A Note from Connie

We are in for enriching professional development on October 21. Please email me or call the Center to let us know that you will be joining us. This event is important professional development for you, provided through Montessori Partners Serving All Children.

Enjoy the cooler temperatures, even if they do mean shorter days. Remember to breathe. Know that you are greatly appreciated for the work you are doing on behalf of the child. Celebrate even the smallest successes. Say thank you to someone, especially to a child. Smile. We are all in this great work together.

Connie
connie@mtcm.org

Dr. Travis Wright October 21

Dr. Travis Wright's insightful, thoughtful, and humorous speech at the 2016 AMI/USA Refresher Course inspired us to say, "Yes! We need to learn more from him." Join Dr. Wright for a full-day workshop on childhood trauma and how we can best work with children who are facing challenges.

Dr. Travis Wright is an assistant professor of early childhood education in the department of curriculum and instruction at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he is the founder/director of the BASES Project, a school and community-based intervention for homeless preschool students, their families, and teachers. Dr. Wright is a nationally recognized expert on resilience and emotionally responsive teaching, especially for children developing in the midst of adversity. Previously, he worked as a school-based mental health counselor, public school teacher, and early childhood educator in Washington, D.D. and Boston Public Schools.

Centro Tyrone Guzman is hosting us for this all-day workshop, 9:00-3:00. Lunch is included. This is a collaborative event, for Montessori Partners Serving All Children practitioners only, provided at no charge. Tickets are available for the general public to hear him present at the Center on October 22.

This is a rare opportunity for us to gather together and reflect on our work under the guidance of an expert. We look forward to seeing you there!

Social Work

Terri Strom, Licensed Independent Social Worker, joined our outreach team last October. Over the last ten months she has been getting to know many of the MPSAC sites and learning about your unique communities. We hope you are beginning to see her as a familiar face and someone you can reach out to when you find there is a need for support for your community, including children, staff and families. Here are some of the supports she has been able to provide:

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• Information and referral for families regarding food, clothing, housing, employment, emergency assistance, parenting, as well as physical, dental and mental health.
• Case management and follow-up for families who need additional support connecting to resources and meeting their needs.
• Support with the referral process for suspected delays in development for staff and parents; who to call, what that process looks like, assistance with follow-up, advocacy and/or answering parent questions.
• General support for school leaders and guides.

These are examples, and not an inclusive list of Terri’s work. When in doubt, ask! If Terri is not the resource, part of her role is to help identify the appropriate resource and connect you to it.

Terri’s contact information:
• email: terri@mtcm.org
• cel: 651-216-8779
• office: 651-298-1120

Montessori for Aging and Dementia

Montessori for Aging and Dementia is an innovative approach to dementia care that can be adopted for individuals or groups as a philosophy of care. The goal of the Montessori program is to support people living with dementia by creating a prepared environment, filled with cues and memory supports, that enables individuals to care for themselves, others, and their community. We strive to develop communities that treat individuals with respect and dignity and honor their choices so that they may live as independently as possible. This two-day program focuses on the Montessori for Aging and Dementia program criteria as established by the AMI. Participants will receive handouts, a copy of the book *I Care: A Handbook for Care Partners of People with Dementia* and a certificate of completion from AMI.

The workshop will be Saturday 9:00-3:00 and Sunday 9:00-12:00. Registration fee is $350. Please register at our web site or drop by the Center to pay by check.

Send Connie any dates you would like to share with the collaborative community to be added in the next edition.