



### **2010 Census**

Have you sent your 2010 Census questionnaire back yet? If not, please do so as you need to be counted. Why is it important to be counted? Every year, the federal government can allocate more than \$400 billion to states and communities based, in part, on the census data. This data guides local decision makers on where to build new roads, hospitals, child care and senior citizen centers, schools and more. This census data determines how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives.

What do you do if you misplaced your form or haven't responded yet? If the Census Bureau does not receive your form back by the end of April, they will start knocking on your door. (This could include several visits). They want to ensure everyone is counted. (Please don't forget to count all children as that is so important for the statistics). You can also pick up a form at Pro Action of Steuben and Yates, Inc. Monday and Tuesday noon to 4 p.m. or Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to noon. You may also call the toll free number 866-872-6868.

You can help make a difference in our community by ensuring everyone in your household is counted. It's only ten questions and should take 10 minutes or less! □

### **Status of Subsidy Funding**

As of the writing of this newsletter, the Department of Social Services has not received any information on what the allocation of subsidy funds for Steuben County will be in 2010. SCCP is maintaining a waiting list for families interested in accessing child care subsidy. □

### **Bullying – What to do about it?**

Bullying is a serious problem that is not always addressed. The effect that it has on children in the long run is very serious. There has been a lot of research done on bullying and the effects it has on the victims.

There are three different types of bullying

- Physical: hitting, punching, destruction of property
- Verbal: teasing, name calling, spreading rumors
- Cyber: text message, emails and cyber networking

There are many signs that a child is being bullied

- Damaged or missing clothes
- Unexplained bruises
- Child has few friends
- Child does not want to go to school
- Change in school performance
- Frequent headaches and stomach aches
- Trouble sleeping

If you feel your child is being bullied there are many steps you should take to ensure an end to it. Encourage open communication with your child. Express your concern and let them know that it is not their fault. Ask your child as many questions about the situation as possible. Get as many details as you can so that you can work with school officials to stop the bullying. Teach your child how to respond to a bully, let them know it is ok to tell the bully to stop what they are doing and walk away. Sticking with other children in less supervised situation, ex. cafeteria, playground, tends to deter a bully. Encourage your child to tell school officials when bullying occurs. Do not contact the other child's parents yet; keep in close contact with the school to ensure they are taking

the appropriate measures to help your child. Involve your child in activities, such as sports, that will boost their self esteem. Bullying is a problem that a child shouldn't handle alone. This is a time that your child will need your support more than ever.□

### **Provider Appreciation Day**

Providers support families and make it possible for many parents to work and contribute to the national economy. When you think about the training, skills and responsibilities good child care providers have, it is important to acknowledge their roles and support them with positive feedback. They need to be recognized for the work they do. *Did you know that Provider Appreciation day is May 7<sup>th</sup>*? What are your plans to show your provider how much you appreciate what they do for you and your child(ren)? Here are some ideas you can show your appreciation: 'thank you' card; work with your child(ren) to make a special homemade gift; buy a personal gift around the provider's hobby or interest; hold a special event or ceremony (with other parents) at the program or write an editorial to your local newspaper. These are some ways for you to show your provider their efforts are noticed and appreciated. It is also a great time to publicly recognize them and keep the importance of child care and early education in the minds of the community and government officials.

SCCP is hosting a Provider Appreciation event on May 7<sup>th</sup>. This year we are offering a night of theater at St. Mary's O'Malley's Hall in Bath, 7:30 p.m.! You will not want to miss a delightful little one act play entitled *A New Sunrise*. This comedy is sponsored by SCCP and performed by Keuka Lake Players. The evening event is open to the public at \$10.00 per ticket. Please call today (776-2126 x249) to reserve your seats as seating is limited and on a first come first serve basis. Tickets will be sold at the door but only if seating is still available.

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### **Head Start Enrollment**

Pro Action Head Start/UPK is accepting applications for children 3-4 years of age including those with special needs in Steuben and Yates Counties for the 2010 – 2011 school year. Your child will have many opportunities to build upon existing language, literacy, science and math skills through hands-on experiences, small and large group instruction and child initiated activities. This curriculum exceeds New York State Learning Standards. For more information or to complete an application contact your local Head Start/UPK classroom or call 607-776-2125, ext. 201 or 1-800-553-2033. ext. 201.□

Contact information:

Steuben Child Care Project  
117 E. Steuben Street  
Bath, NY 14810  
1-800-553-2033 or 1-607-776-2126  
Fax: 607-776-4873  
Hours of Operation: M - F 8:30 am – 4:30 pm  
[www.proactioninc.org/SCCP.htm](http://www.proactioninc.org/SCCP.htm)

SCCP is a member of NACCRRA, Winning Beginning of NY and the Early Care and Learning Council. SCCP is nationally Quality Assured and NYS Best Practices Certified.



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