

About a year ago, we held a resource roundtable at POWER Outage, where we brainstormed ideas of how to live well within a budget. Now we're going to put those ideas into action...Next in the series of Involuntary Simplicity...

DIY Self Care POWER Outage

Monday, February 2nd

Darby's Café

211 5th Avenue in downtown Olympia

Make salves, balms, deodorant, lip balms, and more

+

Learn about simple, inexpensive self-care/body-care techniques

+

Share a potluck meal with friends

+

Childcare Collective will be taking care of the littles at POWER, 309 5th Ave.

+

Potluckin' at 5:30 and gettin' balmy at 6

Bring a dish to share – and any ingredients you might have on hand – olive oil, coconut oil, cocoa butter, essential oils, flowers, etc.

Contact POWER for more info at 360-352-9716 toll free 866-343-9716

info@mamapower.org www.mamapower.org Like us on **Facebook**.

POWER is an organization of low-income parents and allies advocating for a strong social safety net while working toward a world where children and care giving are truly valued, and the devastation of poverty has been eradicated.

Below:

- 1. Article on Obama's support for parents in state of the union.**
- 2. MomsRising holding a gathering in Olympia.**
- 3. Olympia Family Theater plays for kids**

4. Job opening at Safeplace in Olympia

5. Job opening with Fuse in Seattle

1. [Obama Brings the Work/Family Debate Out of Women's Heads and Into the Mainstream](#)

[Bryce Covert](#) on January 21, 2015 – The Nation

In 1970, President Nixon was poised to sign into law bipartisan legislation passed by both houses of Congress that would have addressed one of the biggest unfinished fights from the women's liberation movement: universal childcare. He was in favor of it, too, until his adviser Pat Buchanan convinced him to veto it. Veto it he did, with such scathing force that the issue all but disappeared from the political radar for decades.

Until last night's State of the Union address. President Obama has called for universal preschool before, but he has consistently couched it in terms of educating future workers, rarely talking about how quality care—starting at age zero—could help working parents. And he's also called for more affordable childcare, particularly at the White House Summit on Working Families last June. But for the first time, he not only brought up childcare as national priority in his State of the Union address; he not only talked about *universal* childcare; he also talked about it as a gender-neutral crisis.

With last night's State of the Union, Obama moved work/family issues like unaffordable childcare and an absence of paid leave into the mainstream—for everyone, not just women.

About halfway through the speech, he mentioned that during World War II the country provided universal childcare because getting more women into the workforce “was a national security priority.” After the Lantham Act created a universal childcare system, the employment gap between mothers and childless women [shrank by 4.4 percentage points](#). Each dollar spent increased women's employment rate by 0.1 percent and their weekly work by 0.04 hours. But the program ended all too soon, when the war effort wound down.

Today childcare isn't just about what's good for working mothers. Fathers also want to parent but struggle to make it work. [Equal shares](#) of both parents—about half—say they

feel stressed about juggling work and family. Fathers have [nearly tripled](#) the time they spend caring for their kids since the 1960s. Childcare, however, is still too often thought of as the domain of women. Not for Obama. “In today’s economy, when having both parents in the workforce is an economic necessity for many families, we need affordable, high-quality childcare more than ever,” he said last night. “It’s time we stop treating childcare as a side issue, or as a women’s issue, and treat it like the national economic priority that it is for all of us.”

American workers don’t just need childcare either. As Obama pointed out, “Today, we are the only advanced country on Earth that doesn’t guarantee paid sick leave or paid maternity leave to our workers.” We are nearly [the only country in the world](#) not to require paid maternity leave, not to mention paternity leave, and the [only developed one](#) without paid sick days. “And that forces too many parents to make the gut-wrenching choice between a paycheck and a sick kid at home,” Obama continued. Not women, not mothers. Parents. When fathers are given the chance to take paid leave, [they do](#), but just [14 percent](#) have the opportunity.

If these aren’t economic priorities, they should be. Even though both genders increasingly spend time parenting, women are still usually the ones who are asked to [choose between family and career](#) when it becomes impossible to make them both work. Our lack of paid leave, affordable childcare and flexible work schedules are [the direct cause](#) of women’s flatlining labor force participation, which means we’re getting far outpaced by other developed countries. Mothers with regular childcare arrangements are [twice as likely](#) to stay in their jobs, and fully funding early childhood education would increase their employment by 10 percent. If women hadn’t dramatically increased how much time they spend working outside the home since the 1970s, GDP would be [11 percent smaller](#). And a shrinking labor force could take the economy down a notch with it, to the tune of [a 28 percent drop](#) in GDP.

No amount of logic or powerful rhetoric means that these policies will get passed in this Congress. They won’t. But the importance of bringing them up in the State of the Union can’t be overstated. It lays out the boundaries of the debate the [next Democratic presidential candidate](#), be it Hillary Clinton or otherwise, has to operate within. It stakes a claim to these issues as those valued by the party itself. And it moves them out of the conversation women, and in particular feminists, have long had among themselves, into one we should all be having together.

2. MomsRising folks in Olympia are gathering for our first meeting to talk politics, kids, and how Capitol moms can be a force for change in

Washington state and we want to hear from you! Over the last couple of years these meet ups have been lots of fun and an incredibly effective way to help raise the voices of families in Washington state. We're also going to eat a few pastries and we'll have plenty of coffee on hand to fuel the conversation!

Want to join us for this yummy and effective gathering? Kids, babies, and dads are welcome! We'll have extra snacks on hand for little hands.

