



YCPO

Young Children: Priority One



SERVING
THE CHILDREN
OF THE WORLD

Winter 2004

Volume 1, Issue 1

INFLUENZA SEASON 2004-05

Influenza Key Points and Prevention Practices:

Here are the key points: 2004-05 Influenza Season

- The reduced supply of influenza vaccine has created an urgent supply situation.
- Those in non-priority groups should forego or defer vaccination.
- The following are priority groups for vaccination:
 - * all children aged 6-23 months;
 - * adults aged 65 years and older;
 - * persons aged 2-64 with underlying chronic medical conditions;
 - * all women who will be pregnant during the influenza season;
 - * residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities;
 - * children aged 6 months-18 years on chronic aspirin therapy;
 - * healthcare workers involved in direct patient care; and
 - * out-of-home caregivers and household contacts of children aged <six months.

Also, please continue to practice flu prevention by:

- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick, too.
- If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.
- Wash your hands often with hot water and soap to help protect against germs.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Engaging in activity, managing stress, drinking water, and eating nutritious food, will help you stay healthy in the winter and all year.

2004-05 COMMITTEE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Jane Judy Miller - Chair
 Wil Blechman, M.D.
 Connie Pittman, M.D.
 Corinne Francis
 John Peter Curielli
 Chuck McIlravey



CAL-NEV-HA DISTRICT

Division 2

Oakland, Berkeley & Alameda Clubs

The three Kiwanis clubs participated in the Miracle Mile of Quarters during the two-day Alameda Wine & Art Festival attended by 80,000 people. The clubs together raised \$8,600 for the pediatric trauma ward at Children's Hospital of Oakland. Kiwanians were assisted by Key Club members who laid out the myriad quarters.

Division 6

Corona Club

Kiwanians recently delivered books to four Head Start schools in the Corona-Norco School District. Each month, 370 children receive books, thanks to Kiwanis. Funds for the program come from the on-going collection and recycling of ink-jet cartridges.

Division 18

Dinuba Club

Kiwanians hosted a family-safety fair October 12 in conjunction with the fire department. The club conducts a bicycle rodeo and distributes helmets at the Dinuba Fire Station. More than 200 children benefitted from the event.

