

Great Plains Child Care Resource & Referral Center



Fourth Quarter FY15

Inside this Issue...

2 Award

4 Lunch and Learn Series

New!

5 Training Calendar

8 Technical Assistance

10 Helpful Numbers



Great Plains CCR&R Staff

Amber Cuyler
Program Manager
580-695-6999

Rachel Myrko
Child Care Consultant
405-250-3360

Jera Diltz
Program Assistant
1-888-878-4417

Office Hours
Mon-Thurs 8:30-5:00
Friday: 8:30-3:00
888-878-4417
www.gpcrr.org

OSRHE Partnership Award



Left to Right: Lt. Governor Todd Lamb, WOSC Child Development Program Coordinator Jacque Bellamy, GPCRR Program Manager Amber Cuyler, WOSC President Dr. Phil Birdine & OSRHE Chancellor Glen Johnson

Full story on page 2.

The New Resource Room is Open!

Read more on Page 3



OSRHE Partnership Award

Great Plains Child Care Resource & Referral (GPCCRR) in partnership with Western Oklahoma State College (WOSC) was one of twenty-seven business and higher education partnerships throughout the state recently recognized as an innovative collaboration that furthers the education of Oklahoma's workforce.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award is designed to highlight successful partnerships between higher education institutions and businesses and to further cultivate the higher learning environment through State Regents' Economic Development Grants.

"We are thrilled and honored to accept the Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award," said GPCCRR Program Manager, Amber Cuyler. "The Child Development Program at WOSC is top-notch and we are proud to be their partner in the Early Childhood Education field."

With quality of child care as a mutual goal, a partnership was formed between WOSC's child development program and GPCCRR. Through this beneficial partnership, GPCCRR and WOSC share advisory board meetings. With the help of community partners, the board verifies that WOSC certificate and degrees and GPCCRR's training are preparing WOSC child development students for the workforce. In its capacity as a referral service, GPCCRR also promotes WOSC's online program; the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care scholarship, which was created to help students financially and through mentorship; and the OKWorks! grant that coaches students in successfully entering the child care workforce. GPCCRR also supports WOSC in the accreditation and reaccreditation process through the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

"Oklahoma's colleges and universities drive economic advancement, collaborating with business and industry partners to link academic programs directly to employment needs in high-demand areas," said Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Chancellor Glen D. Johnson. "Through these partnerships, students engage in hands-on career-related experiences and are better prepared for the workforce."

Great Plains Child Care Resource & Referral is a program within Great Plains Youth & Family Services, Inc. GPCCRR serves families & child care professionals in Southwest Oklahoma. For help locating quality child care please call 1-800-438-0008. For more information on starting a Family Child Care Home, Child Care Center or professional development opportunities for child care professionals please visit our website www.gpcrr.org or call 1-888-878-4417.



Back row, left to right: Lisa Greenlee (WOSC), Chrystal Overton (WOSC), Rachel Myrko (GPCCRR), Paula Koos (GPCCRR), Jacquie Bellamy (WOSC), Jeri Dulaney (WOSC) and Dr. Phil Birdine (WOSC)
Seated: Amber Cuyler (GPCCRR) and Kody Suanny (GPCCRR)

Resource Room Open!

The new Resource Room is located at 8259 State Hwy 17 in Elgin, Ok. It is filled with materials for your use; including dozens of Accucut die-cut shapes, numbers & letters, colored paper, felt, foam, a laminator, computer and printer.

The Resource Room is also being used to host meetings & trainings throughout the year. See the Training Calendar and flyer on our Lunch & Learn Series in this newsletter.

Our long term goal is to offer an "Equipment Lending Library" at this location. It will take time, but we hope to build up a selection of materials & equipment to lend for use in your family child care home or classroom.

Set hours for the Resource Room are limited due to our small number of staff; however, if you are unable to visit the Resource Room during the listed times, please contact Amber @ 580-695-6999 or acuylar@gpcrr.org to schedule an appointment.



GPCRR Resource Room Dates & Times:

EVERY Wednesday 1pm—5:30pm

Saturday, April 11th, 9am-1pm

Saturday, June 20th 9am-1pm

Saturday, August 1st, 9am-1pm

*We really want this Resource Room to be useful to YOU, so please call if you need to visit on an alternate weekday or after hours. We are happy to open for 1 person or an entire center's staff, just give us a call!



