

Greetings from Pollywog's New Project Specialist, Cheryl French

Hello to all. I'm starting to meet all of the Pollywog partners and participants. If I haven't met you yet, I'm looking forward to meeting you soon. It's exciting to learn about all you do in the community to serve parents and their young children. I'm looking forward to helping to develop the Pollywog referral system, to improve your ability to share resources and referrals.

For over ten years, I've worked with children as a teaching artist. I've organized art projects for all ages, in libraries, schools, juvenile correction facilities, homeless shelters and community events. For the last four years, as the Art Education Outreach Coordinator for The Arts Center in Corvallis,

I managed a program that planned and delivered art projects for children, particularly children living in poverty or with other risk factors. Before that, I worked as a lawyer, representing labor unions. I'm looking forward to using all of the skills developed through these past experiences in my new position with Pollywog.



We are working to send out a Pollywog Update twice a month. Please let us know if you have suggestions!

Pollywog Progress

Currently, about 153 families have been entered into the Pollywog referral database. Although we are still in the "pilot" process, these families have been referred for services, and their information is available in the system.

We are continuing to train our pilot partners on the Pollywog referral database. Albany Hospital's Maternal Care Coordinator, and key staff at Kidco Headstart and Old Mill Center have completed their initial training on the system. Staff from Family Tree Relief Nursery and the Linn County Health Department will be trained soon. Teaching staff at Albany Hospital will soon be learning how to use class lists. As soon as we have the program running smoothly with the pilot partners, we will be reaching out

What's Happening

- ✓ A Pollywog Partners' Meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 27, from 8:30-10:30am at the LBCC Luckiamute Building, LM-131. We will be discussing remaining issues regarding the Pollywog Memorandum of Understanding, and the development of Pollywog campaigns. Please plan on attending.
- ✓ The First Annual Early Learning Hub Conference will be held on Friday, October 20, 2017, from 9:30-3:30pm at the LBCC Forum Lecture Hall in Albany. This FREE Conference will explore research about how children manage their emotions, solve problems and get along with others, and community resources and activities that promote these skills. Register online--and save yourself time at the door--at <http://lblearlylearninghub.org/news/first-annual-early-learning-hub-conference/>

to the rest of our partners, area by area, to extend the system throughout Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties.

We are continuing to look at how assessment tools or other medical information can be shared within the limits of the database, in compliance with HIPPA and FERPA. We will be exploring with each of you, our partners, exactly what type of data you are interested in having available in this way.

Marketing Materials

Would you like marketing cards? The cards come with four different messages and are available double-sided in English and Spanish. Let us know how many and the best way to deliver.



Also, past copies of the Pollywog Updates are archived on the EL Hub website, [click here to access](#).

Stories from the Trenches

A DHS caseworker called Pollywog to register a client for a Caring for Your New Baby class. As the infant was already 1 month old, staff talked about other parent-child class and resource options that might also be appropriate for this parent. They contacted the parent directly to determine her service requests. The parent was very interested in any parenting support and registered for the Live and Learn with Your Baby class. She did not have access to the internet so was mailed a release of information form so that she could be referred to a home visiting program.

Pollywog staff met a pregnant mom at the Welcome Day celebration for LBCC students. She had just relocated to Linn County. She did not have an OB doctor yet and was very worried about her care due to other medical complications. She was given the Physician Referral number and website so she could find a doctor as her first step. She was also given the Maternity Care Coordinators' names and numbers for Lebanon, Albany and Corvallis so she could make an appointment when she determined where she would deliver her baby. She was given Pollywog contact information to sign up for future prenatal and childbirth classes. She was visibly relieved to get this information, and to know she was surrounded by a system that met her needs as a soon-to-be-parent on many different levels.

Contact Us

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