Division 38

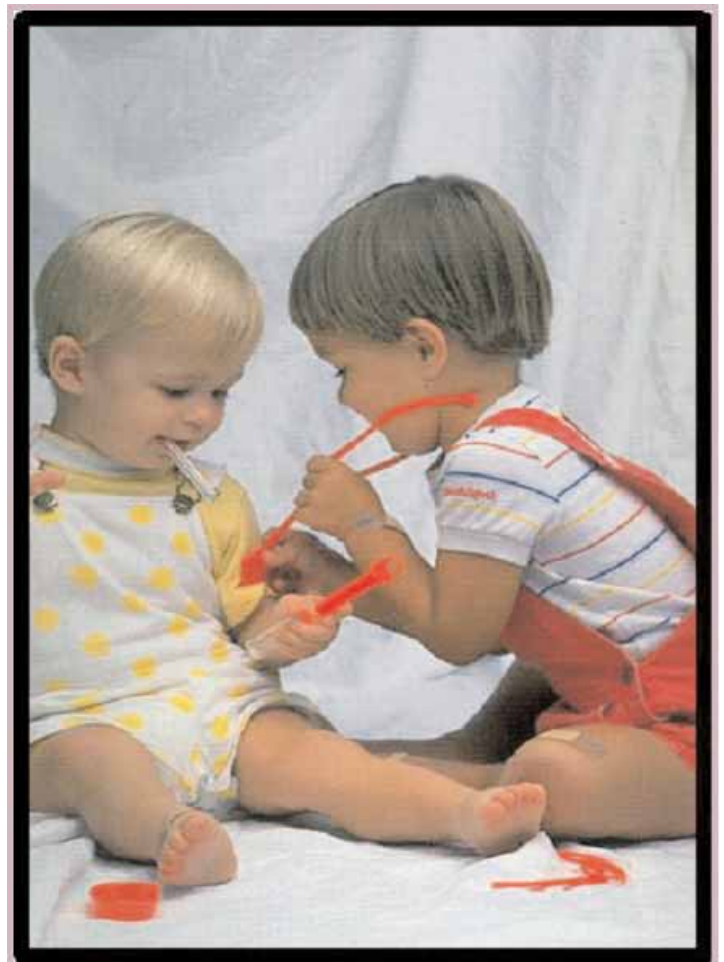
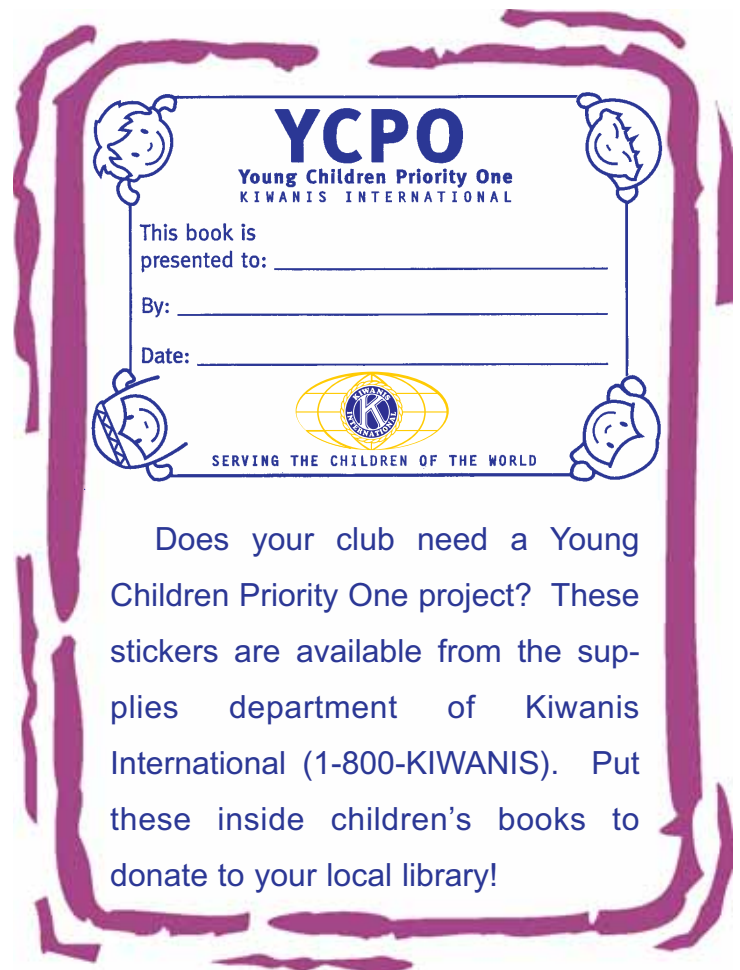
Victorville Club

Kiwanians manned booths at the Mall of Victorville "Safety City," an annual back-to-school event where preschoolers are taught the basics of safety as they prepare for school. About 1,000 youngsters who visited were also offered immunizations.

Division 46

Greater Sonora Club

The club learned from one of its guest speakers that the Tuolumne County Homeless Shelter needed a new playground. Kiwanians got to work and spent six weeks and \$500 to build the playground for the shelter's children.



E. C. & C. DISTRICT

Seaway Kiwanis Club

Sarnia, Ontario

Children's Animal Farm

Sponsored by the Seaway Kiwanis & The City of Sarnia

Located in Canatara Park, the Farm is surrounded by a variety of flowers, gardens, playground equipment and picnic areas that are only steps away.

Visit the Farm during June, July or August and take part in our new interpretive program aimed to providing children with information about all the farm animals.

The Sarnia Children's Animal Farm was opened in May of 1964. The Seaway Kiwanis, in co-operation with the City of Sarnia, produced a priceless program which would become the most popular year-round attraction at Canatara.

The "Park Zoo", as it was originally named by the newspaper, was instantly a big hit with the majority of people visiting on Sunday afternoons to see and visit with the animals.

The Seaway Kiwanis Club has been the largest benefactor to the Animal Farm since it opened, donating close to half a million dollars to the Farm effort. Over 30 articles and pictures have been run on the Farm over the years. These articles have been presented in the Sarnia Observer and Gazette.

Contact Information: www.childreanimalfarm.com



IDAHO DISTRICT

Kiwanis Club of Meridian

"Dignity For Kids"

All too frequently, children are brought into the emergency room after sexual and/or physical abuse.

The children are often required to relinquish the clothes they are wearing as evidence in the investigation. Hospitals provide a standard gown to the child to wear when they leave the hospital.

The promise of the project - a child (a victim) who suffered abuse should not have compounded embarrassment of walking through hospital hallways and parking lots in a standard gown.

The club supplies age-appropriate, gender neutral "kits" for abused children. Each kit consists of a sweatshirt, underwear, socks and a stuffed animal. The club supplies 1-2 kits in each size, the most common sizes are 6x and under and youth size 10. (Dignity Kits)

The club works with the hospital emergency department to keep the kits stored and stocked.

