



 **SAVE THE DATE** 

**FAMILY MATTERS CONFERENCE**  
**FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2024**  
9:00AM-4:00PM

**David P. Hurford**  
Present Speaker  
Pittsburg State University  
Professor & Executive  
Director for the Center of  
Reading.

**Dr. Amy Emerson**  
Director of Hope  
Driven Parenting.

**Heather Parmley OTR/L**  
Owner of Pediatric  
Occupational Therapy.

**LINK COMING  
SOON TO  
REGISTER**

[www.ofrcok.org](http://www.ofrcok.org)  **OFRC**  
Oklahoma Family Resource Coalition



## 2024 Families Matter Award

- Have a nominee for the 2024 OFRC Families Matter Award?
- Reach out to us at [ofrcok@gmail.com](mailto:ofrcok@gmail.com). Please include nominee's name as well as information about their expertise and service.
- Recipient will be announced at the OFRC Conference in June.



# Membership Spotlight

**Hi, my name is:** Mary Ann Boersma.

**My role/s is/are:** Child Development Specialist for Ok State Dept Health/Allied Health Service: Cleveland County Health Department, Child Guidance Service, Norman, OK.

**I have been an OFRC member since:** the inception of OFRC, 1990s.

**Something/s you should know about me:** I adore family, friends, reading, pets, and vacations. I really enjoy being outside in “good weather” any time of year.

**My favorite part of OFRC is:** I am so proud of OFRC. The organization makes a positive impact on members through training opportunities, consultation with members, materials developed to share with the public and much more. The work and information provided by OFRC directly benefit families in the communities across Oklahoma.

**The funniest lesson I have learned while working in this field is:** There are so many humorous moments! Enjoy the work and laugh when it is possible. Children will surprise you, void from every direction in the office, change and grow within minutes. Working with families is a humbling experience. Humor is an important outlet for everyone involved.

**A fun fact about me:** I am very aware and not hindered by the fact that there is far more I do not know than I can be certain I do know. This actually is somewhat of a relief and makes me smile. We are all a work in progress.

**The most important part of serving families is:** I believe parents are important “experts” regarding their own child. It is important to me to show respect for parents’ knowledge. A positive relationship between the parent and a clinician or teacher is needed and powerful. I hope to always provide services that are meaningful to each parent. The reward I feel is in seeing a parent’s face light up as they discuss or show greater confidence in understanding and parenting their child.

## Advocacy

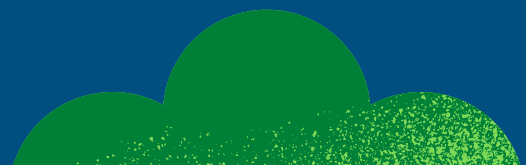
It's an active legislative session, with numerous bills affecting families and children. Do you know how to keep track? One resource is:

<https://oklahoma.gov/omma/rules-and-legislation/legislative-updates.html>



## New App

Check out the new [Inclusion Lab app](#) available for educators, coordinators, and coaches to support young learners of all abilities.





## Next Meetings:

- April 22
- July 22
- September 23  
1:00 p.m.

## Research & Resources

- [The National Institute for Play: New report available](#)
- [Nature Explore Resource Guide](#)
- [Understanding parent-child bonding: New insights into neural synchrony differences](#)
- [First recognition of self in the mirror is spurred by touch](#)
- [Study reveals unexpected literacy in autistic people who cannot speak](#)
- [To boost a preschooler's language skills, consider reminiscing](#)
- [Early Childhood Mental Health](#)



## Membership

### Jobs

- State child and family related positions available at <https://okgov.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/okgovjobs>
- Have a job or internship to share? Let us know and we can share it on our facebook page.

Interested in [membership](#)  
and/or certification?  
contact: [ofrcok@gmail.com](mailto:ofrcok@gmail.com)

We are a membership and networking organization made up of individuals who believe that families are the primary influence in the lives of children. The mission of the Oklahoma Family Resource Coalition is to support resources within our communities that build on family strengths to ensure the best possible outcome for Oklahoma families.

*WANT TO SHARE A TRAINING, ARTICLE, RESEARCH, LEGISLATION  
FOR AN UPCOMING NEWSLETTER? REACH OUT TO US AT :*