

MEDIA RELEASE

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Senator Teichman Visits Week of the Young Child Party

HARPER, KAN. – Senator Teichman accepted the invitation of Mary Lou Misak, a family child care provider in Harper, for a Week of the Young Child celebration. Children greeted the Senator Thursday morning and showed her art work they created.

Teichman greeted everyone in attendance which included parents of enrolled children, Bill Giesen, Principal of Harper Grade School, Jennifer Swingle, Teacher in the four-year-old program at the Grade School, Anne Maack, Director of Public Affairs for Child Start and Misak's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Anton. Teichman also read to the children and joined them in a game of ring around the rosy.

In talking with those present, Teichman reasserted her support for the full continuum of education from early childhood to adult basic education. She was interested to hear how state funds from the Children's Initiative Fund played a crucial role in attracting federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) dollars to Harper County with Child Start's new program for infants, toddlers and pregnant women.

"I feel it was an honor for her to visit my child care," said Misak, "The children sure enjoyed her. As she left, she gave each of them something for their scrapbooks. I would like to thank everyone for their help and support."

Teichman, who serves on Senate Ways and Means Committee, will be debating a possible \$12 million cut to the Children's Initiative Fund when the legislature reconvenes at the end of April.

Child Start, Inc. is a charitable, nonprofit agency in operation since 1958 providing early childhood development services that prepare children for lifelong success. Administering Early Head Start, Head Start and the Child Care Aware program, Child Start works with parents, child care providers, early educators and caregivers providing a wide range of services to ensure that children enter school ready to learn. For more information about Child Start, please visit www.childstart.org on the Internet or contact the agency at 316-682-1853. Child Start is located at 1069 S. Glendale in Wichita.

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