

MEDIA ADVISORY

Contact: Liz McNeill

Phone: 405-521-6102

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S LESTER CLARAVALL CO-LEAD PRESTIGIOUS WORKSHOP IN WASHINGTON D.C.

Oklahoma City – Child Labor Supervisor, Lester Claravall was invited to help facilitate the Creating Safe Futures workshop in Washington DC on June 2. This one day workshop was jointly sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor, the U.S. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and the World Health Organization in recognition of the 2011 World Day Against Child Labor.

Claravall and other specialists in occupational safety and health, youth employment and child labor from around the world learned from each other sharing “best practices” in addressing hazardous work of children. The goal was to strengthen and expand the work currently going on in preventing young children from being drawn into hazardous work and to protect youth of legal working age from exploitative and dangerous conditions. This workshop coincided with the 2011 World Day Against Child Labor.

Mr. Claravall has recently been recognized and awarded the National Public Service Awards, the premier awards for excellence in public service at all levels of government. He also received a joint resolution from the House and Senate for his interactive “Teen Safety” Program he takes around to schools to help educate teen “best practices” in the work environment. Claravall stated “most teens don’t know what the laws of youth employment are; this is a perfect program to educate them before going out into the workforce.”

Creating Safe Futures Workshop and the 2011 World Day Against Child Labor provided a global spotlight on hazardous child labor, and called for urgent action to tackle the problem.