



"The Connection"

Child Care Connection, Inc. - Resource & Referral

Serving Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon and Taylor Counties

Newsletter #97

July—August, 2009

Supporting Families Together Association

www.supportingfamilies.together.org

Representing:

WI Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies
CFT-Family Resource Centers
SFTA Staff & Technical Advisors

May 21, 2009

"We are working toward a more efficient and effective system of service delivery regarding CCR&R services related to serving families, child care providers, and communities. We're moving to a regional model that will create stronger collaborations between CCR&R's within 8 geographic regions and streamline services to reduce duplication and increase community impacts. Specific implementation issues are being worked on throughout the state. As we work toward these goals, please know that every county and Tribe in WI will still receive CCR&R services. As processes and procedures are finalized/approved, we will continue to keep all partners, colleagues, and stakeholders informed of our progress."

Great Start: Early Learning Matters

... a statewide campaign of the Wisconsin Early Learning Coalition. Its purpose is to promote public policies and public investments that make high quality early care and education a top priority in Wisconsin. Visit their website at: <http://www.greatstartwi.org/>

High quality early learning experiences are important for Wisconsin.
Early education is good for kids, good for parents and good for the economy.

Facts and Data:

Early learning prepares children for success in school and life.

- The early years are learning years. The foundation of a child's intellect and personality is formed by age 5.
- Children with high-quality learning experiences and nurturing care develop competence that helps them succeed in school, including better social skills and solid foundation of language.
- Without available quality early education, children with disabilities have few, if any opportunities to interact with their nondisabled peers. This applies to 4K as well as child care/preschool. Inclusion matters!

High quality early learning settings support parents in their roles as caregivers and breadwinners.

- Wisconsin's parents of young children want their children in nurturing settings that help them learn, develop, and get ready for school.
- 71% of Wisconsin's children under age six have working parents. Those parents want programs where their children are cared for and prepared for school.

Early education is a wise investment for the economy.

- Wisconsin's preschoolers are tomorrow's workforce. Investments in early learning yield long-term positive impacts on school achievement and employment readiness.
- Investments in high-quality early education programs are cost effective, with the highest rate of return of any social investment, according to Nobel Laureate James Heckman, an economist at the University of Chicago.
- Early education for children with special needs is critical to their education and social development and also reduces the need for special education.

Inside this issue:

SFTA/ Early Learning Matters	1
Bulletin Board	2
Insert: Vacancy Update Form	^
Transportation Safety	3
Activities	4
Training	5



Child Care Connection

407 W. Main Street
Merrill, WI 54452
715-539-9779 or
1-800-848-5229
Fax: 715-539-9771

childcareconnection@g2a.net
www.childcareconnectioninc.org

Staff:

Micki Krueger
-Executive Director-

Rachele Cherek
-Resource & Referral
Specialist-

Kao L. Xiong
-Bi-Lingual Aide/
Referral Specialist-

The Bulletin Board



WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW PROVIDERS!

ZOO SIAB TOS TXAIS THIAB THOV QHUAS TXOG COV
KAWM TIAV ZOV ME NYUAM TSHIAB!

Licensed Group Child Care:

Licensed Family Child Care:

Cassie Smith, Antigo
Brenda Frazier, Schofield

Certified Family Child Care:

Shirley Hinz, Merrill

Provisionally Certified Family Child Care:

Dana Woller, Merrill
Kathie Schneider, Abbotsford
Kelli Streich, Wausau

Increased Regulation

Mai Lor, Wausau, Certified to Licensed

VACANCY UPDATE FORM

Please return the enclosed vacancy update form by August 1st

Administrators Credential Courses

The Credential courses are specifically developed to meet the unique needs of the administrators and managers in early childhood care and education programs.

No other courses can be substituted for the administrator's credential courses.

