



Non-profits and Technology

As Any Baby Can Child and Family Resource Center strives to become *the* resource for central Texas to create strong families and help those coping with the illness or disability of a child, technology is a significant key. The organizations who will excel in delivering

services efficiently and effectively and measuring results accurately in order to respond to funders and provide program guidance will be those who have embraced technology. In order to better serve the families we work with, Any Baby Can will maintain offices in various sectors of the city and in Round Rock. Staff members will be able to communicate between sites thanks to a generous donation of high speed internet access and dialup accounts from Broadwing, Inc. Our interactive website, maintained by Amicus, Inc., allows Any Baby Can to offer information on topics such as Shaken Baby Syndrome in chat

room formats. In the future, videoconferencing will link a family living in Austin to a specialist or support group located in another part of the country. Donations of hardware and software by Dell and BMC Software have greatly enhanced staff efficiency.

With laptop computers linked to our database, Case Managers and Home Parent Educators can input their case notes while in the field, saving time and improving accuracy. With docking stations at all sites, staff members can go to the nearest office when needing a work space, rather than traveling across town to their home base. Our thanks to all of these high tech companies who have made an investment in Any Baby Can with donations of expertise and equipment in meeting our needs for technology.



Volunteer Spotlight

While it may sound trite to say a volunteer receives as much as he or she gives, this is a definite truism for CEDEN volunteer Lanell Coultas. A former accountant turned professional birth doula, Lanell says, "This is my life's work. This is my calling." After spending five successful years behind a desk 'crunching numbers,' Lanell decided it was time to "connect with the world and make a difference." She invested the time necessary to become a trained doula and began offering her expertise as a volunteer prenatal educator to CEDEN clients. As a doula, Lanell offers prenatal advice and counseling, assists in the birth process, and provides postpartum guidance. "My volunteer work is extremely rewarding," Lanell adds. "I am very gratified to be able to offer long-term intervention and prevention to young mothers. In addition to her professional responsibilities as a birth doula and her commitment to CEDEN, Lanell is in the process of constructing a website to be used as a resource by other practicing birth doulas, as well as other volunteers and staff.



— Contributed by Bonnie Jeter

Round Rock Satellite Office

ABC continues to provide services to families through our Round Rock Satellite office. With funding through Dell we will soon offer prenatal education for young, at-risk mothers in Williamson County through our office at the First United Methodist Church of Round Rock. We are looking for volunteers to work one-on-one with these young mothers. For more information, please call Amy Bush at 454-3743.

Any Baby Can Volunteer Guild

The Guild's inaugural meeting was a great success! The Guild will meet as a group once every quarter and members will work on special events as their interests and schedules dictate. If you are interested in joining, please call Amy Bush at 454-3743.