Free Coffee!



Resource Room is HERE!

8259 State Hwy 17, Elgin, Ok



Training Space



Accucut Machines & die cut shapes are free to use! Bring your own paper or buy sheets from us for a nominal fee.



Resource Info Area

Join us this summer for our



Bring a lunch if you wish and join the discussion.

Join us for ONE or ALL of the sessions during our summer Lunch & Learn Series. Each session is FREE, approved by CECPD for 1.5 hours of Tier I credit and will be facilitated by Great Plains Child Care Resource & Referral. Registration is NOT required. For additional information call 580-695-6999.

Location: GPCCRR Resource Room—8259 State Hwy 17—Elgin, Ok
Time: Noon—1:30pm

WEDNESDAYS

May 20

Facebook—Employees & Clients the BIG no, nos!

**Webinar followed by discussion hosted by GPCCRR*

***Director/Owner focused*

June 17

Intro to Conscious Discipline—Becoming Brain Smart

**Video format featuring Dr. Becky Bailey*

July 22

Professionalism 101— Learn about the Do's & Don'ts...especially the Don'ts!

Aug. 5

Parent Handbook & Policies—review and revise!

**Webinar followed by discussion hosted by GPCCRR*

***Director/Owner focused*

Sept. 16

Terrific Transitions—Learn several techniques & activities to use during transition times.

Meet. Eat. Learn. Grow.

Training Calendar

Date	Cost	Training or Conference	Location	Contact
4/11	\$45	American Heart Association Pediatric Heartsaver First Aid/CPR/AED	Elgin, OK	For more information contact Amber @ 580-695-6999
4/25-5/30	\$20	Focused Portfolios 1	Weatherford, OK	For more information contact Alice Moore 405-799-6383 or go to www.okregistry.org
4/25	\$45	American Heart Association Pediatric Heartsaver First Aid/CPR/AED	Lawton, OK	For more information contact Amber @ 580-695-6999
5/9	\$45	American Heart Association Pediatric Heartsaver First Aid/CPR/AED	Elgin, OK	For more information contact Amber @ 580-695-6999
5/11	\$10	Science Sparks	Elgin, OK	For more information contact Rachel @ 405-250-3360
6/2-6/10	\$43.50	Providing for Children's Safety	Lawton, OK	For more information contact Linda Jamison @ 580-250-5606 or register at www.greatplains.edu
6/8	\$10	Science Sparks	Weatherford, OK	For more information contact Rachel @ 405-250-3360
6/9	\$10	Everything I Know I Learned From a Little Golden Book	Altus, OK	For more information contact Amber @ 580-695-6999
6/11	\$10	Everything I Know I Learned From a Little Golden Book	Elgin, OK	For more information contact Amber @ 580-695-6999
6/20	Free	ECERS-3 Coming to a Center Near You	Elgin, OK	For more information go to www.oktrainingregistry.org search for Event# 170727
6/27	\$20	Growing Up Wild	Lawton, OK	For more information contact GPCCRR @ 888-878-4417
7/25	\$45	American Heart Association Pediatric Heartsaver First Aid/CPR/AED	Altus, Ok	For more information contact Amber @ 580-695-6999
Ongoing	\$90-\$110	Red Cross-CPR/First Aid (2yr. Certification)	Lawton, Ok	For more information contact 580-355-2480
Ongoing	Free	Leap Into Literacy	Lawton, Ok	Barbara Griffin 580-355-0218

For a complete training calendar of classes/events across the state go to www.okregistry.org

For online child care professional training go to www.smarthorizons.org/naccrra/okrr/

For more information on Pathways to CDA contact Vicki Rexroat at 888-302-9050 or 405-643-3247.

For More Information about scheduling a CPR/First Aid Class in your area: Contact Amber Cuyler @ 580-695-6999. For already scheduled classes in your area contact the local American Red Cross, hospital, or county health department for dates, times & costs.

DID YOU KNOW?

Currently, SW Oklahoma has 105 licensed child care centers and 189 Family Child Care Homes.

In 2014, there were 3,728 licensed child care programs in the state of Oklahoma.

In FY2014, GPCCRR offered 38 Trainings, attended by over 600 child care providers in SW Oklahoma. So far, in FY2015, we have offered 50 Trainings & are on track for a record-breaking 60 by the end of the FY on June 30, 2015!

