

## PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Head Start staff receive training from Abused Women's Advocacy Project

**Lewiston, ME (April 22, 2010)-** Androscoggin Head Start and Child Care Family Educators, Teachers, and Family Services staff recently attended a training by Victoria Williams, Community Educator, from the Abused Women's Advocacy Project (A.W.A.P.). Williams provided training regarding A.W.A.P.'s services, and how Androscoggin Head Start staff may better support families who might be experiencing abuse. Williams also discussed the effects of abuse on children.

This training was offered because Androscoggin Head Start and Child Care felt the need to be able to provide Head Start families with information on A.W.A.P., and to offer support to families who are experiencing abuse.

The Mission of the Abused Women's Advocacy Project is to support and empower those affected by Domestic Violence and engage the community in creating social change in Androscoggin, Oxford and Franklin Counties. For more information on the Abused Women's Advocacy Project, please visit their website, [www.awap.org](http://www.awap.org).

Androscoggin Head Start and Child Care has provided quality child development services to pregnant women, families, and children, newborn to age five, for over forty-three years. Program options include Full Day, Half Day, Pre-Kindergarten partnerships with local elementary schools, Home Based, Family Child Care, Infant and Toddler Early Head Start, and the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Services through these programs are provided annually to over five hundred children and families throughout Androscoggin County. Centers are located in Lewiston, Auburn, Lisbon Falls, Livermore Falls, and Mechanic Falls.

Applications for all programs are accepted at any time. Full day pre-kindergarten and child care services are available on a sliding fee scale for parents who are working, continuing their education, or participating in job training thirty or more hours per week. Please call (207) 795-4040 for more information. Please visit our

website at [www.androkids.com](http://www.androkids.com). Androscoggin Head Start and Child Care is a United Way funded and Lewiston and Auburn CDBG supported agency.



*Photo attachment: (Left to right, front) Head Start staff Lisa Dube, Linda Grondin, Donna Booker, AWAP's Victoria Williams, Head Start's Barbara Bilodeau Rachel Langlin, Kristeene Ward-Dulac, and Executive Director Estelle Rubinstein. (Back row, left to right) Sue Staples, Barbara Stevens, and Allison Smith.*

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