

Sniffles, Ouches & Sneezes by Sonya Farris

One of the biggest problems that the working parent is trying to make child care arrangements when their child is sick. Stay at home or go to work? Almost every working parent has faced this dilemma. The Orlando Regional Medical Center's answer to this dilemma was to develop "Sniffles, Ouches & Sneezes, also known as "SOS" sick child care center. Sniffles, Ouches, & Sneezes provides temporary care on a day-to-day basis for those children with non-acute illnesses or those recuperating from accidents or surgery.

The center is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. SOS is for children ages 6 weeks (providing the first immunization has been received) to 13 years of age. Proof of immunization is

requested. A complete registration form must be on file or completed at the time of admission. Admission is based upon the child's stage of illness and availability. A nurse and other professional staff members provide care for the children.



Parents are asked to bring spare clothing, food for lunch, a favorite toy or blanket and any other needed supplies, such as bottles, formulas, and diapers for infants. A light lunch of soup, a peanut butter & jelly sandwich, crackers and a drink can be purchased for \$2.00.

The center's nurse will administer medication that is requested and provided in its original, labels container.

During the day at SOS, parents are welcome to call or visit the center at any time. Any significant change in the child's

condition will be communicated to the parents as soon as possible.


At departure, the nurse provides written information about the child's day. This information includes medications given, observations, food intake and eliminations. Children will be released



Give Them A Hand

NASCD would like to thank the following companies for their support of our 2002 conference:

- ♥ Blue Cross / Blue Shield of Alabama.
- ♥ Huggs & Kisses, Inc.
- ♥ Magnolia Pediatrics
- ♥ Sue Olsen
- ♥ Bobbie Norvarkcyx

 **National Association of Sick Child Day Care**
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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SICK CHILD DAY CARE



Fall/Spring

2003

"NASCD Conference" - by Dr. Jacqueline Stewart

Each year we gather to recap the previous year's experiences in the arena of sick and emergency childcare. September 19-21, 2002 it was Orlando, Florida. I thought back to 1998 when we had the first conference of the National Association for Sick Child Daycare in Tulsa, Oklahoma. So much of the same energy and enthusiasm could still be sensed. It is always amazing how each group with new faces carry the same aura as previous groups.

This year a new format was established. Day after day the national headquarters receives inquiries from across the country on advice dealing with start up and location of centers and services. Many are considering starting centers some are seeking information on how to deliver or expand services, and still others are desperately trying to locate services in specific areas. In an effort to better answer the questions most asked, a format addressing each of four types of centers was designed. The issues surrounding each center type are in some ways the same but in more ways different.

I addressed The Stand alone center issues. One of the biggest problems here remains the issues of licensure and funding. Huggs and Kisses

was developed and licensed, as a demonstration project considering that the state of Alabama didn't then and still does not have state regulations for sick child daycare. Many states now have regulations but still



Classroom Lecturing during Conference

others don't. The best way to determine if regulations for sick child care exist in your state is to inquire through the agency responsible of licensing well childcare.

The other issue of funding was also discussed in a separate session. But several ideas were share that we have used dealing

with potential sponsors and employer co-sponsors. The fact that sick childcare saves money, employee down time, and productivity is still a very strong selling point. When employers and shown the time and money lost with employees being off, not with their own illnesses but with the illnesses of their children, the bottom line becomes the bottom line indeed.

Stand-alone, in the opinion of this writer, remains the ideal situation for dividing illnesses, ensuring isolation, and having available space for emergency backup.

Of course, when the panel lead by **Sue Olsen**, co-author of *Sick Child Care: How to Guide for Hospital and Bonnie Nowaczyk*, NASCD board member and nurse director of Northridge Hospital's of Granada Hills,

California discussed the hospital based programs all of the advantages of these programs were made evident. Among them being the facts that they often are supported if not sponsored by the hospitals involved. Because they are under the auspices of the hospital and connected to an institution of

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The Gail Gonzales Founders Award

Each year a member is selected who is felt to exemplify the ideals of the organization as reflected by the contribution may over the years. Our founder was the inaugural recipient and remains the honorary chair and board member. The second award was to our past president who too over after the founder was stricken with illness. Last year's recipient was Pauline Koch for her work in leading the way with the Dela-care for licensing which

has served as the gold standard for other states down through the years.

This year's award was given to a team, **Patricia Snyder** (posthumously) and **Sue Olsen** for their work in the development and printing of the *Sick Child Day Care: How to Guide for Hospitals*. This is a publication distributed by NASCD that is the prototype for other how-to-guides in the area of sick child care that are planned for the future. We are truly grateful for their contributions and proudly salute them.



Gail Gonzales Founder's Award Winner Sue Olsen (right) with NASCD President, Jacqueline Stewart

NASCD Board Expands by Dr. Jacqueline Stewart

Much of the business of NASDC is conducted by the governing board of directors. Between the yearly meetings the board is often called upon to make decisions that affect the daily operations of the organization. This board also meets several times during the annual meeting.

Board members include, the President, **Dr. Jacqueline W. Stewart**, who owns and operates *Huggs and Kisses, Inc.* in Birmingham, Alabama. Dr. Stewart has been responsible for daily operations, financial management, and the development of the program for the annual meeting.

