

Friday, August 25, 2023
Beloit Public Library
9 -10:30 a.m.

Present: Jessica Austin (SCF), Mouna Algahaithi & Jennica Li (PBS Wisconsin), Laura Anastasi (RSVP), Jessica Graminske (BPL), Lara Hermann (Nutrition & Health Assoc / WIC), Jan Knutson & Kathy Pohl (St. Paul Lutheran), Kayla Oestreich (Community Action), Lisa Sandoval (Head Start/Early Head Start), Tami Scarpetta (Beloit Health System), Michelle Weirich (Blackhawk Technical College), and Jody Wittnebel (The Youth Unite/The Castle).

1) Welcome & Announcements: Tara Tinder, Executive Director, SCF

Tara shared that November 10th will be the Foundation's 37th Annual Celebration, honoring Dr. Bill Flanagan as the Bridge to the Future Award recipient. Anyone wanting a hard copy invitation should supply their name and address to Jamie@statelinecf.com.

2) Program Updates: Bill Flanagan, Chair, SCF Literacy for Life

Bill extended his congratulations to Jessica Austin for her hard work and a successful Basics event at the end of June. He is encouraged by her efforts in working with Rep. Mark Spreitzer and another state representative towards a pilot program and potential legislation to use a common assessment tool in determining Kindergarten readiness, statewide!

3) Basics Insights Updates: Jessica Austin, Director of Early Brain Development

Statistics:

- 165 families have signed up for the texting service (as of 8/22)
- 19 formal contract partners (corporations & NPO's)

The best messenger for the BASICS texting program is YOU! Feel free to take advantage of the page on our website for more information: [THE BASICS ROCK COUNTY!](#) QR code sheets were distributed at the meeting and are available in reproducible form, attached to the minutes. An additional focus is on the 3T's as referenced in the Parent Nation book by Dana Suskind, MD, and promoted by TMW Center for Early Learning + Public Health: Tune In, Talk More, Take Turns! (See rack card at end of minutes)

Continued efforts to reach goals: Saturate Rock County, Provide Rock County with reminders for infants & toddlers 0-3 (now inclusive of ages 4 & 5), BUILD PARTNERSHIPS!

***How does an agency initiate collaboration?** Direct communication with the Director of Early Brain Development (via Jessica@statelinecf.com or completed form on The Basics page) will be the first step in obtaining necessary materials for client sign-ups, including parent trainings and establishing your agency dashboard to track information. There is NO cost involved to you or your clients!

Partner Reports: Please contact individuals directly for specifics. A few highlights include:

- **Nutrition & Health Associates** (Hermann) As of August 10th, everything is back in person, yet challenges exist to meet with those who have a barrier (ie: transportation issues). A Rock County baby shower was recently held, and 135 mothers were supported!
- **Beloit Public Library** (Graminski): Various programs are being offered. ABC Play Group is starting up and partnering with PBS Wisconsin. A bilingual event is being coordinated for Thanksgiving time. The Narcan machine in their lobby has been widely used in a short time.
- **Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)** (Anastasi): Their new foster grandparent program is seeking volunteers to help in local classrooms. RSVP Dane County recently partnered with NBC-Madison to run a commercial on this inspirational program. View [HERE!](#) Feedback is appreciated!
- **PBS Wisconsin** (Algahai/Li): It is year 4 of the Ready to Learn partnership; a recent BBQ event celebrated partner collaborations. The Hometown Series focus this year is Beloit!
- **Blackhawk Technical College** (Weirich): Enrollment is increasing in their Early Childhood program. Funding is available to send their students to the state WECA (WI Early Childhood Association) conference October 19-21 where Michelle & Kayla (Community Action) will be presenting together! Pathways are required for family providers, so BTC is hoping to collaborate with Kayla's program. Mouna (PBS) will also be in attendance and has offered to provide some guidance and PD for BTC students. Mouna also hopes to facilitate the reinstatement of a WECA Rock County Chapter with Kayla & Michelle. Lots of amazing collaborations! The Lincoln Academy now has student participation. Lastly, a new grant is helping students reach their associate degree with a technical diploma, making graduates very marketable.
- **Community Action/Janesville Learning Center** (Oestreich): They currently have school age openings and are in the process of getting technical assistance to increase their childcare star rating by providing opportunities for daycare helpers to get licensed via the WISCAP program. They are also partnering with Family Services on the Royce school project by becoming a site supervisor and implementing the BASICS. Field trip opportunities for P4J are ongoing with Welty.
- **St. Paul Lutheran Church** (Pohl/Knutson): For neighborhood outreach, National Night Out was celebrated with food, various carnival games and activities, including books from Literacy for Life. Their Little Free Library has been extremely successful but is broken and they are seeking volunteer assistance to repair or replace it.
- **Head Start/Early Head Start** (Sandoval): They are extremely busy and seeking home-based volunteers. Cecilia Dever is their new Executive Director (past 6 months).
- **Beloit Health System** (Scarpetta): The hospital is showing the Basics video in tandem with their grant and brain bag distribution to new mothers as part of their discharge process, and is starting the texting launch. Continuous efforts are being made to improve health equity, including an inclusive breastfeeding platform and a new freestanding birthing center on the NorthPointe campus, which is celebrating an open house October 7 from 11am – 1pm. They are also seeking to fill a Community Engagement Liaison position.
- **The Youth Unite/The Castle** (Wittnebel): They are thrilled to join our partner meetings for the first time. A recent accolade was to support Make Music Day (June 21) by making interactive children music videos. They provide music therapy for youth in the community and offer scholarships for this purpose. To expand their outreach, The Castle will soon be transforming their 3rd floor into an early education center.

Calendar: The next Partner meeting will be October 27 at 9 AM. Kindly RSVP: jamie@statelinecf.com. Meetings at BPL are **in-person only**, Blackhawk Ext. Rm 111.

 **BUILD A BRAIN, BUILD A LIFE, BUILD A COMMUNITY!** 

The Power of Parent Talk

EVERY WORD YOU SAY BUILDS YOUR CHILD'S BRAIN



When you talk and interact with your child, you build and strengthen connections in their brain. The more connections you build in the first 3 years, the stronger foundation they'll have for learning when they start school.

**How can you make the most of every interaction?
Use the 3Ts!**

Tune In

Be in the moment.

Talk More

Use a variety of words.

Take Turns

Engage your child in conversation.



ANY TIME IS 3Ts TIME

Start now! Here's how:

DURING A DAILY ROUTINE WITH YOUR CHILD, TALK ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING AS YOU DO IT.

GO ON A WALK WITH YOUR CHILD AND POINT OUT SHAPES YOU SEE ALONG THE WAY.

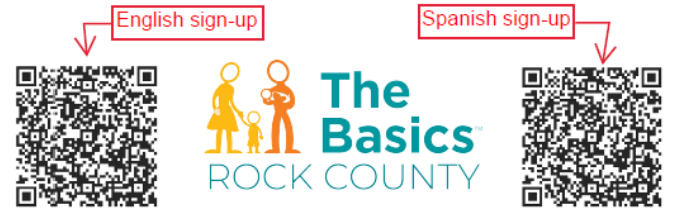
RESPOND TO YOUR CHILD'S GESTURES AS IF THEY ARE WORDS.

DESCRIBE THE COLOR AND TEXTURE OF FOOD DURING MEALTIME.





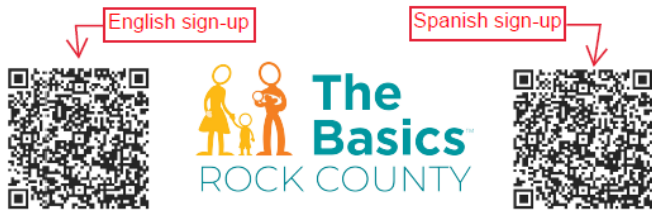
Basics Insights is a FREE text messaging program for parents and caregivers of children ages 0-3 that sends tips to boost your child's brain development and learning along with weekly activities. Sign up by scanning the QR code.



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- Maximize Love, Manage Stress**
- Talk, Sing, and Point**
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