



# Black Hills Association for the Education of Young Children

Spring 2007 Newsletter

## 2007 BHAEYC Officers

**President**—Kim Booth  
kimbooth@rushmore.com  
342-6464 (work)

**President-Elect**- *position open*

**Secretary** - Pam Ramp  
[ktramp@aol.com](mailto:ktramp@aol.com)  
348-6041 (home)

**Treasurer** - Bernie Peterson  
bernie@rapidnet.com  
342-4195 (work)

**Members at Large**-  
Jan Tysdal 341-7582 (home)  
[jantysdal@yahoo.com](mailto:jantysdal@yahoo.com)

Amy Willman 342-4233 (work)  
[awillman@youthandfamilyservices.org](mailto:awillman@youthandfamilyservices.org)

Virginia Cammack 787-4647 (work)  
[vircam@rushmore.com](mailto:vircam@rushmore.com)

## BHAEYC Committee Chairs:

**Nominations:** *position open*

**Accreditation:** *position open*

**Finance:** Bernie Peterson  
e-mail: [bernie@rapidnet.com](mailto:bernie@rapidnet.com)

**Public Policy:** Jan Tysdal  
e-mail: [jantysdal@yahoo.com](mailto:jantysdal@yahoo.com)

**Membership:** Candy Kalil  
e-mail: [ckalil@rushmore.com](mailto:ckalil@rushmore.com)

**Professional Dev.:** Liz Kelso  
e-mail: [lkelso@youthandfamilyservices.org](mailto:lkelso@youthandfamilyservices.org)

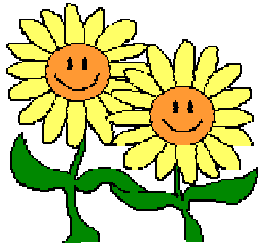


**E-Mail Addresses Wanted:**  
In order to reduce costs—if you received this newsletter through regular mail and have an e-mail address that we could send the newsletter to you in the future, please contact: Pam Ramp at [ktramp@aol.com](mailto:ktramp@aol.com)



## 2007 BHAEYC Meeting Dates (tentative)

May 8	12-2 p.m. <a href="#">Board Meeting</a> at Early Childhood Connections
June 2	<a href="#">BHAEYC Mini-Conference</a> ( <a href="#">General Meeting</a> at Youth & Family Services)
July 10	12-2 p.m. <a href="#">Board Meeting</a> at Early Childhood Connections
Sept. 11	12-2 p.m. <a href="#">Board Meeting</a> at Early Childhood Connections
Oct. 13	<a href="#">BHAEYC Mini-Conference</a> ( <a href="#">General Meeting</a> at Youth & Family Services)
Nov. 13	12-2 p.m. <a href="#">Board Meeting</a> at Early Childhood Connections
Dec. 4	6-7 p.m. <a href="#">General Meeting</a> with elections at RC Public Library



### A Note From the President

Join Our Blue Ribbon Campaign for Child Abuse Awareness Month. April is Child Abuse Awareness Month. This year Black Hills Association for the Education of Young Children (BHAEYC) and Early Childhood Connections are co-sponsoring the "Blue Ribbon Campaign." Last year, with the help of many of you, we distributed 2500 of blue ribbons and brochures on child abuse prevention to families throughout our region.

During the past several years, the blue ribbon has been widely recognized as a national symbol of child abuse awareness. This movement began in the spring of 1989, when a concerned grandmother, Bonnie Finney, took a stand against child abuse after experiencing the death of her grandson. She tied a symbolic blue ribbon to her van as a signal to her community of her personal commitment to involve everyone in the battle to stop child abuse. Why the color blue? Bonnie Finney said, "I never intend to forget the battered, bruised bodies of my grandchildren. Bruises are black, then eventually blue."

The spirit of her blue ribbon has grown and the blue ribbon now symbolizes the more than 3.2 million abused children reported each year to Child Protective Services (CPS).

*If you are interested in receiving ribbons to distribute to your families, church or other organizations, contact Kim Booth at Early Childhood Connections, #342-6464 or kimbooth@rushmore.com.*

### Upcoming Events...

Mark your calendars now:

#### Stand for Children Day

When? June 1, 2007 12-4 p.m.