Gail Johnson, owner of *Rainbow Stations* in Richmond, Virginia, served the organization for several years then assumed the reigns when the sitting president became ill. At a time when the growth of the organization was critical, this super industrial business woman took it to another level. She has since taken her centers to the level of franchising and offers an abundance of business acumen to NASCD.

Sue Olsen's name one would recognize as co-author of *Sick Child Care: How To Guide for Hospitals*. She comes with a background in marketing and

still working in the area of women services. Being one of the earliest members of the organization, Sue Olsen is considered part of the foundation.

Bonnie Norvarkcyx, R.N., is a steady as a rock. She has headed the hospital based program at Northridge Hospital in California. She has been so instrumental in helping to foster the relationship between sick child care and the hospital setting. She has such a love for the business and has been a part of the annual conference for the past several years.

Betty Holman, R.N. is from the Maryland/Washington, D.C. area. Like many areas across the country, our capitol city is also still working towards standardizing regulation. Ms. Holman has not only been working her own program of . Sue also worked with the state in revising child care regulations and developing sick child regulations.

Our newest member is **Paula Diamond**, who is no stranger to NASCD. Ms. Diamond is the manager of the program at *Morton Plant Meese Hospital* in Clearwater, Florida. She come to us with a great wealth of knowledge in creative funding and joint venturing. She has been a member and conference attendee for many years. Welcome aboard, Paula.

Funding is always an interesting topic. Creativity and ingenuity are frequently the results of not having enough funding. Many of the stories that circulate our meetings have spun out of the lack of funding. This year there was a personal testimonial presentation by Nancy Nestler of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who shared her story of their inter-city program that went from a dream to a \$1.2 million funded project. Ironically, Ms. Nestler happened to be vacationing in the same hotel as the conference when she learned that we had common interests and graciously agreed to share her presentation with our group. Later Paula Diamond discussed the funding relationship of her multi-location program and how they have been able to grow and spread with partnership funding. The Florida area program will be featured in our next newsletter. It is a story in itself. Funding will be discussed in more

Air Force Bases to offer Childcare for Mildly Ill Children By Dr. Beverly Schmalzned



On November 1st the Air Force will launch a new childcare program to help parents whose children are not able to attend their regular childcare setting because they have a mild illness. The Air Force will utilize a central contract to subcontract with one or more family childcare providers on its bases to offer this care. Initially the program will be offered on 25 bases; the program will be expanded after a test period and as additional funds become available. The Air Force will purchase all of the family child care provider's child care spaces so that he or she will re-

serve these spaces for children with mild illnesses. These providers will receive special training related to caring for children with mild illnesses.

Air Force parents will not pay to use the mildly ill child care homes but must continue to pay their weekly child care fee at the Air Force base Child Development Center or the other family childcare home or center they use. One of the goals of the program is to reduce Air Force parents overall costs for child care.

The Air Force operates child development centers and school age centers at its bases around the world and also supports a network of family child care homes at most of these locations. Spouses of

military members and retirees who live either on or off base are recruited, screened, trained, and monitored by the Air Force to provide family child care. These programs provide care for more than 50,000 children a day and have been recognized by Congress and others as a model for the nation.

The Air Force's Mildly Ill Child Care program will be based on special standards for sick childcare included in the National Health and Safety Performance Standards: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Child Care Programs (CARING FOR OUR CHILDREN) and the work of the National Association for Sick Child Day Care. The Air Force's points of contact for this program are Dr. Beverly Schmalzried and Ms Beverly Houston, AF/ILVY, (703) 604-6421.

NASCD Conference— continued

health care, the usual licensing obligations are not as much of an issue. The employee base of a hospital and the essential nature of their duties make sick and emergency child care a very attractive solution to staffing problems and a great source of job satisfaction and peace of mind.

Sue's expertise and Bonnie's long-standing program made this a very informative session. **Paula Diamond** of *Morton Plant Meese Health Center in Clearwater, Florida* added her experiences to the discussion. Helpful also were the visual presentations of existing programs. Seeing is believing and gave encouragement to those seeking to establish hospital-based facilities, It was an added plus that this year's center tour was of a hospital based center. That story is covered

in another article in this newsletter.

The center based issues were lead by **Ollie Mock-Doucett**. Mrs. Mock-Doucett is representative of the many who are and have been in the process of developing programs. Her hands on experience as she has been about the business of program development, negotiations with sources of funding, IRS issues of tax status, fire marshal issues, and the entire gamut all discussed in graphic and fully explanatory fashion.

This presenter being also an avid researcher in matters of governmental affairs shared web sites for legislative information and federal funding sources.

Home based was presented by **Katherine Dudley RN** of *Huggs and Kisses*

in Birmingham, Alabama. Mrs. Dudley came to us with a wealth of experience in home health and in sick child day care. One of the main points of this discussion was the need for standards of care for home-based centers. In addition to the problems encountered in institutional settings is the variability of the home environment. The emphasis on universal precautions could not be overstated. But, also of consideration of things such as pets in the home, bonding issued, multiple children in the home, and the like were also discussed.



NASCD Publication Order Form

Item #	ITEM	Member Fee	Non-Member Fee
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() A-2	Sick Child Care: A How to Guide for Hospital	\$35.00	\$50.00
() A-3	Get Well Care: Guidelines for Programs Serving Mildly Ill Children	\$15.00	\$25.00
() B-1	2001 Conference Synopsis	\$175.00	\$245.00
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