

# **N E T** *'a bi-monthly bulletin featuring juvenile with fire intervention network activities* **works**

*Published by Youth Fire Prevention and Intervention Program  
Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal*

Fire Safe Children and Families program received an Assistance to Firefighters Grant in 2011 to continue to provide educational intervention classes and specialized fire screening and assessments in English and in Spanish to youth misusing fire in Washington, Clackamas and Multnomah Counties.

The Fire Safety Academy is for children 12 yrs. and younger and their parents and caregivers. This set of classes focuses on the children's skill development and teaches parents/caregivers about fire safety and parenting skills.

The 13 session Safety class for youth 12 yrs. and over, is more intensive with most youth referred by juvenile department counselors.

Both classes are facilitated by a team of mental health providers and fire service interventionists. For more information, call Linda Nickerson at 503-988-4982.

## **NFPA 1035: Juvenile with Fire Intervention Specialist I Training**

*This is the only class accepted by Department of Public Safety Standards and Training for National Fire Protection Association 1035 certification as Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist 1 in Oregon. All participants will receive a certificate of completion indicating 14 hours of professional development training and are required to complete a task book for certification in Oregon.*

### **When:**

*January 21 and 22, 2012*

*8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (both days)*

### **Where:**

***Winston-Dillard Fire Dept.***

***250 S. Main Street***

***Winston, Oregon 97496***

### **Instructors:**

*Judy Okulitch, M.S.*

*OSFM*

*Tim Kopet, Ph.D.*

*Fire Safe Children & Families*

### **For more information, contact:**

*Krista Fischer*

*503-934-8240*

*Krista.Fischer@state.or.us*

### **SAVE THE DATE! National Training Opportunity**

### **Northeast Juvenile Firesetting Conference**

***May 10-11, 2012***

***Natick, MA***

For more information, contact  
Liz at [Imaestranz@brandon-school.org](mailto:Imaestranz@brandon-school.org)

### ***Just Finished....***

OSFM's Youth Fire Prevention and Intervention Program collaborated with Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDOA) to update the school fire reporting video and materials for the 2012 school year. To get your copy, email, [Judy.Okulitch@state.or.us](mailto:Judy.Okulitch@state.or.us)

## Educating the Media about Children and Fire: A Great Example from McMinnville Fire Department

Fire service interventionists have changed terminology when referring to children who start or set fires. **Any words that normalize firesetting behavior, such as, children/kids playing with lighters or acting like little pyros are being changed.** A good example of what to say recently was distributed in a press release from Deputy Fire Marshal Deborah McDermott at McMinnville Fire. In responding to an apartment fire, DFM McDermott wrote the following press release:

“McMinnville firefighters were dispatched at 6:20 pm last night to a report of a structure fire at 1500 NE 27th #22, Town Center Apartments. When crews arrived, they found heavy black smoke coming from a downstairs apartment.

Crews were able to make entry and contain the fire to the bedroom where the fire started. The rest of the apartment sustained heavy smoke and heat damage. The three occupants, one adult and two children and several pets, were able to escape without injury. Tenants from the other units in the building were able to return to their apartments later in the evening. Damage to the building and contents is estimated to be \$40,000. The occupants of the apartment did not have renters insurance. Five pieces of fire equipment and 25 firefighters responded from McMinnville Fire Department, no mutual aid was received.

The fire was caused by two young children using lighters to ignite toilet paper on their bed. This tragedy is a reminder that you must always keep matches and lighters in a place where young children have no access. The Red Cross has been contacted to offer assistance to the family.”

**In addition to stating the fact that the children were using a lighter, Deborah also used the press release to educate parents about limiting access to matches and lighters for young children. Please talk to the public information officers in your department and help us change the way the print and electronic media report on juvenile-set fires. Encourage them to give a message that promotes positive fire prevention messages and behaviors that will keep children and families safe from fire.**



### Local Network Meetings

Marion County JFIN Meeting:	Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. MCJD, 3030 Center Street NE, Salem
Clatsop County JFIN Meeting:	Tuesday, January 24, 2012. at 10:00 a.m. Warrenton Fire Department
Washington County JFIN Meeting:	Thursday, January 12th at 9:00 a.m. Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue, Aloha

Please send in updated/revised network meeting calendars for the 2012 calendar year. We invite you to share information about your local networks successess, upcoming meetings, community events and trainings with your statewide network. Send information to Judy Okulitch at judy.okulitch@state.or.us

REMEMBER TO SEND IN YOUR JUVENILE WITH FIRE DATA FOR 2011