Where? Storybook Island

Look for more information!



#### BHAEYC Mini-Conference

Date: Saturday, June 2, 2007

Time: 9 a.m. -12 p.m.

(registration at 8:30 a.m.)

Location: Youth & Family Services

120 East Adams Street

Rapid City, SD

Focus: Health Issues

Look for more information to come!!!

#### Check these websites out:

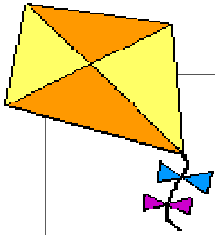
[www.everythingpreschool.com](http://www.everythingpreschool.com)

[www.preschoolrainbow.org](http://www.preschoolrainbow.org)

[www.123child.com](http://www.123child.com)



The Mission of the BHAEYC is to serve and act on behalf of the needs, rights, and well-being of all young children with the primary focus on the provision of quality care and education services; and in participation with SDAEYC, BHAEYC leads the effort to foster the growth, development, and collaboration of the professionals who care for and educate young children.



Aren't we a lucky AEYC affiliate? We currently have the Director of Affiliate Relations with NAEYC in our midst!! Gwen Simmons accepted this position with the National Association for the Education of Young Children in January of this year. Just two months into her position, we sat down and talked her role.

Gwen has been a strong advocate for quality care for children in South Dakota. She sees her new position as a facilitator and connector for local, regional and state AEYC affiliates. Her role is to provide technical assistance, support and resources for affiliate boards across the country. In addition, the Office of Affiliate Relations provides administrative support for the NAEYC Affiliate Council and NAEYC Interest Forums.

"It's definitely an honor to work for NAEYC. I've always believed in, and supported the mission of NAEYC. My new position is challenging, but I believe my work at the local and state affiliate levels in Ohio and South Dakota have prepared me well. I look forward to working with affiliate leaders to develop the "next generation of support" after reaffiliation. We certainly can build from a place of strength. Promoting meaningful and stronger partnerships between NAEYC and the affiliates is one of my primary goals. Another goal is to strengthen the connections between affiliate leaders in an effort to share their success stories of how they improve the quality of early care and education settings in their own local communities.

That's the best part of my job - supporting those in the field who are improving the field. " Gwen Simmons, NAEYC Director of Affiliate Relations.

## BHAEYC GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION NUGGETS

March 13, 2007

- Week of the Young Child is April 22-28. ECC will have an open house. A proclamation will be coming from the Governor.
- A discussion of vacancies of the board. An e-mail will be send as well as discussion during the June 2 meeting with general meetings to encourage participation and membership into BHAEYC.
- Blue ribbons will be distributed during the Week of the Young Child with BHAEYC and NAEYC covering costs. 3000 ribbons have been ordered with requests of up to 1400 already.
- BHAEYC will partially sponsor a Literacy Booth at the YFS Kid's Fair on April 27.
- BHAEYC budget year goes from July 1 through June 30. The new budget will be presented at the June 2 meeting.

*"Let us be grateful to people who make us happy: They are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom."*

*~ Marcel Proust*



**Do you want a great opportunity to network with fellow colleagues, grow professionally and advocate for issues near and dear to your heart? Then we would love to have you join the BHAEYC Board!**



**Please contact Kim Booth with Early Childhood Connections at 342-6464 if you are interested in becoming a member.**





## **Help Black Hills Association for the Education of Young Children**

### **Build Better Futures for All Children**

As we celebrate  
Week of the Young Child, April 22-28, 2007

Week of the Young Child honors the more than 35 million children from birth through age eight in America, and the families, teachers and others who help children make the most of the opportunities of their early years.

Your business can be a part of the celebration to recognize the needs of all young children!

Your business can help support early childhood education:

- Volunteer your time at Week of the Young Child events.
- Thank early childhood teachers and others who work to make a difference for children.
- Organize a volunteer event to work with local children in your community.

Research shows that high-quality early childhood programs help children develop the skills they need to succeed in school and in life.

Local celebrations of the Week of the Young Child build support for programs and policies that are vital to young children in Rapid City and the Black Hills area.

Help build better futures for all children in the Black Hills area by contacting Kim Booth at 342-6464 for more information on local events.

