



**SPRING HAS SPRUNG!!**



## Facilitator Forum

Spring 2009  
Issue #7

### How Tolerance Is Taught

Tolerance refers to an attitude of openness and respect for the differences that exist among people. Although originally used to refer to ethnic and religious differences, the concepts of diversity and tolerance can also be applied to gender, people with physical and intellectual disabilities, and other differences, too. Tolerance means respecting and learning from others, valuing differences, bridging cultural gaps, rejecting unfair stereotypes, discovering common ground, and creating new bonds. Tolerance, in many ways, is the opposite of prejudice.

Talking together about tolerance and respect helps kids learn more about the values you want them to have. Giving them opportunities to play and work with others is important as well. This lets kids learn firsthand that everyone has something to contribute and to experience differences and similarities. Things parents can do to help kids learn tolerance include:

Remember that kids are always listening. Be aware of the way you talk about people who are different from yourself. Do not make jokes that perpetuate stereotypes. Although some of these may seem to be harmless fun, they can undo attitudes of tolerance and respect.

Select books, toys, music, art, and videos carefully. Keep in mind the powerful effect the media and pop culture have on shaping attitudes. Point out and talk about unfair stereotypes that may be portrayed in media.

Answer kids' questions about differences honestly and respectfully. This teaches that it is acceptable to notice and discuss differences as long as it is done with respect.

Acknowledge and respect differences within your own family. Demonstrate acceptance of your children's differing abilities, interests, and styles. Value the uniqueness of each member of your family.

Help your children feel good about themselves. Kids who feel badly about themselves often treat others badly. Kids with strong self-esteem value and respect themselves and are more likely to treat others with respect, too. Help your child to feel accepted, respected, and valued.

Give kids opportunities to work and play with others who are different from them. When choosing a school, day camp, or child-care facility for your child, find one with a diverse population.

Learn together about holiday and religious celebrations that are not part of your own tradition.

When parents encourage a tolerant attitude in their children, talk about their values, and model the behavior they would like to see by treating others well, kids will follow in their footsteps.

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*Announcing the arrival of...*



**Moonlight Skyla Black**

Born: February 14, 2009

Weight and Height: 9 lbs. 11 oz. and 21"

Proud Parents: Peaches and Ruell Black

**Layla Grace Warren**

Born: February 27, 2009

Weight and Height: 6 lbs. 10 oz. and 19"

Proud Grandparents:  
Leonard & Emma Warren



**Welcome aboard volunteers  
who have facilitated for  
the first time since  
October 2008:**

Qamara "Peaches" Black

Eva Chiemelewski

Drew & Michelle Fraser

Kathy Kosmal

Kara Kramer

Kathy Pappageorge

Sharon Thompson

Angelo Vinch

Dave & Angela Wenz



**Blake Stephen Brown**

Born: January 18, 2009

Weight and Height: 7 lbs. 6 oz. and 20"

Proud Parents: Shannon & Kevin Brown

## Get to know STEP Facilitator: Melissa Penner



In 2006 Melissa Penner married her high school sweetheart, Nathaniel Mickens. Between them they have four biological children, Justin, 22; Alyssa, 17; Kayla, 16; and Nate, 15. Recently they opened their home to a teen mom and her infant. They also have 2 dogs and a cat that they fostered and then adopted from different animal rescue leagues.

One of Melissa's personal goals is to see all of her children become happy, healthy, self-sufficient adults. With that goal in mind, she took her first STEP class over 16 years ago when her son was 4 years old because she wanted to be on the same page with her husband regarding parenting skills. Four years ago she took the teen class to brush up on her skills and train to become a facilitator. Her favorite part of facilitating is the second class because by that time the parents have had one week to use the "conditional yes". She finds that this skill helps pull parents in and makes them more receptive to the other STEP skills because those who have tried it say it was an instant success and stopped the "Battle of Wants".

Some of the most memorable places that she has ever visited have been with her son's travel hockey team. They include New Orleans, New York City where she visited Ground Zero, and Niagara Falls which always manages to take her breath away no matter how many times she has seen it.

The five people she would most like to spend the day with include her Grandmother Penner so that Melissa could document all of the stories that her grandmother has shared about her life; Malcolm X to learn how he knew peace and forgiveness towards his enemies; Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to share his knowledge and teach her children to appreciate the rights they take for granted everyday; her Uncle Buck who died suddenly after promising to bring home some exciting news. Unfortunately he died before being able to share it with his wife. And her son's beautiful friend, Brian, who died two years ago from an overdose. Her family misses Brian and his spirit of life.



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 E-mail:

**Check out our website:  
 .careofmacomb.com**

**Facilitator Training/Inservice**  
 June 20, 2009  
 9-4 pm  
 September 26, 2009

**FREE Youth Support**



**Summer 2009**

**Eight day camp program!**

Camp is FREE for youth ages 6-15 who are affected by a loved one's use of alcohol or other drugs, or have a family member in recovery. Parent sessions and child care is available.

*July 27-30 & August 3-6*  
 8:30am-12:00pm  
 Cornerstone Baptist Church  
 17017 12 Mile Road  
 Roseville, MI 48066

**Kroger Gift Card Program Changes**

It is no longer necessary to purchase a Kroger gift card to benefit CARE's Children's Programs. All you have to do is register your Kroger rewards discount card (small and usually kept on your key chain) online at [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com)

Click on Sign In/Register

Click SIGN UP TODAY in the "New Customer?" box

Enter zip code , click on favorite store, enter your email address and create a password.

You will then get a message to check your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email.

Click on My Account and use your email address and password to proceed to next step.

Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus card number.

Update or confirm your information.

Enter NPO # 82483 click on confirm.

To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see your organization's name on the right side of your information page.

**On The Path To Wealth:  
 Money Budgeting Classes**

Budgeting involves understanding how much money you earn and spend over a period of time. When you create a budget, you are creating a path to wealth. MSU Extension is offering sessions to teach you how to better budget, and get on the path to financial success. If you are interested in these classes please call Leaps & Bounds at 586-759-3895 to register.

**Class Dates:**

April 7, April 21, April 28, May 5, May 12

**Class Time:**

11:30a-12:00p

**Location:**

8129 Packard  
 Warren, MI 48089

Leaps & Bounds also offers GED Prep classes, job readiness, English as a second language, and basic computer skills.