Here are all the details: **When: Wednesday, February 4th Time: 10am - 11am Where: Abby's Cookies and Cupcakes |1013 Capitol Way S, Olympia, WA 98501**

RSVP to lauren@momsrising.org and feel free to bring kids & friends too!

What's the lowdown on this gathering? It's going to be a great time: a little chit-chat, a little political discussion, a little brainstorming about some fun and effective activities we can do together (cool speakers, great kid-friendly events?), and then moms take over the world!

MomsRising members are powerful. There are now more than one million MomsRising members out there across the country. Nationally, MomsRising members helped pass the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and the reauthorization and expansion of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). In Washington state, we helped pass paid family leave and are working to protect funding for preschool and childcare. Over and over again, we've changed the political dialogue and focused our leaders on mom and family economic security issues.

And moms in Capitol cities, like Olympia, are especially powerful. They can be the in-person voice for thousands of moms across our state who can't get to the State Capitol in person.

Here's the email to RSVP again: lauren@momsrising.org

And please invite all the amazing moms you know to come along. It will be a great chance to get together, meet other great MomsRising members, share great ideas for the future of Washington state and be MomsRising together!

NOT SCARY MONSTER STORY

FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

(recommended for 6 & up)

This funny and original play for children about friendship and facing up to your fears is drawn with delicacy and wit upon the childhood fantasy of the monster under the bed. This is a terrifically entertaining story about home and where you belong- about mothers and fathers and sons and the monster inside all of us.

SCIENCE & NATURE SERIES (*3rd week of each month*)

January: The Solar System

Performance is approximately 45 minutes and includes audience participation. Come join us- appropriate for all ages!

- **Monday, January 19th at 10:30 am**
- **Saturday, January 24th at 10:30 am**

JANUARY'S SCIENCE SHOW IS SPONSORED

BY:

.....next month.....

DAYTIME STORIES: **Goldilocks and
the Three Bears**

SCIENCE & NATURE SERIES: **Water!**

Let's Play Show admission: \$5 per person

– CASH or CHECK at the door when you arrive. If you're bringing a big group, call to let us know! 360-570-1638

<p>A Monster Tale After School</p> <p>Workshop This 4-week workshop is designed for kids to have fun and gain performing arts skills and experience while rehearsing a play.</p> <p>AGES: 7 – 13</p> <p>SCHEDULE: Feb 2 – March 1, 4-6pm (M-F)</p> <p>COST: \$250 (<i>sliding scale available</i>)</p> <p>Mother Goosed Spring Break Camp</p> <p>Spend Spring break working on a hilarious comedy play that is sure to have everyone in stitches!</p> <p>AGES: 7 – 13</p> <p>SCHEDULE: April 6-10 9am-3pm (M-F)</p> <p>COST: \$185 (<i>scholarships available</i>)</p>		

The Emperor's New Clothes

After School Workshop Only the best for the Emperor! The whole town seems to have exquisite taste and refined judgement... except one truth teller! Be always on the lookout for the next best thing!! Work on performing skills & gain additional experience.

AGES: 7 – 13

SCHEDULE: April 13-May 9, 4-6pm (M-F)

COST: \$250 (*sliding scale available*)

Read more about these programs [HERE](#)

Summer Camp schedule will be announced in February

<p>The Emperor's New Clothes</p> <p>After School Workshop Only the best for the Emperor! The whole town seems to have exquisite taste and refined judgement... except one truth teller! Be always on the lookout for the next best thing!! Work on performing skills & gain additional experience.</p> <p>AGES: 7 – 13</p> <p>SCHEDULE: April 13-May 9, 4-6pm (M-F)</p> <p>COST: \$250 (<i>sliding scale available</i>)</p> <p>Read more about these programs HERE</p> <p>Summer Camp schedule will be announced in February</p>		

<p>OFT is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. We can't do what we do with ticket sales alone, we need your help too!</p> <p>Every little bit counts!</p>		

4. HIRING ANNOUNCEMENT
Community Services Program Coordinator
(In-house and Community)

SafePlace is currently recruiting for a 35-hour Community Services Program Coordinator. The position announcement and job description are attached for your review. If you are not interested in applying for this position, please help us by sharing this hiring announcement with anyone who may qualify. You can find a link to our Employment page, [here](#).

To apply, please send a one-page cover letter addressing your interest and detailing how you meet the position's

specific qualifications, a copy of a current resume, and three professional references to Sandy St. Dennis at sandys@safeplaceolympia.org. Please include your cover letter as an attachment, not as an e-mail text. The subject line should read "CSPC Application".

Deadline: Monday, February 9, 2015, no later than 5:00pm.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Warmly,

Sandy

Sandy St. Dennis
Human Resources Director
Safeplace
360-786-8754 ext. 105
sandys@safeplaceolympia.org

5. We are working with Fuse & the Communications Hub to bring on board a part-time, 10 hour week person to help with communications on WVRA. For example, generating action alerts, social media content, letters to the editors, etc. Essentially, we'd like a centralized person whose sole job is to develop communications materials for all of you.

If you know someone who is interested, please pass along this job posting. We of course want to hire someone ASAP.

I'm also attaching another full-time position Fuse & Communications Hub are hiring for.

Thanks and have a great weekend.

Cara Bilodeau

Program Director

P: 206.420.0139 | C: 206.679.7273

1402 3rd Ave, Ste 201 | Seattle, WA 98101