

# BRIDGE-BUILDERS

School Counselors, School Psychologists, and School Social Workers  
working collaboratively to build the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Education System!

Teresa A. Smith | Editorial Director | [tsmith@dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:tsmith@dpi.state.nc.us) | K-12 Student Support Services Consultant  
[www.ncpublicschools.org/studentsupport/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/studentsupport/)

**SEPTEMBER 2009 | VOLUME 3 | ISSUE 7**



Learn & Earn + EARN Scholarship = Free 4-year College Education  
or  
Online Learn & Earn + EARN Scholarship = Free 4-year College Education



## The Message: Graduate!

### ACRE Revisions on the Web

North Carolina's Accountability and Curriculum Reform Effort – also known as ACRE - is the state's comprehensive initiative to redefine the Standard Course of Study for K-12 students, the student testing program, and the school accountability model. Defining essential standards for K-12 is the key foundation of ACRE. The essential standards are those skills, understandings, and learning experiences that a student must master at each grade level to move to the next grade. Essential standards are the "must have" goals of the curriculum and will help teachers focus on higher-order knowledge. Recently, the ACRE website was updated with details about drafts for the revised standards and the new writing assessment.

Draft versions of the NC Essential Standards for Math, Occupational Course of Study, English 10, and Information Technology Skills for grades kindergarten, six, and 9-12 are now available to view at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/standards/>. The updated drafts are based on continued refinement and feedback received from key stakeholders including parents, the business community, educational organizations, and institutes of higher education and school district teachers and staff. Science standards have been drafted and are currently being reviewed. An updated version of the standards will be available later this fall.

The new Writing Instruction System focuses on the writing process. It is based on writing across the curriculum in each content area and involves all educators, not just English Language Arts teachers. Communication material discussing the new writing system is available at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/writing/about/> and targets parents, educators, and administrators.

### CTE Curriculum Updated

Curriculum for a number of areas in Career and Technical Education has been revised or updated including, Agricultural Education, Business and Information Technology, Career Development, Family and Consumer Sciences, Marketing, Trade and Industrial, Child Nutrition and Health Occupations-Nurse Aide. To view the changes, please visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/cte/> and navigate to your program of interest. Click on the navigation buttons for "Curriculum," then "Status of Curriculum Materials." Look for Summer 2009 in the tables to view the latest revisions.

## Senate Youth Program Application Online

The U.S. Senate Youth Program will be held in Washington D.C., March 6-13, 2010. Application information for the program is now available to download at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/socialstudies/>. The deadline to submit applications is Oct. 19 at 5 p.m. The U.S. Senate Youth Program provides the opportunity for two student leaders from each state, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity to spend a week in the nation's capital. Delegates will hear major policy addresses by senators, cabinet members, officials for the Departments of State and Defense and directors of federal agencies. Each student will be awarded a \$5,000 college scholarship for undergraduate studies. For more information, please contact Michelle McLaughlin at [mmclaughlin81@gmail.com](mailto:mmclaughlin81@gmail.com).

## Academic Scholar Requirements Revised

In July 2009, the State Board of Education revised the Academic Scholars Program requirements, aligning them with Future Ready Core graduation requirements, and incorporating options for innovative high schools. These requirements are in effect for students who enter the ninth grade for the first time in or after 2009-10. Students who complete the requirements for an academically challenging high school program will be named as North Carolina Academic Scholars, and receive special recognition. To review the revised requirements and learn more about Academic Scholars Program, please visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/scholars>.

## CFNC Fall 2009 Financial Aid and CFNC Training for High School Counselors

College Foundation of North Carolina is pleased to again offer financial aid and CFNC training sessions for high school counselors. The financial aid training will include updates on CFNC initiatives, state and federal aid programs and the 2010-11 FAFSA process and simplification. The CFNC training will include the use of Bridges education and career planning tools.

Lunch will be provided at these sessions, and CEUs will be offered to those who attend. For details, a list of dates and locations and to register for the financial aid and the CFNC training, please visit [CFNC.org](http://CFNC.org) and click the "Register for CFNC Events" button, or call 866-866-CFNC.

