



FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER
ST. CROIX VALLEY

Growing Kids by Growing Families

857 Main Street
PO Box 2087
Baldwin, WI 54002

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PRSR STD
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PAID
NRMS, INC.

Way's of Giving: Donating to the Wish List

The Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley is always in need of items to continue our work with families. The following are some specific needs of the center:

- Monetary Donations
- Tissues
- Wet Wipes
- Copy Paper
- Card Stock
- Stamps
- Nutritious Snacks
- Garbage Bags (13 gal)
- Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Napkins
- Plates, Plastic Tableware
- Any other items are always welcome and appreciated!
- Current Parenting Books
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Puzzles
- 100% Juice
- Gas Cards
- Diapers (All sizes)
- Dress-up Clothes
- Scrap Booking Supplies

You can also donate online. Visit us at www.frscv.org While we try to find a use for all donations, we may sometimes give them to other local charitable organizations.

- Baby & Me Classes**
\$800-\$1,000 per 10 week session!
- Play & Learn Groups** \$5,000 - \$7,000 per group per year!
- Home Visits**
\$1,300 per family per year!

DONATE ONLINE
Check out our website at: www.frscv.org

Our entire calendar schedule is online, along with resources and events that are happening through FRCSVCV. You are also able to make donations online using our secure link.

Did you know?
The family Resource Center St. Croix Valley is funded mainly by grants and donations. Please give generously!!!



FAMILY MATTERS

Celebrating 10 Years of Service
to Children & Families!

Fall 2008

Did You Know?

- Our newly-designed newsletter has arrived. Give us your feedback about Family Matters: info@frcscv.org
- We have a new website: www.frcscv.org. Check it out!
- Luck Public Library is the site of a new Play & Learn Group
- Another new Play & Learn Group is scheduled at St. Bridget's Church in River Falls.
- Early experiences shape the way children learn, think and behave for the rest of their lives.

Attention FRCSCV Community Partners: Businesses and Community Organizations

Sponsor our newsletter's seasonal pull-out schedule of classes and activities and your organization will receive the following benefits:

- Your info will appear on the newsletter activity page.
- You get maximum exposure as parents will use this handy, pull-out schedule regularly.
- Your info will appear frequently; schedule will print 4 times per year.
- Get your name in front of our mailed and emailed circulation of more than 2000 families and individuals.

Call now for specifications and rates! Contact Mary or Vivian
715-684-4440 info@frcscv.org



Growing our circle of friends and family

*Maria Kitzberger faced challenges
when Callaway was born premature*

Just as a child from birth to ten years of age reaches developmental milestones, so too has FRCSCV in its ten years of serving children and families in the St. Croix Valley. Understanding developmental stages in children and organizations allows us to help them grow healthy.

The Family Resource Center has been growing up healthy and strong thanks to its dedicated supporters—donors, board members, volunteers, community partners and staff.

In this first issue of Family Matters, we want to introduce you to some members of our growing circle of friends and family.

Meet Our New Board Members



Describing herself as a "happy and busy retiree," **Barbara Nelson**, Emerald, retired from St. Croix County Public Health Department where

she was Health Officer/Supervisor. Throughout her career, Barbara worked in a variety of nursing positions and taught nursing and health-related courses. She enjoys gardening, spending time with family and friends, reading, cross country skiing and more. Fortunately for us, Barbara is also a passionate and knowledgeable volunteer.



Appointed to the Board in July, **John Marnell** is newly-retired from Hudson Hospital where he had served as Hospital Administrator as well as Director of Development for its foundation. A

resident of Hudson, John recently added grandchild #10 to his team of grandchildren. John is a member of Hudson's Daybreak Rotary, active with the YMCA's Camp St. Croix and his church stewardship committee. We are honored to have him share his expertise with us. *Continued on page 2*

FRCSVC Board of Directors

Mary Sue Ash
Pam Deal
Jean Johnson, Chair
Tina Kippes
Teri Kohlrusch
Heather Logelin
John Marnell
Barbara Nelson
Carla O'Connell
Sharon Reyzer
Shari Turvaville
S. Mark Tyler
David Tyvoll
Brian Zelenak

The mission of the Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley is to strengthen children, families and communities by offering education, resources and support.

FRCSVC Staff

Patty Draxler - Executive Director
draxler@frcscv.org

Vivian G. Hart - Development & Marketing Coordinator
vivian@frcscv.org

Betsy Byker - Parent Educator/
Program Coordinator
betsy@frcscv.org

Marla Butler - Parent Educator
marla@frcscv.org

Maria Kitzberger - Parent Educator
maria@frcscv.org

Apryl Mullvain - Parent Educator
apryl@frcscv.org

Kristy Ziolkowski - Parent Educator
kristy@frcscv.org

Mary Handrahan - Office Manager & Volunteer Coordinator
info@frcscv.org

NEWSLETTER

Editor: Vivian Hart

Production: Mary Handrahan

Design: Tobie Anderson,
Voila! Media Group

Printing: Minuteman Press

Please notify us if your mailing address has changed. For an electronic version of this newsletter, email info@frcscv.org or call Mary @ 715-684-4440. Thank You!