For information, contact Cyn Reneau at:

(208) 947-5045 (days) or (208) 345-0009 (evenings).

NEW JERSEY DISTRICT

Focus On Autism

What is autism?

Autism is a complex developmental disorder whose symptoms typically appear during a child's first three years of life. Because it is a spectrum disorder some of its symptoms can be severe in one child and perhaps not present in another.

It is a biological condition that results in a life long disability. While experts disagree whether autism is curable, parents need to know that if autism is treated early many children can go on to lead a normal life.

Autism is caused by abnormal development of the brain. Its symptoms center around three broad areas:

- problems with verbal and non-verbal communications;
- impaired social interaction;
- unusual or limited interests and activities, often times repetitive.

Autism knows no bias and it strikes all races, ethnic and social groups, and both sexes, though boys are four times more likely to develop it than girls.

What causes autism?

Several factors are being investigated, including:

- * genetics, though to date no single gene abnormality or mutation has been found;
- * early fetal development, especially in the first twenty to twenty-four days after conception; and
- * environmental exposures such as viral infections, metabolic imbalances and exposure to environmental chemicals.

While no single cause for autism has been found there are certain myths about the condition that have been ruled out.

It is not a communicable disease, one does not contract it from another person, nor is it triggered by an emotional trauma. It is not caused by bad parenting. It is not a mental disease and it is not simply unruly children choosing not to behave.

Is there hope for a child with autism?

It has been shown that the earlier a child is diagnosed and treatment started, the sooner a child can benefit from intervention treatments and the greater the chance of that child leading a normal life.

The goal of treatment is to advance a child's social and communication skills and to minimize those behaviors that interfere with the child's functioning and learning.

Websites of Interest:

Autism Society of America, www.autism-society.org

Cure Autism Now Foundation, www.canfoundation.org

National Institute of Health, www.nih.gov

National Alliance for Autism Research, www.naar.org

MEDLINE Plus, a service of the National Library of Medicine, www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus

For more information contact Yvette Janvier, M.D.

Email: yvettejanvier@comcast.net

A NEW ZEALAND SOUTH PACIFIC DISTRICT

Kiwanis Targeting Burns

By Gay McNamara

District Serving the Children of the World Chairperson

At the Kiwanis District Convention in September 2001, it was unanimously decided to start on a new district project for the Kids First Hospital Burns Unit in South Auckland. This is the main burns unit for treatment of serious burns for the whole of New Zealand and the South Pacific region, including New Caledonia and French Polynesia. Kids First Hospital is a new 84-bed hospital, purpose built for treating up to the age of 16 years; it is the country's specialist unit for burns and has specialist facilities for skin grafting and all treatment for burns. Seventy-five percent of the children treated for burns were 3 years and under. The hospital was built at a cost of 66 million dollars, funded by the New Zealand government. However, there is shortfall to purchase some of the specialized equipment. It was the resolution of the district to raise NZ \$150,000 with which to purchase an anaesthesia delivery unit (or pain monitor) to help with the terrible pain that these children suffer under treatment, sometimes for 2-3 hours a day.

One year on from the start at the 2001 district convention, it was reported at the 2002 Kiwanis New Zealand South Pacific District Convention that we had already raised more than NZ \$150,000 for this project.

It was with great pleasure that we welcomed Stephen Mills, Co-Director of the Kids First Burns Unit, and Pam Tregonning, Executive Director of the South Auckland Foundation, to the 2002 district convention. Stephen Mills gave a talk and photographic presentation on what is happening in the treatment of burns and how this equipment will be used. He said that the new machine will free up theaters for other uses and will help reduce the long waiting lists for surgery. After this, the highlight was being able to present a cheque to Kids First Hospital for the amount of \$116,357.33 to purchase the first Anesthesia Delivery Unit. This money has been raised by the great effort that the district members made during the first year of fundraising plus the grant received from the Kiwanis International Foundation. The effort that Fundraising Concepts Limited has made to aid the cause is also acknowledged.

The hospital has reported that the number of burn children being treated in 2002 has risen considerably and the total for 2002 stands at 230 which is about 50 up from the previous year. The various avenues of fundraising meant that at the end of September 2002, we had already raised \$65,849.65 towards the next machine. The reason that a second machine would be beneficial is that there are two treatment rooms in the Burns Unit and quite often they are both in use. It was announced at the 2002 convention that the Kids First Burns Unit is to become the national burns unit for the children of New Zealand and the South Pacific.

