



**Fall Association Meeting**  
**October 15-17, 2008 -- Kennewick Red Lion**

**Wednesday, October 15**

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**7:30 to 9:00 am                      Registration**

**9:00 to 10:00 am                  Welcome and Opening Session**

Joel Ryan, WSA Executive Director and Janet Anderson, WSA President, and WSA Board Members will facilitate this session. We will conduct the roll call, discuss the election of WSA board members, hear about the draft WSA strategic plan, get a run-down of the agenda for the meeting, and make any necessary announcements.

**Choice Sessions**

**10:00 to 12 Noon                      ECEAP Directors Meeting**

At this meeting ECEAP directors will have an opportunity to discuss latest issues, advocacy priorities, and help WSA develop an agenda for the first ECEAP Directors Meeting taking place in December.

**10:00 to 12 Noon                      New Member Orientation**

This is an opportunity for new WSA members to learn about your role and how the affiliate groups work.

**10:00 to 12 Noon                      Positive Reinforcement and Encouragement**

Paul Strand from WSU Tri-Cities does training on birth order, positive reinforcement/encouraging children.

**10:00 to 12 Noon                      Head Start and ECEAP Staff Meeting**

During this meet staff we are encouraging staff to discuss strategies for working with children with challenging behaviors, foster care children, children with autism and homeless children. This is also an excellent opportunity to talk about current issues with your staff cohorts.

**12:15 to 1:30pm                      Luncheon**

Rep. Larry Halder (R), a member of the Early Learning and Children's Services Committee from Kennewick will be one of our featured speakers.

## Choice Sessions

### **1:45 to 3:00 pm OSPI Kindergarten Readiness Assessment**

Mary Seaton, Director of Early Learning, from OSPI and Natalie Vega-O'Neill from Thrive by Five will provide information about the development of a kindergarten readiness assessment tool they are working on. A representative from the Department of Early Learning may also join us.

### **1:45 to 3:00 pm Grassroots Organizing for Parents**

Joel Ryan will provide parents a grassroots organizing training. Parents will learn how to contact their elected officials, the media, and organize other parents. This training is good for both beginning and long-time parent advocates.

### **1:45 to 3:00 pm Working with Children of Incarcerated Parents**

Cathy Garland from the Children's Home Society will talk about how to work with children of incarcerated parents.

### **1:45 to 3:00 pm TBD**

### **3:00 to 3:30 pm Refreshment Break and Networking**

### **3:30 to 5:00 pm Federal and State Legislative Issues**

Joel Ryan and Lonnie Johns- Brown will provide members with an update on Head Start and ECEAP funding, regulations, and national pre-legislation. We will also discuss our proposed advocacy goals and preview the upcoming Washington State Legislative Session.

### **5:00 to 5:30 pm Prospective Board Member Orientation**

If you are interested in running for one of the open board positions, this session is an opportunity to meet with experienced board members to learn about the role and responsibilities of the WSA Board members. (List board openings)

### **5:45 to 6:30 pm Board Debrief**

## **Thursday, October 16**

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### **7:30 to 9:00 am Breakfast**

### **8:00 to 9:00 am Head Start/ECEAP Foster Care Advisory Meeting**

Members of the Foster Care/Head Start Advisory Committee will have their first introductory meeting over breakfast.

### **9:00 to 9:15 am Greetings and Morning Welcome**

## Choice Sessions

### **9:15 to 12:15 pm                      Special Session on Foster Care**

Casey Family Programs is sponsoring a year-long foster care project with WSA. The goal of the project to provide training to staff on the best strategies and practices in working with foster care children enrolled in Head Start and ECEAP. We will also develop a new foster care curriculum that can be used by all programs in the state of Washington. For this first session we hope to accomplish the following:

- Give an overview of the project.
- Update programs on the new Head Start reauthorization requirements.
- Discuss the ECEAP requirements around foster care children.
- Provide Information on the status of foster care children in this state and across the country.
- Discuss the barriers and challenges to serving foster care children in Head Start and ECEAP.
- Provide a beginning list of best practices currently being used by local programs.

The panel will be moderated by Janet Anderson, WSA board chair. Already confirmed are Joyce Kilmer and Kelli Bohanon from the Department of Early Learning. Jana Evans, a foster care parent and WSA board member, will also present. In addition, we are expecting one or two nationally recognized speakers to join us for this incredible opportunity.

### **9:15 to 12:15 pm                      Supervisor/Leadership Training**

John Naegele, from Children's Home Society, will provide staff and mid-managers an intensive supervision and leadership training. The training will focus on 3 key areas: 1) dealing with change; 2) having difficult conversations with staff and 3) dealing with transitions.

### **9:15 to 10:30 am                      Attachment and Bonding**

Katie Christianson, owner of Jitterbug Dance and licensed Nurturing Pathways® instructor, will explore the importance of attachment and bonding. She will offer ways that caregivers and parents can use an understanding of attachment behaviors to deepen the bonds they have with children in their care. Infant massage instruction is included in this workshop.

### **10:45am to 12:15 pm Dancing to Develop the Whole Child**

Katie Christianson will demonstrate ways to move with children in your care that will enhance social, physical, cognitive and sensory-processing development.

### **12:30pm to 2:00                      Luncheon**

Doug Wordell, Spokane Public Schools, will keynote. Description to follow.

## Choice Sessions

### **2:00 to 3:30 pm                      Special Session on Children with Autism**

Carol Girard from Kennewick School District - Description to follow.

**2:00 to 3:30 pm            Head Start Directors Meeting**

**2:00 to 3:30 pm            Success Stories Campaign**

In this session parents will be encouraged to share their personal success stories. We hope to capture some of these stories on video and share them with a wide audience. Participants will also be asked to help WSA put together a “success stories” campaign to better highlight the success of Head Start and ECEAP.

**2:00 to 3:30 pm            Child Safety**

Jerry Tyler from the Benton-Franklin Health Department and head of the Safe Kids Coalition in the Tri-Cities will discuss child safety. Description to follow.

**3:45 to 5:00 pm            Affiliate Group Meetings**

**5:15 to 5:45 pm            WSA Budget Update**

**7:00 to 8:30 pm            Dessert Reception**

## **Friday, October 17**

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**8:00 to 9:00 am            Breakfast**

During breakfast we will hold the Dollar per Child raffle.

**8:00 to 9:00 am            Quality and Training Committee Meeting**

This is the first meeting of the quality and training committee. This committee is tasked with reviewing our training opportunities and calendar and developing new ideas and suggestion for future training. Breakfast will be included.

**9:00 to 9:15 am            Child Care Development Block Grant Planning**

Joyce Kilmer from the Department of Early Learning will join us to update us the planning process and gather input and suggestions from attendees.

**9:15 to 10:00 am           Election 2008 – details to follow**

**10:00 to 10:30            Affiliate Group Report Backs**

**10:30 to 12 Noon           Closing Session of the WSA Business Meeting**

During this session we will approve by-law changes, the strategic plan, the advocacy goals, and the budget.

**12:00 to 12:30 pm           Quick Debrief with New Board Members**