

# Copper Country Focus on the First Five

*Working to ensure school readiness for all area children*

809 Hecla Street Hancock, MI 49930

**Phone:** 482-4250 **Fax:** 482-1931 **Parent Helpline:** 1-888-610-2323 **On the Web:** [www.coppercountryparenting.org](http://www.coppercountryparenting.org)

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B-H-K Child  
Development Board  
482-3663

Keweenaw Family  
Resource Center  
482-9363

**Copper Country  
Intermediate School District  
482-4250**

Western U.P.  
District Health Department  
482-7382

Copper Country  
Mental Health Institute  
482-4880

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2002

## **Contact:**

Pat Wood, 482-4357

## **Attorney to answer family law questions on Parent Helpline**

HOUGHTON – Parents with family law questions will have a new resource on the Parent Helpline starting later this month.

The Helpline, which provides answers to parenting questions and links to parenting resources, will offer a monthly call-in segment in which parents may ask questions of an attorney concerning family law matters.

The attorney, who asked to remain anonymous, will be available from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 22, Nov. 26 and Dec. 17 to talk directly with parents about divorce, child custody, family support, visitation and other family law matters of a non-criminal nature. Regular call-in segments are also being planned for 2003.

“The addition of this attorney to Parent Helpline services is a tremendous opportunity for parents with family-law questions,” said Pat Wood, Parent Helpline coordinator. “This service will help to provide legal information to parents who are unsure of the process and how to begin.”

Wood said the attorney has substantial experience, including more than 20 years of family-law practice. A former district court judge, he is a member of the Michigan Bar Association and is licensed to practice in both state and federal courts.

The call-in segments are a new twist on services offered by the Helpline. Parents may still access the Helpline’s regular pool of legal, medical, school, social work and other professionals at any time of the day. Calls of this nature will be returned within two working days by an appropriate professional. All calls to the Helpline are free and confidential.

Parents also may continue to call for information about events and services such as playgroups, story hours, toy lending libraries, health screenings, car seat clinics, home visits and more.

**(more)**

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The Parent Helpline is funded through the Michigan Dept. of Education's All Students Achieve Program – Parent Involvement and Education grant, a school-readiness initiative that provides learning opportunities for children 0-5 and their families.

For more information, call the Helpline at 1-888-610-2323.