There are 270 facilities with a 3 Star rating in the state of Oklahoma. We have 22 such facilities in SW Oklahoma
(17 in Comanche Co.)

If you have questions about increasing your Star level contact us!

The average full-time rate for an Infant in licensed child care in SW Oklahoma is \$115 per week. The statewide average is \$127 per week.

*If you'd like to know your local average rates per age group or how to and best times of year to change your rates, contact us!

Child Passenger Training

This training opportunity is offered by Safe Kids Oklahoma in partnership with Oklahoma Child Care Services. Come learn how to transport children safely.
(Please note this is not a required training for Family Child Care Homes)

Cost is \$25.

Class times: 8:30am to 5:00pm

For information on class content, contact Safe Kids Oklahoma, www.safekidsok.org
or (405)-945-6709.

For registration information call The University of Oklahoma, Records and Registration
at 405-325-6808 or 1-800-522-0772

Website: <http://events.oucpm.org/safekids>

Bethany

April 25, 2015

Children's Center
6800 NW 39th Exp.

Muskogee

May 13, 2015

Muskogee County
Health Department
530 S. 34th Street

Tulsa

June 3, 2015

Tulsa County
Health Department
5051 S. 129th E. Ave.
Room 200



DHS Child Care Services Voucher Conferences:

Apr. 18, 2015 - Lawton.

Red River Early Childhood Association Spring Conference. sybille.mckay@yahoo.com;
www.freewebs.com/rreca/

point of contact - Sybille McKay or Eva Maria Bryant (580) 280-0582

Apr. 18, 2015 - location to be determined.

Child Care conference, Choctaw Nation Child Care Assistance.
mpotter@choctawnation.com; www.cncca.org;

point of contact - Megan Potter (580)942-8280, ext. 2473

June 20, 2015 - Tulsa

Tulsa Community College Early Learning Conference.

lindsey.asher@tulsacc.edu; www.tulsacc.edu

point of contact- Lindsey Asher 918) 595.8245

Egg Drip Painting

Supplies:

- plastic eggs
- washable tempura paint
- cardstock or butcher paper
- squeeze bottles
- water



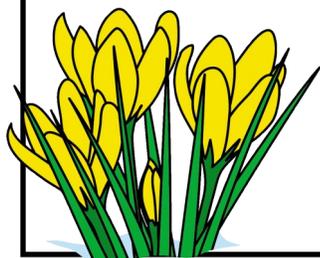
Directions: Fill squeeze bottles with 1/2 paint and 1/2 water. You want the paint to be thin enough to drip out of the holes in the eggs. You don't want it too watery, though, so you can water down tempera paint instead of using liquid watercolors. For older children it would be fun to observe different paint mediums with the eggs and how each one drips through the holes onto the paper.

www.learnplayimagine.com

Spring is Here!

Spring is here.
Spring is here.
Goodbye, snow.
Flowers grow.

Birds and bees.
Leaves on trees.
Hello, spring.
Hello, spring.



*Sung to tune of
"Are You
Sleeping?"*

Green Hair People

Put child's photo in front of clear cup and fill with potting soil and grass seed. Water and allow to get sun and watch as the children grow green hair!



www.bloglovin.com

Free Technical Assistance

Did you know we offer one-on-one Technical Assistance in your Family Child Care Home or Center Classroom?

Topics include, but are not limited to:

- Stars Application Process
 - Room Arrangement
 - Behavior and Guidance
- Creating Policies/Handbooks
- Communication with Families
 - Customer Service
- Marketing Your Child Care Business
 - Story Time Strategies
 - Transition Ideas
- Color Photos of your Interest Centers for Labeling
 - Equipment Inventory
 - Die Cut Services
- Eco Friendly Environment Assessment
- Guidance on NAFCC Accreditation
 - & Much More!

**We also offer consultations over the phone
and email. We are here to help!**

Important Dates

April 5th-Easter

April 22nd- Earth Day

May 5th- Cinco De Mayo

May 8th-Child Care Provider Appreciation Day

May 10th- Mother's Day

May 16th-Armed Forces Day

May 25th-Memorial Day

June 14th-Flag Day

June 21st-Father's Day

July 4th- Independence Day

July 26th-Parent's Day

Like Us on Facebook!!

