



# Foundation for Early Learning

## EARLY INVESTMENTS

A monthly newsletter from Foundation for Early Learning

April 2010

### IN THIS ISSUE

[Special Thanks](#)

[Dr. Patricia: Advice](#)

[WOYC: April 11](#)

[New Laws Signed](#)

[10th Anniversary](#)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

April 8

[Breakfast of  
Champions for  
Children](#)

April 9

[Statewide Public  
Forums on Draft  
Family Home Child  
Care Rules](#)

April 27

[Brain Rules for  
Education](#)

[VIEW MORE...](#)

**OVER 1,500 MEMBERS  
AND COUNTING...**

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### Special Thanks to Marleen Alhadeff

#### NINE YEARS OF SERVICE

With her board term complete, Marleen Alhadeff is transitioning off Foundation for Early Learning's Board of Directors.



Marleen Alhadeff with Vijay Vashee

For nine years Marleen has helped to build the Foundation into a statewide champion of early learning. During this time, Marleen has served in several roles including Board of Directors Chair and Resource Development Committee Chair.

While Marleen departs the board, she will continue to participate in the organization by chairing our newly formed [Board of Ambassadors](#).

The Foundation is grateful to Marleen, and thanks her for her work to ensure all children are ready for kindergarten.

### Dr. Patricia: Conflicting Advice

#### HOW TO MAKE SENSE OF CONFLICTING ADVICE

I'm sure you've noticed that advice based on scientific evidence changes





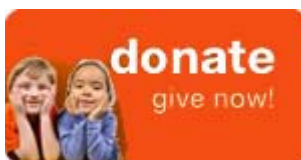
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over time. What was once best practice often is altered by new information, so that a person has to switch mental gears to keep up. This is all fine and well if the new advice is "chocolate is good for you" or "butter is better for you than margarine." But new information gets troubling when it's about our kids... and when what a parent is supposed to do is left up in the air...

[READ MORE](#)

Discover tips, podcasts and articles from Dr. Patricia on the [Early Learning Community](#).

### Week of the Young Child: April 11, 2010

#### DISCOVER WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

The [Week of the Young Child](#) is a national effort organized by the [National Association for the Education of Young Children](#) (NAEYC). Beginning April 11, 2010, the theme for this year's celebration is *Early Years Are Learning Years*®.

Partners in Washington State will be hosting events and activities throughout the month of April to highlight the importance of supporting the learning of children. Some of these events are listed on the [Early Learning Community](#).

During the month of April, Foundation for Early Learning is organizing presentations to businesses and community groups on the importance of early learning. These 15-minute presentations include simple tips on how all community members can play a part in supporting children.

#### REQUEST A PRESENTATION

To request a free presentation at your next staff or group meeting, please contact [joel@earlylearning.org](mailto:joel@earlylearning.org). These presentations are offered at no cost during the month of April. [Request today!](#)

#### SHARE WHAT YOU ARE DOING

Share what you or your organization is doing to participate in the [Week of the Young Child](#) by adding a comment in the [discussion forum](#).



## Gov. Gregoire Signs Important Legislation

### NEW LAWS SUPPORT EARLY LEARNING

On Monday, March 29, 2010, Gov. Chris Gregoire signed three important early learning bills ([2SHB 2731](#), [SSB 6759](#) and [2SHB 2867](#)) into law. These bills will collectively improve access to pre-school and create a continuum of services for at-risk infants and toddlers.



Foundation for Early Learning, along with many of the coalitions that we work with, the [Early Learning Public Library Partnership](#), and our partners at the Children's Alliance and Early Learning Action Alliance supported and championed this important legislation. We would like to thank all who were involved!

For more information on this legislation, please visit [www.ChildrensAlliance.org](http://www.ChildrensAlliance.org).

## 10th Anniversary Luncheon

### THANK YOU TO ALL WHO JOINED US FOR THIS CELEBRATION

On March 5, 2010, Foundation for Early Learning held its 10th Anniversary Luncheon, celebrating a decade of work in Washington State.

Over 500 community members joined the



Luncheon panel discussion

Foundation to hear Dr. Doreen Cato, Dr. Dimitri A. Christakis and Charlie Guildner address the state of early in Washington as part of a discussion panel. Eric Liu served as the panel moderator.

Following the luncheon, the Foundation also hosted a salon discussion with Dr. Betty Hyde and Nina Auerbach.

The celebration raised over \$222,000 to prepare children in Washington State for kindergarten. A special thanks goes to our [event sponsors](#), especially our premier sponsor, The Boeing Company.

[Click here to view photos and video from the event.](#) Review questions and answers from panelists on the [Early Learning Community](#).

*Early Investments* is a monthly newsletter from Foundation for Early Learning. To request an event or announcement to be included in an upcoming issue, contact [joel@earlylearning.org](mailto:joel@earlylearning.org).

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