Contact Nicole Roach at 919-248-4670 or (800) 700-1775 x 4670 or at [nroach@ncseaa.edu](mailto:nroach@ncseaa.edu) if you need additional information about these.

## Bill Important to School Social Work Reintroduced

What is now being called the "Positive Behavior for Safe and Effective Schools Act" was just reintroduced. This bill includes our recommendation to establish an Office of Specialized Instructional Support Services" in the U.S. Dept. of Education. This office would raise the visibility of school social work tremendously and could help us significantly in spreading the word about why districts should hire school social workers.

The main portion of the bill is focused on adding positive behavior supports and interventions under Title I. Unfortunately, again, there is no new funding attached to this legislation.

### H.R.2597

**Title:** To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to allow State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and schools to increase implementation of school-wide **positive behavior** supports.

**Sponsor:** Rep Hare, Phil [IL-17] (introduced 5/21/2009) **Cosponsors** (6)

**Latest Major Action:** 5/21/2009 Referred to House committee.

**Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.

### More on Seclusion and Restraint

The Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders (CCBD) has recently released some excellent documents, including a position paper on **Restraint and Seclusion**, as well as a white paper on the use of restraint and a white paper on the use of seclusion. CCBD is the official division of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) committed to promoting and facilitating the education and general welfare of children and youth with emotional or

behavioral disorders. [Both documents are available here](#) and were distributed on May 19, 2009 to the House Committee on Education and Labor at the hearing to examine abusive and deadly uses of seclusion and restraint in U.S. schools.

Source: SSWAA E-Bell June 2, 2009

### **A Fit Body Means a Fit Mind: Along with physical strength, a little exercise helps kids build brainpower**

Forget the term "dumb jocks." According to the latest research, that's an oxymoron. New findings from biology and education research show that regular exercise benefits the brain in numerous ways. Not only can regular workouts in the gym or on the playground improve attention span, memory, and learning, they can also reduce stress and the effects of attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder and even delay cognitive decline in old age. In short, staying in shape can make you smarter.

It wasn't until recently that researchers turned their interest to children -- in whom exercise may have more impact. The brain's frontal lobe, thought to play a role in cognitive control, keeps growing throughout the school years, says Charles Hillman, associate professor of kinesiology and neuroscience at the University of Illinois. "Therefore, exercise could help ramp up the development of a child's brain," he says.

So, which types of exercise are best for brainpower? Hillman and other researchers tout aerobic and cardiovascular activities, such as running, swimming, and playground games. "In my studies, only cardiovascular exercise was related to higher academic performance," he says. <http://www.edutopia.org/exercise-fitness-brain-benefits-learning>

Source: SSWAA E-Bell June 16, 2009

### **State School Nurse Consultant**

The 26<sup>th</sup> annual School Nurse Conference will be held at the Friday Conference Center in Chapel Hill, NC, on Oct. 27-28, 2009. The opening keynote will be delivered by Dr. Julia Cowell, Executive Editor of Journal of School Nursing and a professor emeritus at Rush University, Chicago. Her address will be followed by nationally recognized speaker on the phenomenon of girls' experiences of anger, Cheryl van Daalen-Smith, from York University, Canada.

Sen. William Purcell (confirmed) will open the session on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the conference, followed by Gov. Beverly Perdue (invited). Other topics of interest:

- Continuity of care for youth with special health care needs
- Mental health screening and assessment
- Epilepsy
- Street gangs
- School health centers
- Childhood obesity

The conference is open to any persons interested in school health, including other members of Student Support Services. Registration is at: [www.sph.unc.edu/oce](http://www.sph.unc.edu/oce) and the link is on the front page of that website.

## Hispanic Achievement Conference 2009

**Yvonne Freeman, Ph.D.**, is a Professor of Bilingual Education at the University of Texas at Brownsville. She worked with bilingual teachers in Argentina and Uruguay and taught courses in Spain and Lithuania.

