

New Staff Member at ADE!

The Early Childhood Unit welcomes Juliana Panqueva! Juliana will be assisting you when Val, Holly and Kathy are traveling the state. She will be answering our main line at 602.364.1530 or you may contact her by e-mail at Juliana.Panqueva@azed.gov. Be sure to contact us to update our listserv if you have anyone new in your district. This listserv is used to get important information to you throughout the year!

Emergency and High Cost Grants

The IDEA Preschool Emergency Grant and IDEA Preschool High Cost Grants are designed to assist public education agencies (PEAs)/districts in providing special education and related services when unexpected children arrive in the district. The Emergency Grant can be used when a district has unexpected costs based on children that were not budgeted for. For instance, if the district has a sudden influx of students or referrals from students that live in unorganized territories, they can estimate the cost of providing services to those students, encumber those funds through the grant system and draw down those funds. The High Cost Grant is designed to assist

with very high needs students that are estimated to cost three times as much as a other students. The caveat to both of these grants is the district must explain how the children will be funded in the future, as these funds cannot be used for the same children the following year. Access these grants on the ADE Grants Management Application Page or Contact Pat Immele at pat.immele@azed.gov or 602.542.8812.

Early Childhood Assessment

Teaching Strategies GOLD

Teaching Strategies GOLD in Arizona is underway! Don't forget to take advantage of the many professional development and technical assistance resources embedded in GOLD online.

Every user of GOLD can access four online training modules at no additional cost from any computer with internet access. After logging in to GOLD, these modules, called "Courses" can be found under the "Professional Development" tab. For further technical assistance, email holly.ford@azed.gov or implementation@teachingstrategies.com.

Be on the lookout for the next GOLD Nuggets!

Lighthouse Programs

The early childhood unit is looking for "Lighthouse" Programs that demonstrate excellence and innovation in early childhood practices. We are looking for a beacon of light where classroom teams and evaluation teams can reach out and network with other classroom and evaluation teams. If you have such a program we'd love to come and visit you and begin a network of support. When the horizon may seem far away a beacon of light may help someone looking for the shoreline!

Contact Juliana Panqueva to schedule a visit for ADE/ECE staff member to put your program on our Lighthouse Registry!!



Early Childhood Consortium

The Early Childhood Consortium is an active group of Arizona Early Childhood Educators representing preschool programs in public school settings. This group meets once a month to discuss pertinent issues related to varied topics that support quality Early Childhood Education. This meeting affords participants the opportunity to network with other local education agencies, get questions answered from ADE staff as well as provide guidance to systems building in Arizona. Membership in this group includes those working in early

childhood special education, school based community preschool programs, Title I preschool programs and other preschool programs located on public school campuses.

If you are interested in being a part of this exciting, dynamic and active group and would like to be added to the listserv in order to receive e-mails and meeting information, please contact:

Kim Freehan,
Early Childhood Specialist
Mesa Public Schools

Early Intervention Transitions from Part C to Part B (In-By-3)

Verification of data is currently underway. As advised in the ECSE Alert dated 2-26-10, programs should keep a copy of the front page of all IEPs for children that are transitioning (or PWN for children found ineligible showing child's date of birth). The front page should show the child's DOB and date of IEP. It's a simple way to verify the IEP was written on or before the child's 3rd birthday and will be cross referenced to the data that was submitted to Peggy Staples on the ESS Annual Data Collection Report. Programs that did not demonstrate 100% compliance will go through the verification process. We will also request a random sample from approximately 20% of districts each year. Please contact Kathy Coloma at 602-542-8732 or Kathy.coloma@azed.gov with questions.

ADE Customer Service Surveys

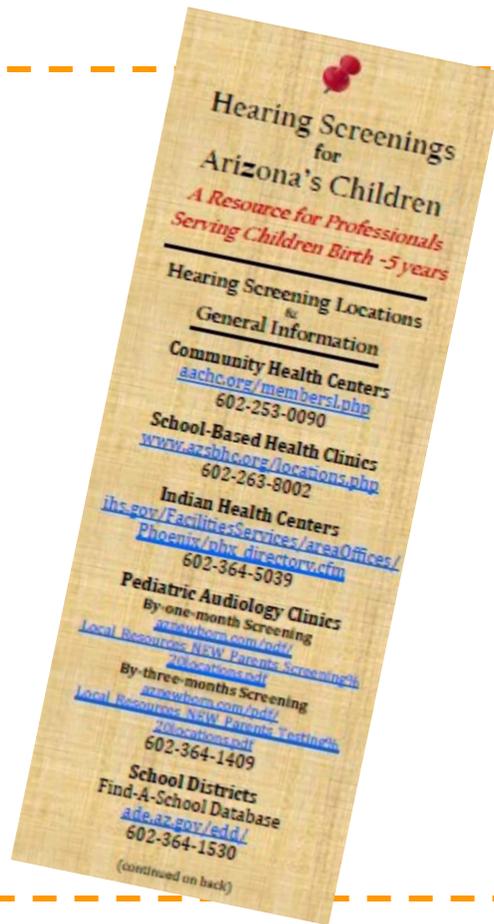
The ADE/Early Childhood unit has always worked extremely hard to be responsive to your needs through phone, e-mail, onsite and monitoring technical assistance. We work very hard to respond to your requests within 24 hours because we know when you are working directly with families and children, having answers to your questions right away is very important. We don't want to leave you hanging. Often the best way to reach us is through e-mail so we can respond to you from wherever we