We are giving away prizes, posting new trainings, and updating information on our facebook page.

Please like us by following the link: www.facebook.com/gpcrr
and click on the LIKE button.

We are excited to utilize this form of social media to keep you informed with the most up-to-date information and to stay in contact.

Oklahoma Professional Development Registry

If you are a 1+ star, 2 star or 3 star program you are **required** to be registered as direct care organization with the Oklahoma Professional Development Registry.

You can register online as a direct care organization or as an individual at <https://okregistry.org/>

If you have questions feel free to contact CECPD: Toll Free: 888-446-7608 or 405-799-6383

Helpful Numbers



Great Plains Child Care Resource & Referral: 1-888-878-4417

Provides parent referrals, provider training, technical assistance, library and more.

Reaching for the Stars: 1-800-522-2564

A child care rating system based on quality and education

Scholars for Excellence: 1-866-343-3881

Provides early childhood educational opportunities through scholarships for child care professionals .

Warmline: 1-888-574-5437

Offers free telephone consultation to child care providers on behavioral, health & safety, and care topics. Consultants can offer ideas and solutions and refer providers to appropriate services and resources with in their communities.

Reward Oklahoma: 1- 888-446-7608

Provides education-based salary supplements ranging from \$400 to \$1500 per year to teachers, directors, and family child care providers .

Center for Early Childhood Professional Development: 1-888-446-7608

Provides training and resources for individuals who work in licensed child care in Oklahoma .

OKDHS Child Care Services County Offices:

Beckham 1-800-225-0098, Caddo (405) 247-4000, Custer (580)-331-1900,

Comanche (580) 250-3600, Cotton & Stephens (580) 251-8300,

Grady 1-800-433-7073, Jackson, Kiowa, Greer, Harmon & Tillman 1-800-493-7974,

Jefferson 1-800-493-7981, Roger Mills (580) 885-7546 & Washita (580) 832-3391

Homemade Foam Dough

Materials:

- Shaving cream
- Cornstarch
- Food coloring (optional)
- Cups, spoons, bowls, play dough toys, etc. (optional)



Step 1: There's only one step! Just pour any amount of cornstarch, and squirt about the same amount of shaving cream on top of the cornstarch (you can add more of either if you need to as you mix it until you get a moldable dough). Then just mix it by squishing it with your fingers (my daughter really loved this part!). You can also add some food coloring if you want to add some color. That's it! Super easy. Super quick. Super fun! Enjoy!

New Number for the Toll-Free Parent Referral Line! 1-800-438-0008

This toll-free number is the parent referral line for Resource and Referral information. If you have received phone calls from parents for child placement, but have no openings, please refer the callers to this number.

The referral line representative can help them narrow their search down to other possible providers. If you are a community contact and hear of any friends or co-workers needing child care, please refer them to this number. It is free, completely confidential, and a wonderful service for both providers and parents.



Adult and Family
Services

SPECIAL NEEDS RATE

A higher special needs reimbursement rate is available for contracted providers who care for a child with disabilities as defined by DHS per OAC 340:40-7-3.1.

Adult and Family
Services
Child Care Subsidy
Ph: 405-521-3931
Email:
ChildCareContracts
@okdhs.org

New Process

- As of November 1, 2014, child care providers are now able to initiate the special needs rate process by accessing the revised form *Certification for Special Needs Rate for Licensed Child Care Homes and Centers* 08AD006E/ADM-123 on the Provider Web at <https://www.ebt.acs-inc.com/ecc/>
- Parents or Guardians will no longer have to contact their worker to initiate the process.
- The provider will be able to print the form and fill it out with the parent or guardian before giving it to their licensing specialist.
- Once the licensing specialist has determined eligibility for the provider, the form is scanned and emailed to the AFS Child Care Subsidy unit.
- AFS Child Care Subsidy staff score the form to determine if the child's needs qualifies for the special needs rate.



