



July 11, 2013

Dear Friends,

Many of our partners are currently implementing Early Childhood Development (ECD) programs. The great work that they are doing has inspired this week's Newsflash, which is ECD themed.

We hope you enjoy this week's edition of the Newsflash!

Sincerely,
The Firelight Team

(Open for Applications) W.K. Kellogg Foundation

(Resource) UNICEF ECD Resource Pack

(Article) Simple, Early Triggers that Help Our Children to Learn

(Resource) Early Childhood Development for OVC—Key Considerations

(Article) Meeting Children Where They Are: Culturally Adapted Models of Early Childhood Education

(Open for Applications) W.K. Kellogg Foundation

The Kellogg Foundation does not have any submission deadlines. Grant applications are accepted throughout the year and are reviewed at our headquarters in Battle Creek, Michigan, or in our regional office in Mexico.

In general, we do not provide funding for operational phases of established programs, capital requests (which includes the construction, purchase, renovation, and/or furnishing of facilities), equipment, conferences and workshops, films, television and/or radio programs, endowments, development campaigns, or research/studies unless they are an integral part of a larger program budget being considered for funding.

For more information, or to apply, visit: <http://bit.ly/14OkwEy>

(Resource) UNICEF ECD Resource Pack

This Early Childhood Resource Pack is designed to help program planners and managers understand the basic elements of the best start in life for children and how to most effectively work together to achieve those goals. It combines advocacy arguments with experiences, exercises and information that can be used to develop skills and understand programming for young children in development and emergency situations.

This second edition of the ECD Resource Pack, based on the feedback from field implementation, includes new topics (such as child poverty), and expands some of the existing modules to include new information in ECD. It is not a blueprint - it is a set of tools that can be applied in many different ways. A number of different groups of sessions might be selected depending on the time available, participants' needs and how important child development knowledge is as a training/learning goal.

To access this resource, visit: <http://uni.cf/12myWcZ>

(Article) Simple, Early Triggers that Help Our Children to Learn

Excerpt: “How can we fix our education system? That question preoccupies our national mind - and not without cause. We fail to prepare enough people for basic jobs, let alone to sustain a sophisticated knowledge economy. If that is the question, the inevitable answer is that we need good teachers, quality textbooks and enough time in the classroom. But what if we asked a slightly different question, namely ‘what needs to be done so that our children can learn?’”

To view the full article, visit: <http://bit.ly/16P9Zui>

(Resource) Early Childhood Development for OVC—Key Considerations

Research shows that early childhood development (ECD) is critical to both mental and physical health later in life. However, programming targeting orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) is almost exclusively focused on school-aged OVC, and only rarely are very young children included in program activities. This technical brief, aimed at program planners and implementers, highlights the benefits of ECD interventions and outlines essential elements of ECD programming targeted towards OVC.

This website provides an introduction to Early Childhood Development Programming, as well as common questions and resources.

To access this resource, visit: <http://bit.ly/12GAq5c>

(Article) Meeting Children Where They Are: Culturally Adapted Models of Early

Childhood Education

Excerpt:

According to global studies of early childhood programs, there are several important characteristics of successful interventions:

- Integration of health, nutrition, education, social, and economic development
- Collaboration between government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and communities
- A focus on children whose families are disadvantaged
- Sufficient intensity and duration of programs
- Family-educator partnerships in support of children's development
- Opportunities for children to initiate their own learning and explore their surroundings through age-appropriate activities
- Blending of traditional childrearing practices and cultural beliefs with evidence-based approaches
- Providing early childhood program staff with systematic in-service training and practice, support and continuous supervision, observation methods to monitor children's development, and supportive theoretical and learning materials (Engle et al. 2007)

To read the full article, visit: <http://bit.ly/19YX91C>

As part of the Firelight Foundation's Capacity Building Program, Firelight provides "Newsflashes" to share relevant resources and information with our active grantee-partners via weekly emails and via post on a monthly basis. We hope that by facilitating access to information for grassroots, community-focused organizations, programming for children and families, as well as organizational development, is enhanced. Past editions of the Firelight Newsflash can be found on our website:

<http://www.firelightfoundation.org/resources/newsflash/>.

We welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for upcoming Newsflashes at newsletter@firelightfoundation.org.

For more information contact:

Firelight Foundation
740 Front Street, Suite 380
Santa Cruz, CA 95060 USA
www.firelightfoundation.org
+1 831-429- 8750