The courses in the Administrator's Credential are:

1. Administration and Supervision
2. Operations Management
3. Financial Management
4. Marketing and the External Environment
5. Best Practices
6. Leadership Seminar

Courses are offered through the follow colleges:

Chippewa Valley Technical College
Fox Valley Technical College
Lakeshore Technical College
Milwaukee Area Technical College
Nicolet Area Technical College
Northcentral Technical College
Northeastern Wisconsin Technical College
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
University of Wisconsin-Platteville
Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College

Courses are available in face-to-face, online, accelerated, interactive TV, retreat/accelerated, and/or blended/online format.

For more information, visit www.wtcsystem.edu

congratulations

To the staff at Wausau Child Care-Westside center for becoming nationally accredited through NAEYC

Keep up the good work!

GRANT OPPORTUNITY!

Do you have a great idea for a program or project that will enhance your early education classroom? Can you complete your initiative for \$500.00 or less? If your answer is yes, the Terry Lynne Lokoff Child Care Foundation has an opportunity for you. In partnership with TYLENOL, the foundation is now accepting applications for their 2010 National Child Care Teacher Awards. The awards recognize the dedication and ingenuity of child care professionals who wish to improve children's earliest experiences. Recipients will receive between \$500 and \$100 for their own use, and \$500 for their proposed program or project.

Applications must be completed and postmarked by December 4th, 2009.

To learn more, visit www.tlccf.org

**UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!
CHILD CARE CONNECTION RECEIVES
INFORMATION THAT MAY BE IMPORTANT FOR
YOU TO KNOW. IF IT'S IN-BETWEEN OUR
NEWSLETTER ISSUES, WE'LL EMAIL IT TO YOU.**

**GIVE US A CALL (539-9779), OR EMAIL US AT
CHILDCARECONNECTION@G2A.NET TO UPDATE
YOUR FILE/EMAIL. LET US KNOW IF YOUR
EMAIL CHANGES AT ANY TIME. THANKS.**

LICENSED CENTERS: Family, Group, and Day Camps...

Do you receive electronic memos by the State Licensing Department? We encourage all child care licensees to sign up for the Bureau of Early Care Regulation list serve so that centers may receive communication via e-mail.

Follow this link to sign up for the list serve: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/memos/signup.htm>

Recently, we received **MEMO 2009-04** which was regarding **Transporting Children Safely**. The legislature passed a bill that will require any vehicle owned or contracted by a child care program, that is used to transport children, to have a vehicle safety alarm system.

For more information visit http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/memos/BRL/2009/2009_04.pdf, or contact your licensing specialist.

Issues to Consider Before Transporting Children by The American Academy of Pediatrics

Whether to transport a child or not is an important question, and this decision should be made thoughtfully.

Here are some things to think about:

- Use school buses or vehicles built to school bus standards. Do not use 15-passenger vans as they are not safe for transporting groups of children. Examine each vehicle; remember that loose items should be tied down as they can cause damage if the vehicle has to stop suddenly.
- Select drivers carefully. Make sure they have a current driver's license, excellent driving record, no criminal record, and the ability to communicate with passengers.
- Meet the staff to child ratios required in your state when transporting children. Drivers should focus entirely on driving, leaving the supervision of children to other adults in the vehicle. These other adults can pass the time by singing songs, playing games, telling the children stories, or encouraging them to talk about what they see. Music appropriate for children can be played in the vehicle, as this can be calming and enjoyable.
- Look at pick-up and drop-off locations, and discuss plans for loading and unloading with children and other passengers before entering and leaving the vehicle. Watch and supervise carefully when children get in and out of vehicles.
- One staff member in each vehicle should be trained in pediatric first aid, rescue breathing, and first aid for choking. Provide a first aid kit and a resource list for each vehicle. The resource list should include local emergency numbers and information on each child (name, birthdates, medical conditions, medications, and contact numbers for their parents/guardians).

