



WC Connecting for Kids Newsletter

Wanted: Community Advisors

Hello Whole Child Partners and Friends,

Hope all of you have made it through this extremely hot summer so far. We have been very busy directing families to community resources, as I know many of you have by your responses to service requests from the Whole Child Connection.

We very much need your support in looking at the possibility of designating someone in your organization to become a Whole Child Community Advisor. So many of you are doing this in your every day work and by having access to the Whole Child on line system you will gain even more knowledge about benefits that are available. As a Community Advisor, local providers can easily refer their clients to other community services through the Whole Child system. You will save precious time by directing the family to the Whole Child Profile, assisting them when needed and generating an immediate self referral to the services they desire.

Another advantage is the ability to track the family's' needs and referrals online.

Advisors are trained and receive additional access on the Whole Child system, which allows them to follow your family's' progress and view the providers that they are already working with. An advisor can assist the family in addressing their ever changing needs through a return visit to their Profile and track this progress securely online.

Our goal is to create a more seamless system of care for families and providers by increasing awareness of community resources and eliminating duplication of services. It enables our community to work together, without spending excess time generating referrals.

We do look forward to the expansion of the Manatee Whole Child Community Advisors and hope to hear from you for more information. Feel free to contact me at 941-749-3059.

Regards,
Pat Johnson



Calendar

August

20th: People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) 9am at the UW Conference Room. Call 747-1509 for more information.

24th: First day of school

September

8th: Musical Motion Class in Spanish begins @Harlee Family Full Service Center. Call 753-0958 for more information

23rd: Community Developmental Screening from 3pm to 6pm; more details in the future. Call 749-3059

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Calendar

Recurring Meetings

Parent Education Coalition:
1st Wed. of every month @ 8:30
am. Contact Barbara Brownell
@ 756-3007

Grandparents as Parents:
3rd Saturday of every month.
Call Nancy Darr at the GAP
hotline for more information;
756-8197

Healthy Start Coalition: 1st
Tuesday of every month
@11:30. Contact Luz Corcuera
@714-7542 for further details

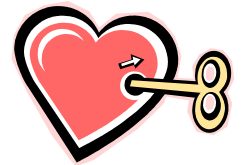
Healthy Families: Quarterly
open community meetings.
Contact Linda Hedrick @
745-5949, ext 7720

“BRAVO!” to Whole Child Manatee Providers

Whole Child would like to “tip our hats” to the following providers who have responded to their most recent service requests in a timely manner:

Manatee County Housing Authority	2
Community Coalition for the Homeless	4
Care Net Manasota Pregnancy Center	2
Mary Simpson Strong Full Service Center	4

Keep up the good work!



*As for the future, your task is not to see it,
but to enable it.*

--Antoine de Saint- Exupery
Author of “The Little Prince”

Snapshot of a Community Advisor

Well known and respected by many in the early child and family support community, Edwina Jones is the Whole Child Community Advisor at the Community Haven for Adults and Children with Disabilities. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree and additional master’s level training in special education for children from birth through 8 years of age. Ms. Jones has worked with children, families, state and local social services, and school and education providers for more than 30 years. She and her husband, Ken, moved to Florida from Pennsylvania in 1986, where they were both case workers. In Florida they volunteered at the Church of the

Redeemer shelter for abused children as house parents. From there, both she and her husband began working for the Dept. of Children and Families. Edwina originally joined the Whole Child Manatee team in 2005 as a WC Community Advisor for Early Steps. Recognized as an enhancement to her work for CHAC families, Edwina continues as a WC Community Advisor at the Haven. As a Community Advisor, Edwina is available to guide families through the web based Whole Child Connection, providing them with a customized Whole Child Plan of available services for themselves and their children.



“This is a partnership. Our goal is to help families in collaboration with other community providers and advisors. We work as a team. We don’t ever work in isolation”,
Edwina Jones, Whole Child community Advisor.

Kudos to all who participated in the 15th Annual Children's Summit!



Thanks to everyone who helped!

BRIEFS:

- A special back-to-school information phone line has been provided by the Manatee School District for parent inquiries. The Parent Information Phone Line will be in operation from 8am to 4:30pm starting Monday, Aug. 10 through Wednesday Aug. 26. The number is 941-708-4951.
- Some schools are providing assistance with uniforms and school supplies. Families should contact their individual schools for more information.
- Look for the new Whole Child Manatee Logo in our next newsletter!