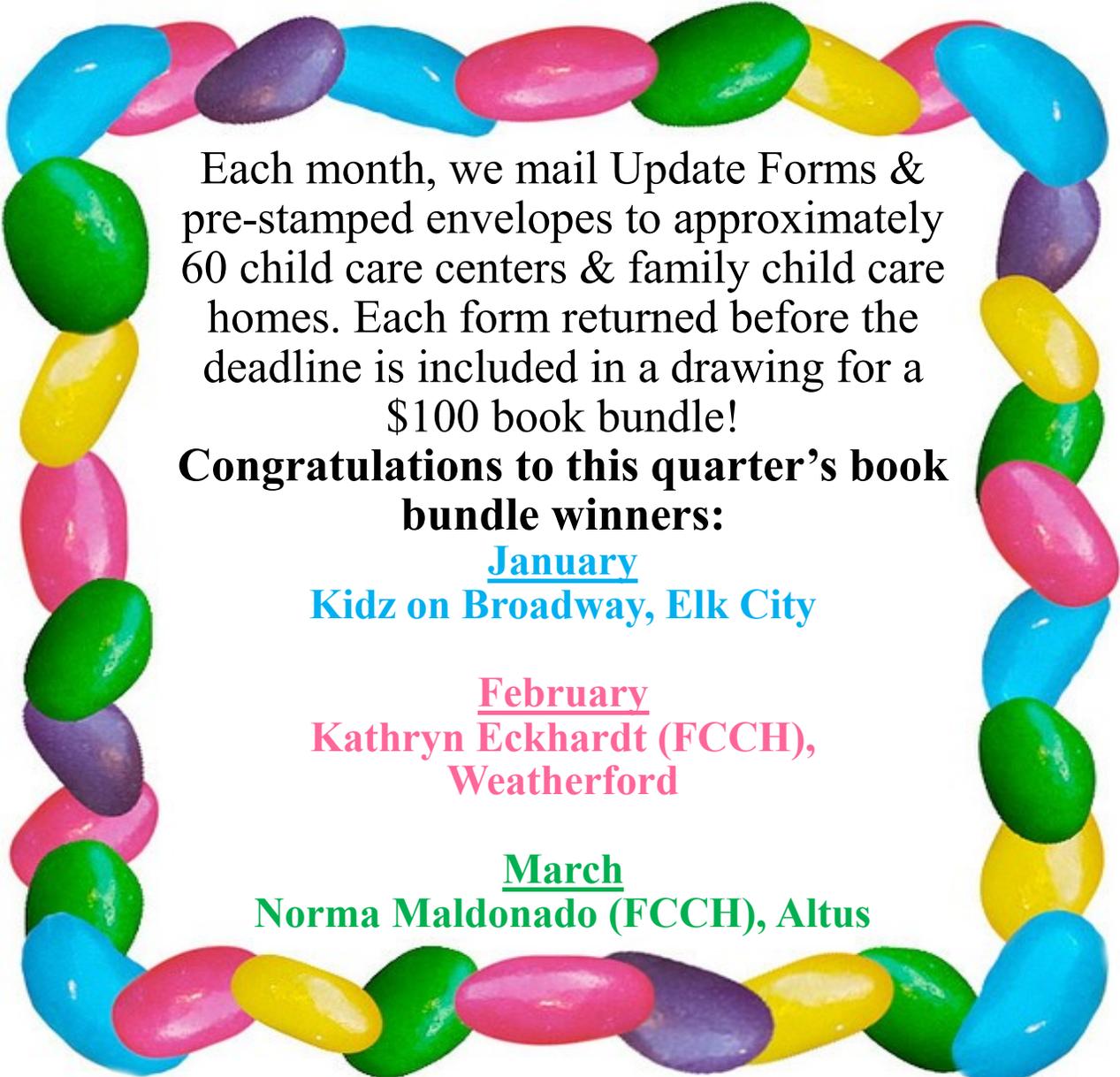
In order to qualify:

- The provider must have a current contract with DHS and be qualified to care for the child as determined by the facility's licensing specialist.
- The child must be eligible for subsidized child care and meet the definition of a child with disabilities.
- The scoring of the special needs form must meet minimum criteria to receive the enhanced rate.
- If approved, the enhanced rate is applied the first of the month after eligibility is established.

To meet the definition of a child with disabilities, the child must be participating in one of the following programs:

- SoonerStart (IFSP required)
- Special Education Services (IEP required)
- Supplemental Security Income (Health Professional's statement required if the child doesn't receive SoonerStart or Special Ed services)

More payment information can be found on Appendix C-4-B (08AX006E) located on the forms page at www.okdhs.org



Each month, we mail Update Forms & pre-stamped envelopes to approximately 60 child care centers & family child care homes. Each form returned before the deadline is included in a drawing for a \$100 book bundle!

