Crosswalks Care Package
Content and instructional resources for providers of professional development related to culture, diversity, and responsive practices

November 2009

News and Updates

February
16-17 Leadership for Equity & Excellence Forum, Phoenix, AZ
2010 Reinvest in Equity: Building Bridges and Tearing Down Walls is the theme for this upcoming gathering of educators, policy makers, students, parents, advocacy groups, and community members. Sessions at the Forum will share current research and best practices related to building and strengthening systems of educational equity. Areas of focus will include civil and educational rights, disproportionality in special education, school-family partnerships, organizing schools for inclusive education, and more. Details are available at http://www.equityallianceatasu.org/ea/conference

May
17-19 Tenth National Early Childhood Inclusion Institute, Chapel Hill, NC
2010 Join colleagues from throughout the U.S. in sessions that focus on growing opportunities to support opportunities for young children with disabilities to benefit from high quality inclusion. Additional information will be unfolding at http://www.nectac.org/~meetings/inclusionmtg2010/

July
11-14 Embracing Inclusive Approaches for Children and Youth with Special Education Needs, Riga, Latvia
2010 The Division of International Special Education and Services (DISES), the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), the Center for Education Initiatives (CEI), and the International Step by Step Association (ISSA) will be hosting this international conference on inclusion and special education. Contact RIGA2010@Kalevatravel.lv to get on the mailing list.

Content Resources

Helping Families Support Their Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Children
This brief provides information about sexual orientation and gender identity to help friends, family, and other adults support LGBT children and adolescents. It was published by the National Center for Cultural Competence at Georgetown University with support from the Child, Adolescent, and Family Branch of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s Center for Mental Health Services. Available at http://www11.georgetown.edu/research/gucchd/nccc/documents/LGBT_Brief.pdf
**Teaching for a New World**
A policy brief from the Alliance for Excellent Education makes the case that too many teachers arrive on their first day of teaching unprepared for the challenges of a diverse set of learners. The brief lays out five critical areas where teachers must develop competency before entering the classroom, first among which is **the ability to work with diverse learners, including special education students and English language learners**. The brief recommends the creation of national performance-based assessments that fairly and accurately measure the effectiveness of individual teacher candidates and preparation programs, and introduce a common set of standards for a candidate's performance before he or she becomes a full-fledged teacher. NOTE: While the thrust of the publication is on preparing teachers for secondary positions, the messages about needed shifts in teacher preparation apply easily to early childhood/early intervention. Download at [http://www.all4ed.org/publication_material/issue_policy_briefs](http://www.all4ed.org/publication_material/issue_policy_briefs)

**Instructional Resources**

**American Indian Perspectives on Thanksgiving**
A poster titled American Indian Perspectives on Thanksgiving and other related resources are available at this landing pad provided by the National Museum of the American Indian. Access the materials at [http://www.nmai.si.edu/education/files/thanksgiving_poster.pdf](http://www.nmai.si.edu/education/files/thanksgiving_poster.pdf)

**Application:** Have you looked at the thoughtful ideas for considering holidays that are offered in the new edition of Anti-Bias Education for Young Children and Ourselves (Chapter 11)?

**Early Lessons - Podcast about the Perry Preschool Project**
The Perry Preschool Project was the first major study to examine the impact of a high-quality preschool program on the lives of African American children who were born in poverty. A new podcast on American RadioWorks, entitled Early Lessons by Emily Hanford, discusses the experiences of people directly involved in the project. It includes interviews with teachers who were at the school and personal descriptions of what the experience was like. Access the podcast, at [http://americanradioworks.publicradio.org/features/preschool/](http://americanradioworks.publicradio.org/features/preschool/)

**Application:** In subsequent years, what additional lessons have been learned about how to support the development of children like those who participated in the Perry Preschool Project?

**Do Schools Kill Creativity?**
This brief video segment from Ken Robinson offers both humorous and thought-provoking insights related to how we support and promote learning. Watch it at [http://www.emailthis.clickability.com/et/emailThis?clickMap=viewThis&etMailToID=1616590544](http://www.emailthis.clickability.com/et/emailThis?clickMap=viewThis&etMailToID=1616590544)

**Application:** What intentional approaches to supporting creativity are emphasized in the professional development you provide?

- Find additional resources and measures related to diversity, and previous Care Packages, at the Crosswalks website [http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~scpp/crosswalks/](http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~scpp/crosswalks/)