

# FALL 2011 NEWSLETTER



KEWEENAW FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

850 W SHARON AVE - STE 6, HOUGHTON, MI 49931 ~ (906)482-9363 ~ WWW.KFRC.KIDS.ORG

## A Note from the Director

Dear Friends of KFRC,  
Welcome to Fall!

Whoever coined the term “the lazy days of summer” wasn’t around the Tree House the past 3 months! It was a busy time here. In between staff vacations and KFRC general programming, we have had new technology installed thanks to the Recover Michigan Grant (see below), as well as our new puppet stage built thanks in part to the Lego Children’s Fund. Playtime In The Park was much fun this summer and had the added bonus of having Shannon Rinkinen lead us in Music and Movement activities. Also, KFRC began the development and planning of a volunteer program that will be launched this month. Volunteers will be recruited to help support all aspects of our programming. Look for more infor-

mation within this newsletter.

I would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete the KFRC Program Survey. Your feedback is greatly appreciated and we have considered your suggestions with great thought.

**VOLUNTEERS WILL BE RECRUITED  
TO HELP SUPPORT ALL ASPECTS  
OF OUR PROGRAMMING.**

With Playtime In The Park winding down, KFRC staff is gearing up for playgroups to begin in October. As a result of survey feedback, the fall Mommy, Daddy & Me Playgroup schedule is going to offer a playgroup on Friday mornings at the Tree House. Sadly, this means that we will not use the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church location any longer, but we

feel that we will be able to serve more families and first timers at the Tree House.

We are also changing the Tree House open play schedule beginning in October. Currently, our Monday afternoon time slot of 2:00pm - 5:30pm has been very much under-attended. Because of this, we have decided to cancel this time slot and, instead, open at 9:00am Monday through Friday (look for the complete schedule within this newsletter). We hope that with the new fall schedule along with the special “Creative Kids” sessions we are adding to it, that we will be accommodating as many families as possible.

So, lets embrace the new season by enjoying everything it has to offer.

Happy Autumn!

*Catherine Benda*

## Recover Michigan Funding Awarded to KFRC

This summer, Keweenaw Family Resource Center was granted a SubAward from the Recover Michigan Program. This award was made possible through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act—U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children & Families, and the Office of Community Services—Strengthening Communities Fund. The purpose of this award is to provide funding for the implementation of activities that will increase the effectiveness of administrative operations and programmatic activity within small community-based organizations. As a recipient of this funding, KFRC will begin the formal implementation of its volunteer program as well as updating and improving its IT capabilities. Look for more information on KFRC’s Volunteer Program inside this newsletter.

## October 2011 - May 2012 Center-Based Schedule

### Mommy, Daddy & Me Playgroups

- MON: Trinity Episcopal Church (Houghton)  
9:30am - 12:00noon
- WED: Tree House Indoor Playground (Houghton)  
9:00am - 12:00noon  
Horizons School (Mohawk)  
10:00am - 12:00noon
- THU: Lake Linden High School (Lake Linden)  
9:30am - 12:00noon
- FRI: Tree House Indoor Playground (Houghton)  
9:00am - 12:00noon

### Tree House Open Hours

- MON: 9:00am - 12:00noon
- TUE: 9:00am - 12:00noon AND 4:00pm - 7:00pm
- THU: 9:00am - 12:00noon AND 4:00pm - 7:00pm
- SAT 10:00am - 1:00pm

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** ~ The playgroup **STOP** sign is meant to ensure that all participants have an enjoyable experience, which adheres to "best practices" and should be respected. If and when the sign is posted at the entrance it means that playgroup is filled to capacity.



~ If school is cancelled due to inclement weather, center-based programs for that day will not be held. Please listen to FM radio stations 93.5 or 97.7 for cancellations.

## Schwans Fundraising Sale for KFRC

*20% of all sales will go to programs!*

When: Friday, October 14th, 10:00am - 6:00pm

Where: Red Ridge Plaza (KFRC's parking lot)  
850 W. Sharon Ave. in Houghton



Internet orders and pre-orders are accepted! Just make sure you have KFRC's fundraising code for the sale. Stop by KFRC for a catalog and order form anytime before the sale. Our goal is to raise \$400. All that will take is 50 orders of \$40. We hope you will help us meet that goal!

For more info call 906-482-9363 or email [info@kfrckids.org](mailto:info@kfrckids.org).

## But Wait! September's Not Over Yet!

Be sure to take advantage of the following KFRC programs scheduled throughout the remainder of this month:

### **PLAYTIME IN THE PARK**

- WED, September 21st @ W. Houghton Park, 10am - 12noon  
WED, September 28th @ Lake Linden Park, 10am - 12noon

### **CREATIVE KIDS PROGRAM**

- Music & Movement: TUE, September 20th & 27th  
@ the Tree House, 3pm - 5pm
- Art Classes: THU, September 22nd & 29th  
@ the Tree House, 4pm - 6pm
- Dramatic Play: SAT, September 24th  
@ the Tree House, 10:30am - 12:30pm



Support of the Creative Kids Program was provided in part by the Lego Children's Fund. More sessions will be added to the calendar. Please check KFRC's website for the updated schedule.



## Fall/Winter Sale

at the Copper Country Mall, M-26

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Friday, September 30th

Saturday, October 1st

(Half-Price Sale starts at 3:00 PM Saturday)

Cash or Check Only--No Credit Cards.

### Have Stuff to Sell?

Become a Consignor!

Deadline to register is 9/23/11 • Contact info below  
Space is limited to the first 50 consignors - sign up soon!

