WEST REGION
Submitted by Jessica Wadel,
Head Start Director

- The Head Start program has been working on a plan to restore some of the services that were eliminated in Kingman, Pratt and Stafford Counties due to federal sequestration. We have the opportunity to reapply for the funds that were cut through sequestration, and we are working with the school districts in each county to create an implementation plan and cost analysis. The application for this funding will be submitted at the end of May, and we will await news from the Regional Office on the approval of the application.

- The Head Start Integrated Classroom in Cimarron will relocate this summer. Our classroom is moving into the Cimarron Elementary School. The school district has offered to move our classroom items and assist with the playground preparation. These services will provide in-kind for our program, and we are excited about the support that we have received from the school district in this exciting collaboration.

- The Head Start Integrated Classroom in Liberal is making preparations for the upcoming school year. Class sessions will occur five days per week for three hours so that the schedule for Head Start children in this location will be similar to that of other students. Transportation schedules have been arranged so that all students in this location will have transportation to and from school.

- A bond issue recently passed in Liberal that will allow for two existing school buildings to be transitioned into Early Childhood locations within the next five years. Two new buildings will be constructed in this community so that the existing buildings can better serve the growing community. This may provide an opportunity for Head Start Center-based programs to be located within the same building as Pre-K district programs. This community is also piloting a Collective Impact project that is focused on building relationships between the public and private sector. This project is a collaborative effort that will increase knowledge and understanding of the field of Early Childhood Education within the community.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION
Submitted by Chad Child,
Clinical Program Director

- KCSL completed a successful renewal application for funding of the Coalition for Child Abuse Prevention and Crisis Nursery program through the Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund. Current funding through this state grant extends through the end of July 2014. The renewal application aligned Crisis Nursery outcomes and evaluative measures with the Children’s Cabinet’s new Blueprint for Early Childhood. Funding has been extended to cover the new grant year of July 2014 through June 2015. This funding supports many of the coalition’s efforts and Crisis Nursery’s case management and emergency respite services for parents and children in crisis or experiencing extreme stress in select zip codes of Sedgwick County.

- Several therapists from KCSL attended the annual Kansas Association for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (KAIMH) conference in early May. The keynote speaker for both days of the conference was Dr. Tina Payne Bryson. Dr. Bryson is an international speaker, a psychotherapist and school counselor and co-author (with Dan Siegel) of the best-selling book “The Whole-Brain Child.” Dr. Bryson’s presentation incorporated her research and practice in attachment science, parenting, early childhood mental health and interpersonal neurobiology.
PREVENT CHILD ABUSE KANSAS
Submitted by Vicky Roper,
Director, Education and Awareness and Prevent Child Abuse Kansas Director

• Dillons contributed the following for Child Abuse Prevention month in April: the cost of six billboards in Topeka for four weeks, 2,100 radio PSAs in Wichita, Topeka, Lawrence, Manhattan, Liberal and Garden City, banner ads in the Wichita Eagle, in-store coin box collection and signage promoting April as Child Abuse Prevention Month and a cash donation. All this is estimated to be worth about $21,134.

• Private funding in the amount of $127,500 has been raised for the Centers for Disease Control’s (CDC) Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) project so far from the Health Care Foundation of Greater KC, Morris Family Foundation, Christie Development Associates and Junior League of Wichita.

• The Prevent Child Abuse Kansas team met in March to celebrate successfully passing the Healthy Families America re-accreditation and having a successful year of Education and Awareness. President/CEO Dona Booe and CFO Paula Wischnack acknowledged the previous year’s contributions by each unit and a Community Café was held to determine how to further increase our efforts.

• The Johnson County and Wyandotte County Healthy Families programs are now housed together in one office space as the Greater Kansas City KCSL office.

• The Healthy Families team in Independence offered free trainings to the community on Mandated Reporting and Darkness to Light (Child Sexual Abuse Prevention) in recognition of April as Child Abuse Prevention month.

• The Emporia Healthy Families team celebrated the Week of the Young Child and Child Abuse Prevention month with special events at the library, a Teddy Bear Clinic at the mall, Family Day at an Emporia State University game and helped with the Child Abuse Prevention Summit held by SOS.

• The Topkea and Wichita Healthy Families team completed training in a new assessment tool, the KIPS (Keys to Interactive Parenting Skills), which will be used with families as a part of the common measures in the Early Childhood Block Grant.