**David Freeman, Ph.D.**, is a Professor of Reading at the University of Texas at Brownsville.

The Freeman's recent books include: *Academic Language for English Language Learners and Struggling Readers* (Heinemann, 2009), *English Language Learners: The Essential Guide* (Scholastic, 2007), and *Closing the Achievement Gap: How to Reach Limited Formal Schooling and Long Term English Learners* (Heinemann, 2002), among others

**Conference:** Friday, October 9, 2009

**Pre-Conference Workshop:** Thursday, October 8, 2009  
**Meredith College** - Raleigh, NC

The Hispanic Achievement Conference is presented by the NC Society of Hispanic Professionals (NCSHP) in partnership with Meredith College and the NC Department of Public Instruction

### Who Should Attend the Conference?

Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Principals, Assistant Principals, Counselors, Teachers, Social Workers, other Administrators, Non-Profit Organizations Staff, College Faculty responsible for training in the field of Education, College Education Majors, and Community Leaders.

### What does it cost?

Pre-Conference Workshop: \$65.00\* (includes lunch and materials)

Conference: \$70.00\* before 9/8/09, \$90.00\* after 9/8/09 (includes continental breakfast, lunch and materials)

*All conference participants are eligible to participate in the raffle of a LAPTOP COMPUTER!!*

How to pre-register?

Please contact Gabriel Soltren at [mailbox@thencshp.org](mailto:mailbox@thencshp.org) or 919.467.8424.

\*All fees are non-refundable.

## Register Now on CFNC.org for College Application Week November 16-20, 2009

In an effort to further expand statewide college access, the College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) and the Carolinas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (CACRAO) are pleased to announce that College Application Week is November 16-20, 2009. The goal of the College Application Week is to provide every graduating high school senior the opportunity to apply to college online using CFNC.org. However, the focus is placed on first-generation students and students who may not otherwise apply to college.

In 2006, 15 high schools participated in the event and over 900 students submitted online college applications. During the 2007 event, over 100 high schools participated across the state, which resulted in more than 12,800 students submitting over 21,400 applications. Last fall, the event expanded to 293 high schools across the state and more than 19,000 students submitted almost 38,000 online applications during the one week program.

During the College Application Week event, students are encouraged to apply to at least one college on CFNC.org. This initiative is made possible because of CFNC.org, the comprehensive statewide college access portal with applications accepted by all 110 colleges and universities in North Carolina.

To participate in the 2009 College Application Week event, your school must register at CFNC.org and:

- Identify a site coordinator that will be responsible for planning and implementing the event at your school.
- Invite all seniors at your school to participate, but focus your efforts on first-generation students and students who may not otherwise apply to college.
- Host the event during normal school hours.
- Make efforts to recruit volunteers to assist the site coordinator and students during the event.

To register, please go to [www.CFNC.org](http://www.CFNC.org), click on "Register for CFNC Events" and then click on the Register link next to "2009 CFNC/CACRAO College App Week Registration." Thank you for your interest in the 2009 College Application Week. For questions, please contact the CFNC Resource Center by phone at 866-866-CFNC (2362) and select option "1" or by email at [questions@cfncresources.org](mailto:questions@cfncresources.org).

### NC Educators Tour Fort Knox

Raleigh, NC-Educators from across the Piedmont and Coastal areas of North Carolina flew to Fort Knox recently to learn more about what being a soldier is all about and how the Army can help students.

After meeting at the Galt House Hotel in downtown Louisville, Diana White the Raleigh Recruiting Battalion education specialist asked the educators to write down the first words that came to mind for different terms, one of those being Army. The first words that came to High Point Central High School, site coordinator LaCrystal Horne's mind when she thought of Army were, "war and protector." By the end of the trip when the exercise was repeated Horne's words had changed to, "opportunities, benefits and education." This change in perception was exactly what the educator tour was all about.

Over the course of two days, 20 educators traveled to different sites around Fort Knox and got to see first-hand what soldiers go through in the military. Educators had different reasons for taking part. Bruce Simmons, a teacher at Morehead High School in Eden, North Carolina said, "I wanted to be better informed about what the army can provide students, and from what I've seen on this tour the Army is a golden egg for motivated people."

Tour highlights included machine gun and tank simulators. At the tank simulator, educators climbed into life size replicas of the M1 Abrahams tank and Stryker combat vehicles that train soldiers on the use of the vehicles without the expense and danger of reality. In the simulators, they got the chance to drive a tank through towns and the countryside. At another site, educators followed soldiers training to clear buildings using paint ball guns to simulate combat conditions. Donning masks educators walked with a squad of soldiers who were clearing buildings room by room.