### New Moms and Moms-To-Be:

Sign up for our  
First-Time Mom's Club  
and shop before  
the sale starts.  
(No strings attached)

HIGH-QUALITY, GENTLY-USED: CLOTHING, GEAR, SPORTING GOODS,  
TOYS, EQUIPMENT, FURNITURE, ETC. FOR ALL AGES, STAGES & SIZES.  
MATERNITY CLOTHES & ACCESSORIES, NURSING APPAREL,  
DIAPER BAGS, AND MUCH MORE!

### For More Information:

lvette: 906-523-5295

[KFRCKidsConsign@gmail.com](mailto:KFRCKidsConsign@gmail.com)



## KFRC-A Proud Recipient Agency of Copper Country United Way

The Keweenaw Family Resource Center is pleased to announce that it has been once again awarded funding from the Copper Country United Way for 2011. A portion of this funding came from individuals who generously allocated their CCUW campaign donations directly to KFRC. Those individuals include:

*David Bach ~ Brett Hamlin ~ Allyson Jabusch ~ Joseph Kirkish*

This year's Copper Country United Way funds are being used as a cash match for a grant from the State of Michigan Children's Trust Fund for home visiting as well as towards center-based operations. KFRC remains very grateful to the Copper Country United Way for its continued support.



## KEWEENAW FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Do you love children? Are you looking for a meaningful experience? Do you have a few hours a week or month to help the Keweenaw Family Resource Center in supporting, enriching, and strengthening the lives of families with young children in the Keweenaw Peninsula? Well, you are in luck!

**KFRC NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!** We have a variety of opportunities available including:

**Tree House Registration Desk:** duties include greeting families, helping them with registration, recording fees, and any other potential light office work that may be needed a the time.

**Baby Closet Helper:** duties include sorting through donations by sizes and acceptability, filling orders, and helping to keep the space organized.

**Playgroup/Story Hour Assistant:** duties include assisting KFRC staff with preparing snacks, exploration time (crafts & activities) and clean up. Volunteers will be expected to play with the children and interact with parents and caregivers. They may also be asked to help with preparation for exploration time such as cutting shapes or making play dough.

**Fundraising Assistant:** duties may include selling raffle tickets at local retail locations, collecting Econofood receipts, researching applicable grants, designing PR materials, and helping with special mailings.

**Special Event Helper:** duties may include set up and/or clean up at events as well as some program preparation for those interested in event planning. Opportunities may also be available for those in public relations, graphic design, and/or hospitality management.

All volunteers will be supervised by a KFRC staff member. You will never be left alone with a child or parent and all

volunteers will be provided with an orientation prior to working with clients.

**Qualifications:** Must be at least 16 years of age with a valid driver's license.

**Special Requirements:** Must agree to a criminal background check and a TB Test.

**Time Commitment:** For volunteers wanting work directly with families, there are a variety of shifts available throughout the week, including evenings and Saturdays. Each volunteer can let staff know what time commitment is comfortable for their schedules. Volunteers interested in helping out with The Baby Closet, special events, or fundraisers will be contacted on an as needed basis. Every little bit will help!

If you are interested in helping out with KFRC programs please call (906) 482-9363 or send an email to [info@kfrckids.org](mailto:info@kfrckids.org) for more information.

Volunteer experiences can have such a positive impact on your life. We hope you will consider checking it out.



Volunteer, Katie Birondo helps Kelsey Jaehnig during a recent "Creative Kids" session.

*If you think you're too small to make a difference, you haven't been in bed with a mosquito! ~ Anita Roddick*

## KFRC's SPONSORS, PATRONS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

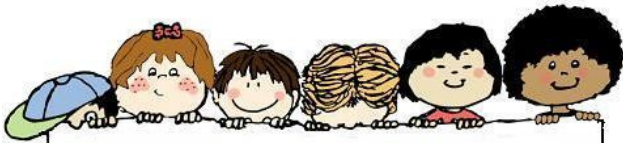
*Helping local families with young children*



BHK Child Development Board ~ Copper Country ISD ~ Copper Country Mental Health  
Erik & Molly Hayenga ~ Elizabeth Jacobson ~ Martha Janners ~ Psychology Associates of the Keweenaw  
Rice Memorial Foundation ~ Margaret Sottile ~ Superior Child Abuse Prevention Council



Richard & Stasia Gray ~ Keweenaw Bay Indian Community ~ Kevin & Susan Ruhl  
Saint Joseph Catholic Church ~ Bob Sharkey & Susan Donnelly



# Keweenaw Family Resource Center

850 West Sharon Avenue, Ste #6 ~ Houghton, MI 49931

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The mission of the Keweenaw Family Resource Center is to support, enrich and strengthen family life in the Keweenaw Peninsula by providing a variety of programs which focus on families with children from birth through 4 years. KFRC is a 501© 3 non-profit organization.

KFRC is located in the Red Ridge Plaza, 850 W. Sharon Ave. ~ #6, Houghton

Office Hours: Monday– Thursday, 9AM - 4PM; Fridays by appointment

Phone: (906) 482-9363

Fax: (906) 482-9353

Email: info@kfrckids.org

Website: www.kfrckids.org

### KFRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Pam Sheridan  
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*Center-Based Coordinator*

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KFRC is supported by the Michigan Department of Education, BHK Child Development Board, Copper Country Intermediate School District, Michigan Children's Trust Fund, Copper Country United Way, Superior Child Abuse Prevention Council, Kiwanis of the Copper Country, Trinity Episcopal Church, Keweenaw Community Foundation, Portage Health, local businesses, service organizations, and individual donations.

