



A Program of Conley Outreach Community Services  
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## Community Care Team News

### January/February 2006

#### In This Issue

This issue is a potpourri of resources that run the gamut from early childhood to senior services. It takes a look at some of the newest programs and services available to West Towns residents. Please pass this information on to friends and neighbors.

#### Tax Help for Area Seniors

AARP and the Elburn Public Library have teamed up again to provide **free**, confidential tax help for area senior citizens. Tax-Aide 2006 is available alternate Tuesdays, February 14 & 28, March 14 & 28, and April 11<sup>th</sup> between 9:30am and 12:30pm . **While the service is free, clients must call the library to make an appointment** (365-2244) and pay for any copying charges. AARP and Community Care Team member, Ron Limbrick is one of the volunteers working with this program. He recommends bringing the following items to your appointment:

- Copy of last year's income tax return
- Current year's tax forms and preparation booklet
- W-2 forms from each employer
- Unemployment compensation statements
- SSA-1099 form if you received Social Security benefits
- All 1099 forms showing interest and/or dividend and documentation showing original purchase price of sold assets
- 1099R if you received a pension or annuity
- all forms indicating federal income tax paid
- child care provider information (name, employer, ID, Social Security number)
- all receipts or canceled checks if itemizing deductions, and
- Social Security numbers for all dependents

Call for your appointment today! Clients will be served on a first come, first served basis.

#### Parent Education Group

Family Counseling Service of Aurora is currently offering its Parenting Education Group on Tuesday evenings from 5:30-7:30 pm. Four units are available, which include six weekly sessions. Participants can attend just one or all of the units. The next unit begins January 10<sup>th</sup> and runs through February 14<sup>th</sup>. It includes:

- How can I help a grieving child?
- How can I help my child cope with divorce?
- How do I cope with the challenges of single parenting?
- What helps children learn? How can I help my child succeed in school?
- How can I tell if my child has ADHD?

The fourth unit is scheduled for March 7<sup>th</sup> – April 11<sup>th</sup> and will cover:

- What will help my family manage stress?
- How do I balance working with giving my children the attention they need?
- How can I talk with my children about what is going on in the world?
- What activities and traditions can help my family stay together?

For more information about cost or to register, call FCS at 844-2662 x 123.

### Child Care Subsidies

Two Rivers Head Start in Aurora provides child care subsidies for income eligible women in Kane County. They must use licensed child care providers and be registered with the Child Care Resource and Referral for Kane County. This help comes from a community block grant. Eligibility must be within 125% of the poverty threshold. Call Two Rivers Head Start for more information (264-1444).

### Prairie Performers

Blazing Prairie Stars (BPS) is starting a new group in January for kids ages 9-12. This program uses acting and theater techniques to build language and social skills. The kids will learn from simple skits, role-playing, turn-taking, social stories, music, costumes and just having fun. It is designed especially for children who have Asperger's Syndrome, high-functioning autism, ADD and ADHD.

Call BPS for more information (365-5550).

### Snippets

- The Association for Individual Development (A.I.D.) has a new **victim's services** program created to help victims of serious crime/trauma. Call Joanne Furnas at A.I.D. for more information (966-4350).
- The **Coaching Encounter** is a new program of Family Counseling Services (FCS) designed to help people live their best lives. For more information contact Dorothy O'Halloran at 844-3196. FCS 's **Couple Communication** groups begin in February and teach communication and conflict resolution skills to increase marital satisfaction. For more information contact Kelly Strine at 844-2662.
- The monthly gross income levels needed to qualify for **KidCare** and **Family Care** have increased. Families of four making less than \$2983 per month can now qualify for assistance. These programs provide health coverage to working families without insurance and is based on income earned during the past 30 days. It is especially

helpful for families who have recently lost jobs, who might not qualify based on annual income. Call the Kane County Health Department to apply (897-1124).

- Provena Mercy and the AOK Network are sponsoring Anger and Violence in Children and Adolescents January 24, 2006 from noon to 4:00 pm. Nationally renowned author Robin Karr-Morse will speak on roots of violence in the early years of life, followed by a panel response and question & answer period. Held at Provena Medical Center in the Mercy Hall Gym. The workshop is free, but reservations are required. Call 801-5800.