<http://www.kiwanis.org.nz/distektb.htm>

SAFETY TIPS Home & Play



Compliments of SOUTHWESTERN OHIO KIWANIS FOR KIDS

Home Safety Tips

When selecting toys, consider the child's age, interest and skill level. Consider quality design and safety recommendations. Use safety gates at top and bottom of stairs if there are infants and toddlers in the home.

Fire/Burn Prevention

Install smoke alarms in your home on every level and every sleeping level. Test the alarms once a month, and replace batteries at least once a year after the time changes. Keep matches, lighters, gasoline and all other flammable materials locked away and out of children's reach.

Choking Prevention

Keep small items away from young children. Always supervise young children while they are eating and playing.

Poison Prevention

Store household chemicals in locked cabinets and out of children's reach. Use child proof safety locks when needed. Always read labels and instructions when giving medicine to children.

Pedestrian & Vehicle Safety

Instruct children to look left, right, left before crossing street. Teach children to cross street at least 10 feet in front of a school bus. At dawn and dusk wear reflective clothing and carry a flashlight. Always use safety belts in shopping carts. Do not let child stand in shopping cart.

Motor Vehicle Safety

Children up to at least one year of age and 20 pounds should use a rear-facing car seat. Children between ages one and four and between 20 and 40 pounds should use a forward-facing car seat with an internal harness. Children weighing between 40 and 80 pounds that are less than 4'9" tall should use a belt-positioning booster seat. Children weighing about 80 pounds or more that are at least 4'9" tall should use a seat belt.

Bicycle & Helmet Safety

Always wear a helmet when you go out on your bicycle, scooter, roller blades or skateboard. Your helmet should fit snugly under the chin and low over the forehead, about two fingers widths above the eyebrows. The helmet should also fit your head securely. Helmets should be replaced if involved in crash. Extra riders are not welcome. Never let a person ride on the handlebars. Improperly sized bicycles are dangerous. You should be able to place both feet flat on the ground when straddling the bicycle. Do not swerve in and out of traffic, and always watch for cars. Just like a car, you should obey all traffic signs and signals. Safety is for everyone, even grown-ups.

Water Safety

Never dive in water less than 9 feet deep. Never leave a child unsupervised in or around water in the home. Empty all containers, such as tubs, buckets and small pools, immediately after use and store out of reach of children.

Playground Safety

Ensure that schools, child care centers and parks have age appropriate, well-maintained playground equipment. Report any safety hazards to the organization responsible for the site. Children should be supervised when using playground equipment. Maintain visual and auditory contact. Prevent unsafe behaviors like pushing, shoving, crowding and inappropriate use of equipment. Suitable playground surfaces include: sand (10 inches deep), wood chips (12 inches deep) and synthetic materials (e.g. rubber tiles or pour-in place systems).

Prevention is the Most Compassionate Thing We Can Do For Children

Other Safety Resources

National Safe Kids:

www.safekids.org

Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute:

www.bhsi.org

Consumer Product Safety Commission:

www.cpsc.gov

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:

www.nhtsa.dot.gov

National Center for Bicycling and Walking:

www.bikewalk.org

American Red Cross:

www.redcross.org

National Fire Protection Association:

www.nfpa.org

Safe Playgrounds:

www.injuryfree.org



TeachMoreLoveMore

FLORIDA DISTRICT

TeachMoreLoveMore

For those who wish to have a greater understanding of the earliest years of life, that time of human existence in which the structure and function of the body change to a greater degree and more rapidly than at any other time, there are some excellent websites available.

I would like to point to one that is not quite as well known as some of the others, yet is becoming one of the most frequently viewed. It originates from the Early Childhood Initiative Foundation in Miami, Florida. The web address: www.teachmorelovemore.org

Over the years people have had a basic understanding of the importance of the prenatal period and the first several years of life. In the past several years, however, scientific evidence has further enhanced that understanding. It is now clear that much of a person's future life can be molded by what does or doesn't happen prior to birth and the years that precede formal entry into school...And this mold may be very difficult to modify in later years.

Whenever we as individuals or as organizations support the proper development of young children, we are helping to ensure not only their future success, but also the success of our society in whatever

country we might live.

By accessing www.teachmorelovemore.org on a regular basis, we put ourselves in position to make optimal decisions on what we do to support the young child. Those who attended the Kiwanis International Convention or some of the Kiwanis District Conventions this summer also learned of the newsletter (TeachMoreLoveMore) put out by the Early Childhood Initiative. This newsletter is **free** to anyone requesting it. Applications can be found on the web site or fax to (305) 646-7232.