While educators were learning about the day-to-day lives of soldiers, they were also learning about the benefits soldiers receive. Educators attended classes and briefings where they learned about the varied programs the Army offers such as the Montgomery G.I. bill, student loan repayment, tuition assistance, and the Army College Fund. Scholarships are also available for Reserve Officer Training Candidates. Educators also learned that students don't even have to join the Army to take advantage of some programs, such as March 2 Success. March 2 Success is an online test preparation course that anyone can use without any obligations. It offers anyone who uses the course a chance to improve their math, science, and English skills on standardized tests.

Michael Logan, a teacher at Southern Guilford High School in Greensboro, said, "I was just amazed at all of the benefits that are out there for people who are willing to serve their country. When you look at the health care, dental care education and everything else the military is a real option for many of my students."

The educators had good things to say about the tour but Ella Hunter a Library media coordinator at Goldsboro's Charles B. Aycock High School maybe summed it up best: "Before the tour I didn't even want to open e-mails from recruiters, but after this trip, I have a whole different attitude toward them." *Story by Scott Pittillo.*

**Editorial Comment:** There will be a similar tour to Fort Knox the week before Easter in Spring 2010 and local Army recruiters will be accepting nominees in December of 2009. For additional information, please contact your local Army recruiter in December.

## CFNC.org announces Fall 2009 Workshops for Counselors & Educators

Looking for quality professional development opportunities that provide for career and college planning activities for your students? Stop by CFNC.org to check out available training options for Fall including workshop descriptions (four separate offerings), dates, times and locations. Each of the free, three-hour workshops provides 0.3 technology CEUs, hands-on exploration of the career and college planning tools at CFNC.org, and useful resources and materials.

### Elementary School Professionals

Time: 8:30 – 11:30 am

UNC – Wilmington	October 5 <sup>th</sup>
Meredith College	October 8 <sup>th</sup>
Greensboro College	October 15 <sup>th</sup>
NC Wesleyan - Gateway Tech Center	October 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Gaston College	October 30 <sup>th</sup>

### Middle School Professionals

Time: 1:00 – 4:00 pm

UNC – Wilmington	October 5 <sup>th</sup>
Meredith College	October 8 <sup>th</sup>
UNC Charlotte	October 13 <sup>th</sup>
Greensboro College	October 15 <sup>th</sup>
NC Wesleyan - Gateway Tech Center	October 22 <sup>nd</sup>

### High School Professionals (3 Training Options)

#### CFNC.org/Bridges Planner (Career Tools Focus)

Time: 8:30 – 11:30 am

UNC – Wilmington	October 6 <sup>th</sup>
Meredith College	October 9 <sup>th</sup>
UNC – Charlotte	October 13 <sup>th</sup>
Greensboro College	October 16 <sup>th</sup>

#### Plan and Apply Online (College Tools Focus)

Time: 1:00 – 4:00 pm

UNC – Wilmington	October 6 <sup>th</sup>
Meredith College	October 9 <sup>th</sup>
Greensboro College	October 16 <sup>h</sup>
Gaston College	October 30 <sup>th</sup>

### All CFNC Program

#### CFNC.org Planner AND Financial Aid Workshop

Time: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm (lunch served)

UNC-Asheville	September 23 <sup>rd</sup>
East Carolina University	October 12 <sup>th</sup>

## NEA: Learning & Leadership Grants

NEA Foundation Learning & Leadership Grants are given to public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or faculty and staff in public institutions of higher education for one of two purposes: grants to individuals fund participation in high-quality professional development experiences, such as summer institutes or action research; grants to groups fund collegial study, including study groups, action research, lesson study, or mentoring experiences for faculty or staff new to an assignment. Maximum award: \$5,000 for groups, \$2,000 for individuals. Eligibility: public school teachers grades K-12; public school education support professionals; or faculty and staff at public higher education institutions. Deadline: October 15, 2009.

