

Early Childhood Resource Center Fact Sheet (ECRC)

Goal/vision of the program: To facilitate the availability and accessibility of current early childhood information and resources to early childhood professionals and families across Mass.

Purpose/priority of the program: Early childhood resources are available through the public inter-library loan system, creating broad access for parents, schools, and all EEC initiatives, including the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement grant program (CFCE), Head Start, Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK), Child Care Resource and Referral agencies (CCR&Rs), Reach Out and Read, and individual early education and care programs, including Family Child Care systems (FCC) and informal caregivers.

Total FY10 Allocation for each contract: Five public libraries hold contracts of \$7,000 each.

FY '09 outcomes/highlights:

- 18 parent/professional trainings serving 518 people were held on several topics, including: early literacy, behavior management, discipline, siblings living harmoniously, resilient parent/child, handwriting, special education, make and take, sweet dreams, two Open Houses and several tours;
- 81 child/family events were attended by 1273 children and families, areas of focus included: science, nature, storytimes, art, and playgroups;
- And more than 4151 resources were borrowed by professionals and parents.

Key information for the field:

A variety of materials, services and programs are available to teachers, administrators, students, child care providers, parents and others who work with young children. There are professional and parenting books, videos and DVDs, curriculum kits, Kids on the Block puppets and children's books available for loan. Several Centers have Ellison Die Cut machines and laminators available for use. Centers will offer presentations and/or workshops several times a year for providers and/or parents on relevant early childhood topics.

To borrow materials you only need to have a current library card. If you do not have one, visit any library and apply for one today! To borrow materials from an Early Childhood Resource Center you can visit one of the five locations listed below or visit one of the Centers online, find the resource you would like to borrow, and request the item through the Virtual Catalog. The resource will then be delivered to your home library!

Cambridge Public Library/449 Broadway/Cambridge, MA 02138 617-349-4409 – Daryl Mark
Falmouth Public Library/300 Main Street/Falmouth, MA 02540 508-457-2555 x2953, x2936 – Kim DeWall and Laura Ford Haverhill Public Library/99 Main Street/Haverhill, MA 01830-5092 978-373-1586 x626 – Alissa Lauzon and Kathy Alexander Norfolk Public Library/139 Main Street/Norfolk, MA 02056 508-528-3380 x3 - Robin Glasser and Connie Jones Springfield City Library/220A State Street/Springfield, MA 01103 413-263-6828 x201 - Christin LaRocque

Further Information: Terri Heffernan, Early Childhood Resource Center Coordinator 617-472-2881 x601; Theresa.heffernan@massmail.state.ma.us