From the Director's Desk

As summer winds down, planning at FRCSVC ramps up! Beginning in July, after our Annual Report is sent to the state and national centers and all staff is recertified for the coming year, we start the planning process for 2008/2009 programs. Although we are financially limited and cannot provide all the programming we would like to or that is needed, we have steadily "grown" options for families in the three county area. We do this carefully, ever mindful that we must have financial support in place to sustain new programs into the future.

New Programs for Fall: Luck Play & Learn group will be held at the Luck Public Library and a Play & Learn group in River Falls will be held at St. Bridget's Church. As with our other groups, they are open to all families but we do require pre-registration and space is limited. Registration guidelines are outlined in another section of the newsletter for your convenience. We are very grateful to the outreach location partners that assist us with our programming space needs in all of our communities. We are all better for their support....THANK YOU!

As we continue to "grow our family of supporters" I would like to welcome Barbara Nelson and John Marnell to the Board of Directors. They begin their tenure with us bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience with them.

Have a GREAT fall!

Patty Draxler

"Growing our circle of family and friends" continued...

Our Growing Family

Because their baby arrived two months earlier than expected, Parent Educator **Maria Kitzberger** and husband Harv were faced with challenges unique to parents of babies who are born prematurely. Despite the fact that Callaway was born in March and expected by mom and dad in May, she was welcomed with joy.

Another of our Parent Educators, **Kristy Ziolkowski** and her husband Pete are expecting their first child in September. Since Kristy will be spending fewer hours at the Family Resource Center and much time as a new mom, Jeena Bignell has been hired as a new part-time Parent Educator. Like all of our Parent Educators, Jeena has a 4 year degree and lots of relevant experience.

Look for more in-depth articles in upcoming issues about our pool of talented board members and volunteers and our expanding family who have made it possible for us to continue to grow kids by growing healthy, strong families.



Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley is in the process of a conversion of all our records to PATsim, an online database supported by our National Parents As Teachers Center. This conversion will allow FRCSVCV staff to easily manage all of our program's data online. It will allow us to:

- Organize family contact information and Parent Educator assignments.
- Plan group meetings and track attendance.
- Track personal visits, health/developmental screenings, immunizations and more.

We are very excited about this new software and the opportunity to keep even better records of our work in Pierce, Polk and St. Croix Counties. Please be patient as we move to the new system.

We will be updating our enrollment and registration intake information and forms as well as utilizing some new program evaluation surveys. If you have moved or changed your address, please contact us.

All of this will be done as quickly and efficiently as possible and always with the goal to serve our families better!



A Successful Partnership: FRCSVCV and SB6

Did you know that early experiences shape the way children learn, think and behave for the rest of their lives?

Raising awareness about the importance of early childhood development, Success By 6 is a community-based initiative of United Way St. Croix Valley that increases services and advocates for public policies to improve children's lives. United Way's SB6 is in more than 300 communities nationwide.

Proud to be a key Success By 6 partner, Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley helps provide the best start possible for all children right from birth.



Emma O'Connell with her proud grandparents

Ways of Giving: Grandparents' Fund

Here's a unique, new way to have an immediate impact on children in the St. Croix Valley and your own grandchildren, wherever they may live. Designate a gift to the Family Resource Center and name it in honor of your grandchildren. Send your gift with the pledge form in this newsletter or contact us for details.

Yes! I want to help the Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley give children the best start possible!

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Gift Amount:

_____ \$1000 _____ \$500

_____ \$250 _____ \$100

_____ \$50 _____ Other

My check, payable to FRCSVCV, is enclosed.

Please charge my pledge of \$25 or more to: *(circle one)*

Visa MasterCard

Card # _____

Exp. _____

My employer will match my gift; please contact me.

Please contact me about making a gift through my will or estate plan.

I want my gift to fund:

_____ Greatest need

_____ Program support

_____ Grandparents fund *(for a gift of \$100 or more, please designate the names of grandchildren you would like to honor)*

_____ Permanent fund

_____ Other

Thank you for helping us "Grow Kids By Growing families!"

Detach Donation Form and mail to:
Family Resource Center
St. Croix Valley
857 Main Street
P.O. Box 2087
Baldwin, WI 54002



Proud to support our community



ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF RIVER FALLS:

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| New Richmond 1656 Dorset Lane, Ste. 100 (715) 246-5533 | Prescott 1151 North Canton Street (715) 262-5000 | UW River Falls University Center (715) 426-1856 |
|--|--|---|



www.fnbrf.com



BABY & ME

A play and discussion hour for parents and their infants (Birth to 12 months).