• The Education and Awareness team has held six of eight webinars for professionals this year on such topics as ACEs, the Strengthening Families Initiative, Abusive Head Trauma, Child Abuse Prevention Month, Parent Leadership and Healthy Relationships. The team also produced eight parent videos on Fatherhood, Protective Factors, Child Abuse Prevention, Building Healthy Relationships, Parent Leadership and Abusive Head Trauma. So far, they have had 1,000 views.

• All Program Services Supervisors, Managers and Directors met with KCSL’s President/CEO Dona Booe for a training day of ACE research updates and reports on Resiliency. An Action Plan was developed for all Program Services units.

• The Greater Wichita Fatherhood Coalition hosted the “Dad’s Day at the Zoo” event in partnership with the Wichita Child Abuse Prevention month event at the Sedgwick County Zoo. One hundred thirteen fathers and their families were treated to a fun-filled day of activities, and family pictures were taken so fathers would have a special remembrance of the day. The Greater Wichita Fatherhood Coalition grew out of the Wichita Crisis Response Team for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect.

• B J Gore and Bruce Bynum met with Jessica Bertapelle, Ph.D., Wichita State University, Elliott School of Communication, to begin work on a research project on Kinship – Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. KCSL was selected to be a partner in this project due to our work with kinship families through the Kinship Navigator Program and the Kinship Networking Group.

• The Kansas Adoption Advisory Council met in April to discuss upcoming activities and plans for a future “Strong and Stable Families” Retreat. The Council has been focused on soliciting funding opportunities through donations. The Kansas Adoption Advisory Council has been working very closely with KCSL on the donation piece. KCSL is maintaining the financial holdings for the group and is considered the administrator of the project.

• The first meeting of the Kansas Power of the Positive Project Steering Committee was held April 25. Forty leaders from a mix of government, non-profit, university and hospital representatives attended face-to-face and by webinar. Sandra Alexander from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention presented. Vicky Roper, KCSL, facilitated the meeting. Dave Ranney, Kansas Health Institute, wrote two articles about the meeting. KCSL and the University of Kansas tweeted during the meeting. There was great energy in the room.

• Vicky Roper presented with the CDC’s Sandra Alexander at the Office for Child Abuse and Neglect’s National Conference.
Notes from the Field, continued from page 2

in New Orleans April 30 on the CDC’s Essentials for Childhood Project.

• Vicky Roper and Bruce Bynum presented on Adverse Childhood Experiences/Safe Stable and Nurturing Relationships and Environments at the Governor’s Public Health Conference May 1 and the Attorney General’s Crime Victim’s Conference May 13.

• Child Abuse Prevention activities took place in 29 counties across the state. Many counties held more than one event.

• Proclamations were signed in at least 20 counties and 15 cities (reports are still coming in) as of May 2.

• The Letter to the Editor was sent to 173 newspapers statewide.

• Pam Noble:
  » presented to the Topeka Kiwanis Club on April 7 about Child Abuse Prevention month.
  » appeared on the Brett & Sierra show (KWCH/CW Wichita) to promote Child Abuse Prevention month.
  » presented Bullying Prevention information to the Reaching Emerging Young Leaders conference April 5 as well as to five high school groups during April and May.
  » presented Bullying Prevention information to the Advance Kansas Leadership Class on April 15.

• Emprise Bank held a Wear Blue Day for employees with proceeds benefitting KCSL.

• Dog-n-Shake handed out child abuse prevention materials in their five stores during April.

• Topeka Staff took part in the Safe Kids Day at the Topeka Zoo April 26 handing out a variety of KCSL materials.

• Child Abuse Prevention month information was provided to all participants at the statewide meeting of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs. This meeting is the kick-off to the planning for the 2014-2015 year.

• KCSL sold mini footballs for the Halftime Football Toss and handed out KCSL materials at three Wichita Wild home games (one in March, two April). There are two additional games in May, one in June and the possibility of playoffs.

• Vicky Roper appeared on WIBW-TV Topeka to be interviewed about Child Abuse Prevention month after the 105 Reasons Event April 11.

• All YMCA of Greater Wichita site directors and camp directors were trained in Bullying Prevention April 26.

• All YMCA of Greater Wichita camp staff received Bullying Prevention training May 10 at Camp Hyde in Wichita.

• Proposals were accepted online through April 30 for the 38th Annual Governor’s Conference for the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect. The conference will be held October 15-17 at the Hyatt Regency in Wichita.