



To: All Head Start Staff, Policy Council Members, and Collaboration Sites

From: Jenny Childerson

Subject: Weekly Memo Update

Date: Week of 2.1.16

The Building Resilience Project

I wanted to take a moment to thank you all for your participation in our evening session with Dr. Singh last week. We have been very excited about this initiative and it was affirming to hear such a great deal of positive feedback and interest from many of you. I also wanted to take a moment to thank those of you who were willing to step forward and voice your questions and concerns with the project. I hope that you all felt you were provided with an opportunity for open discussion and that you were heard. If any of you still have thoughts or questions about this initiative, please feel free to contact me at any time, I am more than happy to discuss this with you further.

Special Services and Behavioral Health

As you are aware, we have had some staffing turn-over in our Special Services (SS) department. I know that many of you have submitted referrals to the SS team, have outstanding concerns in your classroom, and have not received the support you need. At this time I am asking that you send any referrals for SS directly to me. We are doing everything we can to fill these vacancies quickly and get you all the support you need. In the interim, we are contracting with a mental health provider that we can refer some of children to and we can also explore other outside supports if needed while we are rebuilding our internal capacity to offer these services. I will be sorting through each referral to decide what we can do now and determine what can wait until our vacancies are filled. If you have any immediate needs in your classroom please do not hesitate to reach out.

Conscious Discipline Training

We are excited to announce that we will be providing you all with an opportunity for an in depth formal training on Conscious Discipline. We are bringing in Jane Walker, a Board Certified Behavior Analyst, to conduct this training with all Head Start staff. Training dates and times are still being discussed, but you will all receive notice when the schedule is finalized.



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Shout Out!!

Shout out to ST. CLAIR! Over the past few months the team at St. Clair has been working through some very trying situations in the classroom. The staff has been extremely proactive to engage family members and collaborate with other staff to help address these issues. No matter how trying their situations have been, they have continued to persevere and have maintained their commitment to offer their best to the families they serve. Thank you St. Clair team for all of your hard work!

Did you know you can nominate a staff member, a classroom, or a center for a Shout Out? If you have observed any of your colleagues going above and beyond in their service to our families, please take a moment and email me to share what is happening in your center! Your management team is very aware that the JFCAC Head Start staff continually serve with excellence, but we want to be sure we are sharing our victories and accomplishments with everyone in the program. Speak up, we want to hear from you!

Thank you for taking the time to read and review this week's update. Please feel free to contact your immediate supervisor, any management staff, or myself with any questions and/or concerns.

Jenny Childerson



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