...And ask to be placed on the mailing list, which is not limited to Miami, Florida or even the United States. The newsletter has both English and Spanish language sections and is prepared with the help of experts in various fields related to early childhood.

If you are already receiving TeachMoreLoveMore, I hope you have also begun urging others to sign up for it. After all, it's not often we can provide a **FREE** resource to people which can help make a difference in children's lives. As has been previously noted to some, Kiwanis support in bringing attention of the newsletter to Head Start centers, child care sites, preschools, etc. is a simple yet important project. If you are not already involved in this program, I hope you will consider getting your Kiwanis Club or any other organization you belong to involved.

A message from: Wil Blechman, M.D.

PEACEFUL PARENTING

Lancaster Kiwanis Club
Saint John's New Brunswick

Contact Sherry Gionet e-mail:
ggionet6969@rogers.com

A Seminar conducted by Nancy Buck, R.N., PhD on "Choice Therapy" applied to age's birth to adulthood. The participants were encouraged to have a "temper tantrum." The workbooks were donated to the "Child Life" program at the local hospital.

www.peacefulparenting.com

"THE JESSE CAUSE"

Contact Information: Cal-Nev-Ha District
george@altavistainsurance.com

This project is designed to promote awareness of Group B Strep (GBS) to women of childbearing age.

A woman with (GBS) can pass it on to her fetus when she is pregnant or to her baby when delivering or after birth. With testing and monitoring, 86% of GBS cases can be prevented. GBS can be fatal. For more information, contact www.thejessecause.org.

We Pray for Children

We pray for children
Who sneak popsicles before supper
Who erase holes in math workbooks,
Who can never find their shoes.
And we pray, for those
Who stare at photographers from behind barbed wire,
Who can't bound down the street in a new pair of sneakers,
Who never "counted potatoes"
Who are born in places where we wouldn't be caught dead,
Who never go to the circus,
Who live in an x-rated world.
We pray for children
Who bring us sticky kisses and fistfuls of dandelions,
Who hug us in a hurry and forget their lunch money.
And we pray for those
Who never get dessert,
Who have no safe blanket to drag behind them,
Who watch their parents watch them die,
Who can't find any bread to steal,
Who don't have any rooms to clean up,
Whose pictures aren't on anybody's dresser,
Whose monsters are real.
We pray for children
Who spend all their allowance before Tuesday
Who throw tantrums in the grocery
Store and pick at their food,
Who like ghost stories,
Who shove dirty clothes under the bed,
And never rinse out the tub,
Who get visits from the tooth fairy,
Who don't like to be kissed in front of the carpool,
Who squirm in church or temple and scream in the phone,
Whose tears we sometimes laugh at
And smiles can make us cry.
And we pray for those
Whose nightmares come in the daytime,
Who will eat anything
Who have never seen a dentist,
Who aren't spoiled by anybody,
Who go to bed hungry and cry themselves to sleep,
Who live and move, but have no being.
We pray for children
Who want to be carried and for those who must,
For those we never give up on
And for those who don't get a second chance.
For those we smother...
And for those who will grab the hand
Of anybody kind enough to offer it.
We pray...Amen.



kiwanis international

3636 Woodview Trace
Indianapolis, IN 46268-3196

FUTURE FEATURES

- Hanover, Pennsylvania Club project:
An Orphanage in Bulgaria
- The Netherlands: A House for Orphans
- Switzerland: Mucoviscidosis
- Clubs in Malaysia:
Supports 6 Downs Syndrome centers
- East Timor: Australia's Dairy Project
providing milk to 5,000 Children
- Japan: Kiwanis Doll Project
- Philippines South: IDD
- EC&C: School Bus Project
- Read Around the World:
Feb 1 - March 3, 2005

Please feel free to contact me
with any questions or concerns.

J. J. Miller, R.N.

Email: jjmillerjrn@aol.com

YCPO

Young Children: Priority One



YCPO began in 1990. Each year more than 4,000 Kiwanis clubs have helped kids, prenatal through 5. Annually, clubs spend \$35 million and volunteer for 1 million hours through projects involving parent education and support, safety and pediatric trauma, child care and development, and maternal and infant health.

- 1,500 clubs support immunization programs and Children's Miracle Network hospitals.
- 1,000 clubs work with Head Start Centers and child care programs.
- Reading is Fundamental projects and parenting programs.
- 500+ clubs help educate pregnant women, conduct child-safety programs, and child abuse awareness programs.

Despite these efforts, many more children could benefit from Kiwanis intervention.