[http://www.neafoundation.org/programs/Learning&Leadership\\_Guidelines.htm](http://www.neafoundation.org/programs/Learning&Leadership_Guidelines.htm)

Source: SSWAA E-Bell June 24, 2009

## Childhood Eye Disorder Linked to Mental Illness in Young Adults

Children with intermittent exotropia had a nearly threefold increased risk of developing mental illness by early adulthood, a new study found. A mental health disorder was diagnosed in 53% of children with exotropia -- a form of strabismus in which the eyes deviate outward -- compared with 30.1% of controls, according to Jeff A. McKenzie and colleagues from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

Specifically, children with the ocular problem were 2.7 times more likely to develop a psychiatric disorder than were age- and sex-matched controls, the investigators reported in the June issue of Archives of Ophthalmology. Intermittent exotropia, which occurs in about 1% of developmentally normal children, is thought to be the most prevalent form of strabismus.

Children with exotropia were more likely than controls to:

- Have a greater number of psychiatric disorders
- Use psychotropic medications
- Require psychiatric hospitalization
- Have emergency department visits
- Have suicidal ideation
- Attempt suicide

Mental health disorders were diagnosed in 63% of the boys and in 47% of the girls who had a history of childhood intermittent exotropia, compared with 33% and 28% of male and female controls, respectively. Specific types of mental health disorders differed by gender, with boys more likely to develop depression and adjustment disorders and girls more likely to have attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, anxiety, and learning disabilities. The increased rates of mental illness in males with exotropia is of particular concern given that males are nearly twice as likely as females to successfully complete suicide," the researchers wrote.

<http://www.medpagetoday.com/Ophthalmology/GeneralOphthalmology/14605#atabc>

Source: SSWAA E-Bell June 16, 2009

## **Congressional Researchers Weigh In on Special Education Case Law**

You may already be familiar with the Government Accountability Office, the congressional "watchdog" agency that recently released a report on restraints and seclusion. Less well-known is the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service (CRS), which communicates directly with Congress. The CRS issued reports recently on important court decisions that have been made since the reauthorization of IDEA in 2004. The report addresses issues such as:

- What amount of educational progress is required to meet FAPE standards?
- What educational benefits are required to be put in an individualized education program (IEP)?
- What use of seclusion and restraints is allowed (if any) under IDEA?

The 25-page, April 14<sup>th</sup> report, "The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): Supreme Court and Selected Lower Court Decisions," is on the website of the National School Boards Association. The NSBA page also includes a link to an April 14 CRS report on the topic of seclusion and restraints.

<http://www.nsba.org/MainMenu/SchoolLaw/Issues/SpecialEd/News/IDEA-seclusion-use.aspx>

Source: SSWAA E-Bell June 2, 2009

## **CSWE WELCOMES SEVEN NEW BOARD MEMBERS WITH DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES**

ALEXANDRIA, VA-The Council on Social Work Education welcomes seven new members to its Board of Directors on July 1. Bringing diverse and valuable experiences to CSWE's leadership are President-Elect Mildred "Mit" Joyner; Vice President/Secretary Betty Garcia; and Harriet Cohen, Isabel Feliciano, Charles Flora, Anne "Ricky" Fortune, and Gerri Outlaw, who represent the BSW and MSW-level program and practitioner perspectives.

Board members are elected annually by CSWE members to replace those who have completed their 3-year terms of service. President-Elect Mit Joyner will shadow President Ira Colby for 1 year in accordance with CSWE's bylaws. All newly elected board members will become active in their leadership roles on July 1.

Visit [www.cswe.org/CSWE/about/governance/Elections](http://www.cswe.org/CSWE/about/governance/Elections) for more information about CSWE's newly elected board members.

June 10, 2009: The Council on Social Work Education is a nonprofit national association representing more than 3,000 individual members as well as graduate and undergraduate programs of professional social work education.

