appeared on an episode on the topic of immunizations.

News section or the Event Calendar.

Find us on Facebook

Follow us on 



LAWTON CHILD
FOUNDATION



United Way of the Big Bend

Free Infant, Toddler, & Preschool Developmental Screening

Special to the Democrat - October 4, 2011



Over the last three years a group of local agencies working together have provided Free Community Developmental Screening to children ages 6 months to 5 years old. The screening process encompasses the following areas: social-emotional development, cognitive development, physical motor skills, speech, hearing, dental health and vision. More than 185 children have received these free and in-depth screenings.

"We are very fortunate to have all these agencies working together for the betterment of the community," stated Angel Trejo, Whole Child Leon Action Team Leader.

"The Free Community Developmental Screening serves a valuable function in identifying children ages 6 months-5 years for possible developmental delays. The purpose of this early identification is to facilitate developmentally appropriate services so that children are ready to learn when they begin kindergarten," reported Dr. Mary Seay, Medical Director of Children's Medical Services.

Although many children see a medical provider during these early years for illnesses, immunizations, and hopefully for "well child care", many developmental concerns are not discovered. A variety of reasons including: lack of parental reporting, brief time available with the provider, no formal screening process, or a "watch and wait" attitude can contribute to the problem.

"Each of these Community Developmental Screenings have identified at least 4 to 6 children with serious developmental concerns, and many more with milder but significant issues. At the most recent clinic a 5 year old boy was seen who had a history of loss of motor and language skills, balance abnormalities, and stiffness. He was immediately referred to appropriate medical care and was subsequently evaluated by specialists in Jacksonville and Miami. Unfortunately, he was found to have a very serious and progressive neurological condition. He was able to start therapy services and the

family was able to receive support to help care for this boy and to assist in making him as functional as possible" stated Dr. Seay.

The screening process covers a range of developmental concerns including dental care. "With the connection between systemic diseases and problems found in the mouth becoming clearer, it is critical that these dental conditions are identified and taken care of at the earliest age possible," states Dr. Edward Zapert, Dental Director for the Leon County Health Department.

"We are all extremely grateful for the community partners who come together and volunteer their time and expertise to identify children who need assistance with their developmental growth. This is a great community program and one of which we can all be proud," concluded Dr. Seay.

The next free Developmental Screening is set for October 28th, 2011 at Children's Medical Services, 2390 Phillips Road, Tallahassee Florida. Please call for an appointment at 850-487-2630 by October 17, 2011.

Whole Child Leon Staff

Courtney Atkins, Executive Director

Heather Telfer, Connection and Outreach Coordinator

Amanda Clements, Vice-President of Strategic Initiatives, United Way of the Big Bend

Megan Earnhardt, Strategic Initiatives Associate, United Way of the Big Bend

Jennifer Leon, Whole Child Leon/Leon County Schools KidCare Outreach Specialist

Got Kids? Get connected to community resources that can assist you and your family at the Whole Child Connection.

www.WholeChildLeon.org

Contact a Whole Child Leon Advisor today, at 850-414-8344.



Whole Child Leon
2813 S. Meridian
Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
850.414.8344
www.WholeChildLeon.org

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