

PRESS RELEASE

Building on Last Fall's Success: **The Tri-County Family Conference offers a Family Evening Out**

(May 2005) The Tri-County Family Conference presents an evening outing for the whole family that combines both education and entertainment. Building on last fall's successful event, the evening will feature a family dinner and then a special presentation for parents, with entertainment for the children. "What Kids Need to Succeed" will be presented by David Huether from Every Kid in Our Communities. He will share entertaining stories about the 40 Developmental Assets. The Assets are 40 different skills or personal qualities that help children & adolescents grow up healthy, caring and resilient.

The children's entertainment will be "**Splash'N Boots**" featuring the popular Kingston duo Taes and Nick. They have toured throughout Ontario and just released their second CD in October. Quoted as "One of Canada's top upcoming children's entertainers", Splash'N Boots bring a fresh zest to children's music with their hilarious, interactive, family show. Everyone will sing, dance & laugh along with their original, catchy tunes.

Registration is limited. A five-dollar donation will be accepted at the door. Limited transportation is available upon request.

For families in Lanark County, the evening will be Monday May 30, 2005. Supper will run from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. The evening program will start at 6:15 and end at 7:30 p.m. The location is CHIMO Elementary School at 11 Ross Street, Smiths Falls. To register contact The Ontario Early Years Centre Lanark: 613-283-0095 (or 1-800-267-9252).

For families in Leeds & Grenville, the event will be held Wednesday May 25, 2005. Supper starts at 5:30 p.m. with the parent's workshop and children's entertainment running from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. The location is Linklater Public School (300 Stone St. North) in Gananoque. To register contact The Ontario Early Years Centre Leeds & Grenville: 613-341-9044 (or 1-866-433-8933).

This informative event was held for the first time last fall in Brockville & Carleton Place. Participating parents had this to say:

"I am making a difference in my children's lives."

"There's no such thing as too much praise."

"It's important to stop and listen to your children. Talk with them, not at them."

"Being positive with my children will raise positive adults."

"It's okay to set boundaries for kids and stick to them."

"We can make a difference. Every kid counts!"

The evening supper format worked well for the families who attended. To change things up for Spring 2005, the Planning Committee will keep the same worthwhile speaker, but change locations to make the information as available as possible to more families across the Tri-County area.

The Tri-County Family Conference planning committee is a group of family-serving agencies working together to provide educational opportunities for parents and caregivers in Leeds, Grenville & Lanark counties.

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