Source: SSWAA E-Bell June 9, 2009

## **Help for Children Raised by Grandparents and Other Relatives: Questions and Answers About the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008**

This report is intended to help ensure implementation of the improvements in the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act for children being raised by grandparents and other relatives. It was prepared by an informal coalition of 18 organizations, many of whom have been working individually and together for years to support children being raised by grandparents and other relatives. In this guide, the collaborating organizations have answered a number of questions posed to them by persons interested in implementing the new act. The guide is intended to be useful to those charged with implementing the improvements for children being raised by grandparents and other relatives, as well as others who are advocating for the new improvements and assisting with implementation. Download at

<http://www.clasp.org/publications/NewHelpForChildrenRaisedByGrandparentsAndOtherRelatives.pdf>

## U.S. Department of Defense's Military ONESOURCE Provides Military Families With Free Help and Information

Military OneSource, a Department of Defense program, provides free help and information, 24/7, to service members and their families on issues that affect them, including parenting and child care, the concerns of families of children with special needs, budgeting and finances, consumer purchases, education, relationships, the cycle of deployment, and overall health and well-being.

Military OneSource provides practical help and information, by phone or online, from professionally trained, master's-level consultants, including specialty consultations in areas like finances, child care, special needs, and elder care. Free face-to-face counseling is offered (short-term, non-medical, solution-focused, up to twelve sessions per issue) and free financial counseling (short-term, solution-focused).

The interactive website, at [www.MilitaryOneSource.com](http://www.MilitaryOneSource.com), expands our support through podcasts, webinars, special health-coaching programs, links to other support for military members, an online library, booklets CDs, DVDs, resource lists, and more.

### Just some services

Military OneSource programs and services include:

**Counseling for personal and relationship issues.** Military OneSource can help with issues such as stress management, grief, relationships, and parenting skills. Counseling services are available for free to military service members and their eligible family members in one of three ways:

- face-to-face with a professional counselor in their area (up to twelve sessions per issue, with telephone and online options)
- via telephone with a consultant
- online in a secure real-time "chat" format with a consultant

**Specialty Consultations.** In addition to the consultants who answer the phone 24/7, we provide scheduled consultations with specialists in the areas of:

- child care/parenting, helping with locating licensed child care providers and with other parenting issues, including ways to help children adjust to a move or succeed with schoolwork
- special needs, helping to meet your family member's needs
- elder care, helping you to understand the kinds of elder care available and to locate care in the community for your older relative, and providing information on Medicare and Medicaid, dependent care costs, prescription drug assistance, medical insurance, and Social Security
- finances, helping with budgeting, debt reduction, credit issues, and tax preparation (face-to-face counseling also provided)

**Translation Assistance.** Through Military OneSource, service members can have written documents translated or participate in a three-way phone call with an interpreter to ensure clear communication with a third party.

**CDs, Booklets, Articles, and Resource Guides.** These are available to download or to order (for free) from our website on issues including combat stress; staying connected as a deployed parent; when your spouse deploys; helping children with a parent's deployment; finding child care as a military family; and dealing with crisis and trauma.

**Other Programs and Services.** Our website resources keep expanding and include a personalized health-coaching program; a personalized nutritional program for teenagers; an online resource library; For the complete Military Community and Family Policy Magazine for August visit:

<http://apps.mhf.dod.mil/mcfc/emaq>

Source: 8-20-2009--OSDFS PREVENTION NEWS BULLETIN MENU

### **Mantis - 2010 Mantis Awards for Community and Youth Gardens**

Each year, Mantis provides the Mantis Awards for charitable and educational garden projects that serve to improve the quality of life for youth and community members. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to turn slim resources into bountiful gardens that increase access to nutritious foods and provide education on the importance of nutrition.

Eligible applicants include non-profit charitable or educational programs. Past Mantis Award winners have included schools, churches, parks, youth camps, and community gardens. Selected applicants will receive Mantis tiller/cultivators to carry out their community and youth garden projects.

**Deadline:** March 1, 2010

Please contact Mantis for more specific grant information and to apply:

<http://www.kidsgardening.com/grants/mantis-criteria.asp>

Source: 7-30-2009--OSDFS PREVENTION NEWS BULLETIN

### **The CIGNA Foundation - CIGNA Community Grants**

The CIGNA Foundation provides grants to projects that focus their efforts on five priority areas including: 1) the health of women, children and families, 2) obesity awareness and prevention, 3) patient/doctor communications and health literacy, 4) elimination of gender and ethnic disparities with health care, and 5) maintenance of healthy minds and bodies. The Foundation will pay particular attention to projects demonstrating creativity, responsiveness, in addition to projects that are beneficial and achievable.