Strategies for Transporting Children Safely

Each child should be safely secured in a seat belt, car safety seat, or booster seat appropriate for their age, weight, and height. Each car safety seat should fit the vehicle, have never been in a crash, and be properly positioned and installed. Here are some things you can do to keep everyone safe:

- Set a good example; always wear your seat belt and make sure everyone in the vehicle is buckled up every time. Place all children in the back seat and use the proper vehicle restraint for each child. Make sure the child is fastened correctly with a safe and snug fit. Never try to change a car safety seat to fit a child with special needs. A physical or occupational therapist can help you to find or customize the right restraint for a child with special needs.
- Always supervise each child directly by sight and hearing; never leave a child unattended. Children should be counted when getting into a vehicle and counted when they exit a vehicle (to prevent a child from being left behind).
- The driver should not use earphones, cell phones, or listen to loud music. Cell phones should only be used in an emergency.
- Post and follow a written transportation policy. Share this policy with drivers, child care providers, and parents so that everyone is clear about the safety practices to be followed in your program.

Educating Others About Child Passenger Safety

Share important transportation safety policies, information, and resources with caregivers/teachers, drivers, parents, and children.

- Give drivers and staff copies of the written transportation policy, and talk to them about their role in carrying out what is included in this document.
- Ask adults what they would do if:
 - An appropriate car safety seat isn't available for a specific child.
 - There are too many children to be transported safely in a vehicle.
 - A driver or staff person scheduled to go on a trip cancels or is absent.
 - A child has a special need or is injured and properly restraining them is not possible.
 - Someone in a position of authority (or even a personal friend) makes the wrong decision or urges them to disregard the policy "just this once".
- Have a local police officer or Child Passenger Safety Technician talk to the children, caregivers, and parents. Child Passenger Safety Week is in September, so this is a good time to focus on this topic!
- Help children learn through puppet shows, videos, stories, art activities, and play.
- Sometimes it may be necessary to cancel a field trip or refuse to transport a child. When the safety and protection of children is involved, it's always best to make the "safest" decision. Remember, "It is better to be safe than SORRY."

For more information on transportation safety, please visit: <http://www.healthychildcare.org/ENewsJan07.html>



July

July...

2nd is Halfway Point of 2009
10th: Don't step on a bee day
20th National hug your kid day
25th: National Day of the Cowboy



The Little Cowboy Sung to: "I'm a little teapot"

I'm a little cowboy. Here is my hat (point to self, then to hat)
Here are my spurs (point to your heels)
And here are my chaps (pat legs)
As soon as I get up, (stretch, pretend to wake up)
I work all day (pretend to lasso a cow)
I get on my horse (pretend to get on a horse)
And ride away. (Pretend to gallop on a horse)



Graham Cracker Flags

Need: Graham Crackers, White Frosting, Ice Cream Sticks, 3 Small Paper Cups (per child), Red and Blue Food Coloring

Give each child 3 paper cups with a tablespoon of frosting inside each cup. Drop food coloring into two cups: 1 red, 1 blue; leave the last cup of frosting white. Give each child an ice cream stick to stir the food coloring. Then, have the children design a flag using the frosting, on the cracker.

SALT ART

MATERIALS NEEDED: salt, liquid watercolor or food coloring, clean, empty salt or spice shakers, glue, paper

Step 1: Tint the Salt For each color, put approximately 1 cup of salt and 1/2 teaspoon of liquid watercolor or 20 to 25 drops of food coloring in a Ziploc bag. Seal each bag, removing as much air as you can. Outside, let your child shake, smash and knead the contents until all of the salt is dyed. Next, pour the salt onto newspaper lined trays to dry for about two hours (or just open the bags and let the grains dry overnight). When it's no longer wet to the touch, pour the salt into clean, dry salt or spice shakers, one color per shaker.

Step 2: Make a Pattern Offer the child a glue stick and some stiff paper or a paper plate. Encourage them to scribble all over the paper with the glue.

Step 3: Add Color Hand the child the shakers of dyed salt and show them how to sprinkle it onto the paper. Once the glue has dried, simply shake off the excess salt and marvel at the colorful masterpiece.

1st: Respect for Parents Day
7th: Lighthouse Day
18th: Cupcake Day
24th: National Waffle Day

Squirrel and Nut

One child is chosen to be "it" and is given a nut to hold. The other children form a circle, sitting on the floor. They extend one hand and close their eyes.