Congratulations to this quarter's book bundle winners:

January

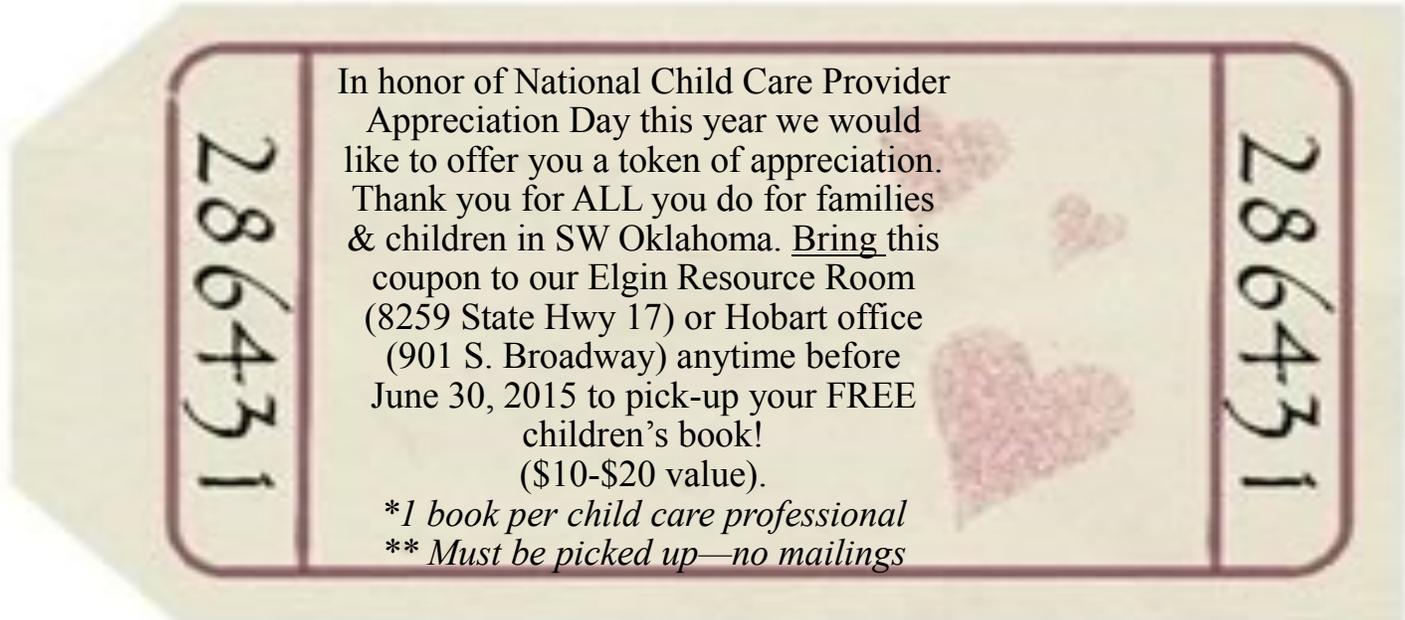
Kidz on Broadway, Elk City

February

**Kathryn Eckhardt (FCCH),
Weatherford**

March

Norma Maldonado (FCCH), Altus



In honor of National Child Care Provider Appreciation Day this year we would like to offer you a token of appreciation. Thank you for ALL you do for families & children in SW Oklahoma. Bring this coupon to our Elgin Resource Room (8259 State Hwy 17) or Hobart office (901 S. Broadway) anytime before June 30, 2015 to pick-up your FREE children's book! (\$10-\$20 value).

**1 book per child care professional*

*** Must be picked up—no mailings*

286431

286431



Great Plains Child Care
Resource & Referral Center

901 South Broadway
Hobart, OK 73651
1-888-878-4417

*Sponsored by Great Plains Youth & Family Services
and OKDHS Division of Child Care*

U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 6
Hobart, OK
NONPROFIT ORG

*You can teach a student a lesson for a
day; but if you can teach him to learn by
creating curiosity, he will continue the
learning process as long as he lives.*

Clay P. Bedford