Award amounts will vary. Eligible applicants include 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations.

**Deadline:** Rolling

Please contact The CIGNA Foundation for more specific grant information and to apply:

[http://www.cigna.com/about\\_us/community/grant\\_application\\_details.html](http://www.cigna.com/about_us/community/grant_application_details.html)

SOURCE: The Weekly Insider, July 15, 2009, reporting from the Center for Health and Health Care in Schools

### **Wal-Mart Foundation – Wal-Mart Store and Sam’s Club Giving Program**

The Wal-Mart Foundation supports programs and initiatives addressing education, workforce development, economic sustainability, and health and wellness. For health and wellness in particular, the Foundation looks to improve access to healthcare, promote healthy lifestyles and behaviors, and reduce disparities.

Grant awards range from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Eligible applicants include organizations with tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3), recognized government entities, volunteer Fire Departments, K-12 Public Schools/Districts, Charter Schools, Colleges, Universities, Private Schools with tax-exempt status, and faith-based organizations.

**Deadline:** Rolling

Please contact the Wal-Mart Foundation for more specific grant information and to apply

<http://walmartstores.com/CommunityGiving/8916.aspx>

SOURCE: OSDFS PREVENTION NEWS BULLETIN, July 23, 2009

### **Wachovia Foundation – Wachovia Community Needs Grants**

The Wachovia Foundation provides Community Needs Grants to support organizations working to improve communities with low- to moderate-income. In particular, the Foundation strives to improve education, community development, and environmental health, ensure access to health and human services, and to bolster civic engagement. Award amounts may vary. Eligible applicants include tax-exempt organizations under Section 501(c) (3), have broad community support, and can demonstrate fiscal and administrative stability.

**Deadline:** Rolling

Please contact the Wachovia Foundation for more specific grant information and to apply for this funding opportunity:

<https://www.wachovia.com/foundation/v/index.jsp?vgnextoid=93b85ef43a0aa110VgnVCM100004b0d1872RCRD&vgnextfmt=default>

SOURCE: OSDFS PREVENTION NEWS BULLETIN, July 23, 2009

### **Youth Service America – UnitedHealth HEROES Grants**

Youth Service America is accepting applications for the UnitedHealth HEROES Grants to provide support for service-learning projects that focus on childhood obesity and engage youth ages 5-25 in the planning and implementation process. In particular, Youth Service America is seeking applications from service-learning projects that combine teaching and learning with meaningful service to the community with school-based curriculum or program-based learning.

Selected applicants will receive up to \$1,000 in support for their service learning projects. Eligible applicants include educators, service-learning coordinators, and students in the health professions. States eligible for this year's UnitedHealth HEROES program include: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

**Deadline:** October 22, 2009

Please contact Youth Service America directly for more specific information and to apply for this funding opportunity:

<http://ysa.org/MyYSA/YSAContent/YSAnews/tabid/219/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/175/UnitedHealthHEROESServiceLearningGrantsDeadlineOctober22.aspx>

SOURCE: The Center for Health and Health Care in Schools Weekly Insider, August 19, 2009 (8-27-2009--OSDFS PREVENTION NEWS BULLETIN)

### **The Prudential Foundation - Prudential Foundation Revitalizing Communities Grants**

The Prudential Foundation promotes sustainable communities by focusing its grant making on education, economic development, and civic infrastructure. Examples of funded projects are helping to improve schools, promoting neighborhood activities, and preserving parks and playgrounds.

Award amounts vary. Eligible applicants include tax-exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) or agencies that are members of the Federal, or any State, County or local Municipal government.

**Deadline:** Rolling

Please contact The Prudential Foundation for more specific grant information and to apply

<http://www.prudential.com/view/page/public/12373>

SOURCE: The Weekly Insider, July 8, 2009, reporting from the Center for Health and Health Care in Schools

## **SSWAA Continues Support of Student Breakfast Program**

On July 21, 2009, Senators Feingold and Kohl introduced the Student Breakfast and Education Improvement Act. This bill would provide competitive grants to states and school districts to expand and improve school breakfast programs and nutrition education programs, including developing service-learning projects with partner organizations in local communities. SSWAA has signed-on in support of this legislation, as in the past.

