KEYNOTE ADDRESS Dr. Leonard Lardaro Professor of Economics, URI

The Village Inn, Narragansett Pier Breakfast Meeting • 8:00-10:30 am

Thursday, June 2, 2011

Children's Issues Forum

9th ANNUAL Washington County Coalition for Children





Washington County Coalition for Children c/o VNS Home Health Services 14 Woodruff Avenue, Suite 7 Varragansett, Rhode Island 02882

"...and how are the children?"

The traditional greeting among the Masai tribe in Africa acknowledges the high value that the Masai place on their children's well-being. Even warriors with no children of their own respond: "All the children are well"... indicating that life is good; peace and safety prevail; and despite daily struggles, the priorities of caring for their children are in place.

Come help us ask this question for Washington County's children!

Register for the Forum

& you can become a member, too!

tickets for 2011 Forum @ \$30= \$			
 WCCC Membership (see other side) = \$ Individual(s)@ \$10 (subtract \$5 from 1 ticket) Practitioner(s)@ \$25 (subtract \$5 from 1 ticket) Nonprofit@\$100 (subtract \$5 from 2 tickets) Business/Foundation@\$150 (subtract \$5 from 2 tkts) Yes, I would like to make an additional tax-deductible contribution of \$ 			
Total enclosed \$ (thank you!)			
Make check payable to: Washington County Coalition for Children			
and mail to:			
Washington County Coalition for Children c/o VNS Home Health Services 14 Woodruff Ave,, Suite #7 Narragansett, RI 02882			
Name:			
Organization:			
Address:			
City: Zip:			
Phone:			

Yes, I would like to bring information to share at Resource Tables (Members only, please!)

(Membership is annual from June 1 to May 31.

For more information, contact Susan Orban at wccc@washcokids.org or visit www.washcokids.org.)

2011 Forum Program 8:00-10:30 am

Breakfast & Networking

Champion for Children Award

...and how are the children of Washington County?

latest data update

Keynote Address Professor Leonard Lardaro



Leonard Lardaro is Professor of Economics at the University of Rhode Island, where he has been a faculty member since 1981.

Professor Lardaro has been analyzing and forecasting the Rhode Island economy since 1991, focusing on the labor and housing

markets, demographic factors, and income created.

In 1995, he formulated and began to publish the Current Conditions Index (CCI) for Rhode Island, a monthly indicator of the present state of the economy. In 1999, he created and published the Jobless Improvement Index, a measure that gauges each state's unemployment rate "momentum." Professor Lardaro was also a member of the Family Independence Coalition.

As agency budgets constrict, meeting community needs becomes more of a challenge. Dr. Lardaro will share his analysis of state economic conditions, options available for finding a balance in the state budget and the pension system, will comment on the future evolution of the state's labor market, and provide useful advice for weathering the economic climate.

Stand up and be counted! Become a member of the Washington County Coalition for Children

Washington County is a wonderful place to live, work, and visit. From Narragansett to Westerly, the region has a magnificent coastline, precious farmland, irreplaceable natural areas, and wonderful communities.

But all is not well for our 30,000 children:

- Nearly I of every 5 qualifies for subsidized school lunches, child care, and health care.
- Homelessness among families is rising.
- Too many children witness domestic violence and are victims of child abuse and neglect.
- Support services, such as counseling and parenting classes, do not reach all the most vulnerable families.
- Teenage pregnancy rates are high in Westerly.

Washington County Coalition for Children members are area health and social service providers, educators, community leaders, parents and concerned residents. Our mission: "to be a voice that advocates for the health and well-being of children and families in Washington County, serving as catalyst and facilitator for improved services. The Coalition:

- Researches and publishes comprehensive town-by-town statistics on the well-being of County children.
- Convenes monthly workshops for doctors and mental health professionals who care for children with behavioral health problems and developmental disabilities.
- Promotes emotional literacy among 2nd graders through an annual bookmark design project
- Organizes a holiday gift drive for teens with Casey's Grill & Bar in Wakefield.
- Offers a free Behavioral Health directory and other resources on a regularly-updated website.

Membership is as little as \$10 and you can start saving with this breakfast!

Category Individual \$10	Benefits • Spotlight e-newsletter • Email invitation to all events • \$5 off Children's Issues breakfast • Listing on all membership rolls	Category Businesses, foundations \$150	 Benefits Spotlight to as many employees as requested Email and/or written invitation to all events to CEO and up to 5 employees
Practitioners \$25	 All of the above Listing on website with degree and business name \$5 off one accredited program/year 		 A representative invited to serve on Coalition Community Advisory Committee \$5 off each for 2 at Children's Issues breakfast Free copy of any Coalition report
Nonprofit agency \$100	 Spotlight to CEO, Board & staff, as requested Email and/or written invitation to all events to CEO and Board of Directors, as requested A representative invited to serve on Coalition Community Advisory Committee \$5 off each for 2 at Children's Issues breakfast 		 published during the membership year Listing on all membership rolls Annual media announcement of all business and foundation members Framed certificate of membership
	 \$10 off for up to 2 accredited programs/year Free copy of any Coalition report published during the membership year Listing on all membership rolls Annual certificate of membership 		

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