Some of the topics discussed include:

- Sleep
- Nutrition
- Reading Baby's Cues
- Music
- Taking Care of Mom
- Baby Sign
- Child Development
- Massage
- Separation Anxiety
- Family Traditions

ACTIVITIES

BABY & ME (Pre-registration is required by calling 715-684-4440)

A play and discussion hour for parents and their infants (Birth to 12 months).

Amery Mondays 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm at Amery Regional Medical Center, Classroom D

Baldwin Wednesdays 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm at FRCSVCV, 857 Main St. Baldwin

New Richmond Fridays 10:30 am – 11:30 am at Westfield's Hospital Conference Center, New Richmond

River Falls Fridays 10:30 am – 11:30 am at River Falls Area Hospital, Classrooms B & C, River Falls

PLAY & LEARN (Pre-registration is required by calling 715-684-4440)

Play & Learn provides an opportunity for children to interact with their parents and other children their age. Parents can also discuss parenting strategies, dilemmas and everyday happenings with a Parent Educator and other parents going through similar situations.

Fall Session begins week of September 8 and runs through week of December 8 with the exception of St. Bridget's Church in River Falls, session begins September 22.

No Play & Learn week of October 13 and November 24

Fall Play & Learn Registration August 18, 9:00am by calling 715-684-4440. Pre-registration is required.

Winter Play & Learn Registration December 15, 9:00am by calling 715-684-4440. Pre-registration is required.

Multi-Age Play & Learn

River Falls Mondays 9:30 – 11:00 am @ St. Bridget's Catholic Church, 135 E Division St.

Luck Tuesdays 10:00 – 11:30 am @ Luck Library (dates & times are tentative-call for details-715-684-4440)

Spring Valley Tuesdays 9:00 am – 10:30 am @ Spring Valley Village Hall, E121 South Second St.

Hudson Tuesdays 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm @ Bethel Lutheran Church, 920 – 3rd St.

Baldwin Wednesdays 9:00 am – 10:00 am @ FRCSVCV, 857 Main St.

New Richmond Wednesdays 9:00 am – 10:00 am @ St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 367 W River Dr.

Baldwin Wednesdays 10:30 am – 11:30 am @ FRCSVCV, 857 Main St.

Baldwin Thursdays 9:00 am – 10:00 am @ FRCSVCV, 857 Main St.

Preschool Play & Learn

New Richmond Wednesdays 10:30 – 11:30 am @ St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 367 W River Dr.

Baldwin Thursdays 10:30 am – 11:30 am @ FRCSVCV, 857 Main St.

Evening Play & Learn

Baldwin 3rd Tuesday/every month 5:30pm – 7:00 pm @ FRCSVCV, 857 Main St. September 16, October 21, November 18

POSITIVE PARENTING (Pre-registration is required by calling 715-684-4440)

This series will help you identify what you do well as parents and learn skills to strengthen what you would like to improve.

Hudson Mondays 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm, October 6, 13, 20, 27 @ YMCA – childcare is provided free of charge.

COFFEE'S ON Tuesday, November 18, 7:30 am @ FRCSVCV, 857 Main St., Baldwin

OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED Monday, September 1 and Thursday, November 27

OCTOBER FIELD TRIP Please check our website for details when they become available.

BADGER CARE PLUS First Thursday of every month @ FRCSVCV. Call 715-684-4440 for an appointment. September 4, October 2, November 6

FRCSVC BOARD MEMBERS



Board members include:

(Front row, left to right): Pam Deal, Shari Turvaville, Mary Sue Ash, S. Mark Tyler, Teri Kohlrusch, Barbara Nelson.

(Back row, left to right): David Tyvoll, Sharon Reyzer, Jean Johnson, Heather Logelin, John Marnell.

Play & Learn Groups: Guidelines for Parents

30 Minutes—Guided Free Play
10 Minutes—Circle Time
10 Minutes—Craft/Table Time
10 minutes—Snack & Story Time

At FRCSVC Play & Learn groups we want participants to have opportunities for learning and fun! In order to provide these benefits for all, please remember the following guidelines:

- Play & Learn groups are an opportunity for children to interact with their parents/caregivers and at the same time interact with their peers with parental guidance. Parents/caregivers are responsible for their children at all times.
- Please place any toys that have been mouthed in the designated area so we can sanitize them. This will keep germs and illnesses from spreading.

- Play & Learn groups are a time parents/caregivers can discuss parenting strategies, dilemmas, and everyday happenings with a Parent Educator and other parents/caregivers going through similar situations.
- Our Play & Learn groups are open to any family. No one is turned away from a group unless it is full. We do hold a waiting list.
- Please call or email if you cannot attend your scheduled group. Ideally, if you could do this prior to group we would appreciate it. We understand that you and your children might become ill or an emergency may arise, but notice to us gives us a chance to have the appropriate number of handouts and craft items available.
- If you miss three (3) weeks in a Play & Learn group session without notice, we retain the right to fill your position with a family from our waiting list.

If you have any questions please feel free to ask your Parent Educator. They are always available to help you.