Studies suggest that school breakfast programs can have a tremendous impact on student academic performance, and improve the classroom environment by reducing tardiness and improving student attentiveness. Universal free breakfast programs, especially if they are provided during the school day, have proven to be one of the most successful ways to increase participation and help ensure more kids are getting a nutritious breakfast and are better prepared to learn

Source: SSWAA E-Bell August 6, 2009

## Professional Development Opportunities

- **NC Dropout Prevention Association, 2009 Annual Conference**, September 20-23, 2009, Sea Trail Resort in Sunset Beach. Please check the website at <http://www.ncdpa.com> for conference information.
- **North Carolina School Psychology Association's 2009 Fall Conference**, October 10-13, 2009, Sheraton Raleigh Hotel, 421 South Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC. Specific information will be located at <http://ncschoolpsy.org/conferences/conferences.htm>.
- **North Carolina School Social Workers' Association Fall Conference**, October 28-30, 2009, Pinehurst NC. Specific information will be located at <http://www.ncsswa.org>.
- **26<sup>th</sup> Annual School Nurse Conference**, October 27-28, 2009, Friday Conference Center in Chapel Hill, NC. Registration information is located at: [www.sph.unc.edu/oce](http://www.sph.unc.edu/oce) the link is on the front page.
- **59<sup>th</sup> Conference on Exceptional Children**, November 2-4, 2009, Koury Convention Center, Greensboro, NC. Registration and more information will be online soon at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/ec/conference/2009>.
- **North Carolina School Counselor Association's Fall Conference**, November 4-6, 2009, Koury Conference Center, Greensboro, NC. Specific information will be located at <http://www.ncschoolcounselor.org/conference.asp>.
- **2010 Annual NCCA Conference: Advocating for Your Clients, Yourself, and Our Profession**, February 17-19, 2010, Embassy Suites Hotel, Concord, NC. Please mark your calendar!
- **National Association of School Psychologists' Annual Conference**, March 2-6, 2010, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- **13th National School Social Work Conference**, April 7-10, 2010, St. Louis Union Station Marriott, St. Louis, MO. See the SSWAA website for the Call for Papers, sponsor information and other updates at [www.sswaa.org](http://www.sswaa.org).
- **American School Counselor Association National Conference**, July 3-6, 2010, Hynes Convention Center, Boston, Massachusetts.
- **National Association of School Psychologists' Annual Conference**, February 22-26, 2011, Hilton San Francisco, San Francisco, CA.
- **American School Counselor Association National Conference**, June 25-28, 2011, Seattle, Washington, Washington Convention and Trade Center.
- **National Association of School Psychologists' Annual Conference**, February 21-25, 2012, Philadelphia Marriott/Loews Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA.
- **2012 - National School Social Work Conference**, March 29-31, 2012, Boston, MA.
- **American School Counselor Association National Conference**, June 23-26, 2012, Minneapolis, Minneapolis, Minneapolis Convention Center.

***If you are aware of workshops, trainings, and/or staff development activities that benefit student support services personnel, please send all pertinent details to [tsmith@dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:tsmith@dpi.state.nc.us).***

## Mark Your Calendar



### Input 2010 recognition dates

**National School Psychology Awareness Week  
November 6 – 13, 2009**

**National School Counseling Week  
February 1-5, 2010**

**National School Nurse Day - May 12, 2010**

**National School Psychology Awareness Week  
November 8-12, 2010**

**For breaking news, visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/studentsupport/news>.**

For your personal subscription to the Student Support Services E-newsletter, visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/studentsupport/egroup> to register.

For past issues of the Student Support Services E-newsletter, visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/studentsupport/enewsletter>.

For Student Support Services E-newsletter Article Submission Form, visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/studentsupport/enewsletter/>.

For school psychologist practitioner questions, please contact Caroline McKnight Hexdall at [caroline.hexdall@cdl.unc.edu](mailto:caroline.hexdall@cdl.unc.edu).