are working in the state (see our contact information on the back page). As part of the reorganization at ADE under the leadership of Mr. Huppenthal, we may be asking you to complete an online customer service survey based on the technical assistance you receive. We will send you the link to this very brief survey. As with conference/training session evaluations, we take your comments very seriously in order to help us with continuous improvement. If you feel that the service that you receive does not meet your expectations, please let us know right away so that we can provide you with an outstanding level of service.

NEW!

Hearing Screening Resources Bookmark

As discussed in the last ECSE Alert, an Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC)/Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) workgroup produced a Hearing Screening Resource Bookmark. Districts, services coordinators and all those working with young children are encouraged to use the bookmark to access resources in order to ensure all children receive regular hearing screenings, especially young children that are at risk and those received special education services either in Part B or Part C/AzEIP. The bookmark is available online at www.azed.gov/early-childhood/2011/10/05/hearing-screening-bookmark/.



Resources and Reminders

Great Resources

PBS Learning Media.

Re-imagine classroom learning with a robust library of research based core curriculum digital resources from public media programs, producers and partners.

Transform teaching with the ease of searching, saving and viewing world-class, innovative content

Creatively engage your students with high-quality media resources designed with digital natives in mind: interactive, videos, lesson plans, multimedia and more!

az.pbslearningmedia.org

Arizona Department of Education Early Childhood Education Professional Development Opportunities

Don't forget to check the online registration system under early childhood education for fantastic professional development activities.

[www.ade.az.gov/
online/registration](http://www.ade.az.gov/online/registration)

For questions contact:

Alma Quintana,
Early Childhood
Project Specialist
602.364.1910

Alma.quintana@azed.gov

Reminders

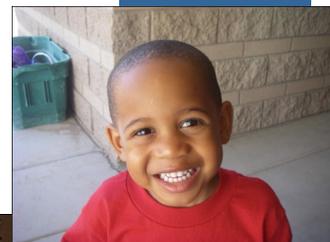
ARRA Preschool Grant Completion Reports

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Grant Completion reports are due **November 15th**.

For questions contact:

Pat Immele
Early Childhood
Program Specialist
602.542.8812
Pat.immele@azed.gov

“Fairness
is not
everyone
getting the
same
thing.
Fairness is
when
every child
gets what
they
need.”



HELP Manual Revision Team

The Arizona Department of Education Early Childhood Education Unit will begin the process of revising the HELP Manual. We are asking for early childhood personnel to join this team including special education directors, early childhood coordinators, school psychologists specializing in preschool evaluations and behavior supports, related service providers, and those working with various populations (children with visual impairments, hearing impairments, autism and children with behavioral needs). We would like representation from all regions of the state including rural and suburban areas.

An application process will be implemented for appointment to work on this project and meetings scheduled for the year. Upon completion of the core group work, extensive opportunities for feedback and dialogue regarding the new HELP Manual will be made available throughout the state.

To receive an application go to

<http://www.azed.gov/early-childhood/files/2011/10/help-manual-redesign-team-application.docx>

For questions, contact Juliana Panqueva via email at juliana.panqueva@azed.gov

Early Childhood Special Education Contact Information

Val Andrews-James, Director
602-364-1530
Val.andrewsjames@azed.gov

Juliana Panqueva
Administrative Assistant
602.364.1530
Juliana.panqueva@azed.gov

For assistance with AzEIP Alerts and
Early Intervention Transitions, contact:
Kathy Coloma, Program Specialist
620-542-8732
Kathleen.coloma@azed.gov

For questions on assessment and
Teaching Strategies GOLD, contact:
Holly Ford, Program Specialist
602-542-2790
Holly.ford@azed.gov