"It" tiptoes around the inside of the circle and puts the nut into one of the outstretched hands. The one who receives it jumps up and chases after the other until he catches "it". He/she then becomes "it" and the games proceeds as before. The children open their eyes as the chase begins.

Bug Eyes Glasses

Need: Egg cartons, pipe cleaners, markers and/or paint, hole punch, and scissors.

Directions: Cut the bottom of the egg carton so there are 2 cups to each section. Cut the bottoms out of each section for eye holes. Let kids paint them or use markers to decorate them. You can let them glue feathers and sequins on them too. Use pipe cleaners for antennas. Punch holes on the sides and attach pipe cleaners, form pipe cleaners to fit around their ears.

Grandpa's Secret Potion

by Holly Hartman

Billy's Beetle

by Mark Inkpen

I Want A Hat Like That

by Tom Cooke

Ice Cream Soup

by Gail Herman



Training



Northcentral Technical College Early Childhood Education: Fall 2009

Course #	Course Title	Day	Course Dates	Time
10-307-148	Foundations of ECE	Th	9/3, 9/17 10/1, 10/15, 10/29	4:30-9:20pm
10-307-148	Foundations of ECE	Sat	8/29, 9/12, 9/26	8-5:00pm
10-307-151	Infant & Toddler DEV	M	9/1-12/14	6-9:30pm
10-307-167	HLTH Safety & Nutrition	Sat	10/24, 11/7, 11/21	8-5:00pm
10-307-167	HLTH Safety & Nutrition	Int	9/1-12/8	-
10-307-174	Practicum 1	Tu	8/25-12/15	3:30-4:20pm
10-307-178	Art Music & Lang Arts	Tu	8/25-12/15	4:30-7:20pm
10-307-179	Child Development	Sat	8/29, 9/12, 9/26	8:00-5:00pm
10-307-188	Guiding Child Behavior	Sat	10/10, 10/24, 11/7	8:00-5:00pm
10-307-192	Practicum 2	R	9/3, 9/17, 10/1 10/15 10/29 11/12, 12/3	3:30-4:20pm
10-307-166	Curriculum Planning	Tu	9/1-11/24	7:30-9:20pm
10-307-187	Children w/ Diff Abilities	Tu	9/1-11/10	4:00-6:50pm
10-307-195	Family & Community Rel.	R	9/10, 9/24 10/8, 10/22, 11/5	4:30-9:20pm
10-307-197	Practicum 3	R	9/10, 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19, 12/10	3-4:20pm
10-307-198	Admin An ECE Program	Sat	9/19, 10/10, 11/7	8-4:00pm
10-307-199	Practicum 4	W	9/2, 9/16, 9/30 10/14, /28,11/ 11 11/25,12/9	3-5:20pm
10-307-125	Best Practices	F	9/18 & 11/6	8-4:00pm
10-307-126	Leadership: Admin Seminar	F	11/13- 1/10	8-4:00pm
10-307-146	Preschool Capstone	Int	9/1- 12/8	-
10-307-150	Implementing WMELS	F&S	10/16-10/17	F 6-8:50pm S 8-3:00pm
47-307-421	Intro to the Child Care Prof	Sat	8/29-12/5	9-11:50am
47-307-425	Intro to the Child Care Prof Mod A	Sat	8/29- 10/3	9-11:50am
47-307-423	Fund. of Family Child Care	Sat	12/12/09	8-4:30pm

For more information, please contact Sandy Suprak, at (715) 675-3331 x 1515.

REGISTER online at www.ntc.edu/wls/register or by phoning the Wausau campus at 715-675-3331 x 4940, or your local campus.

Heartsaver CPR Training w/ AED

- Monday, September 14th, 6:00pm-9:30pm
Location: YWCA, 613 5th St. Wausau

- Monday, October 5th, 6:00pm-9:30pm
Location: YWCA, 613 5th St. Wausau

Cost: \$45 per person (includes workbook)

Each program is required to purchase one Heartsaver CPR AED workbook. You will be asked to complete the Review Questions, found in the book, prior to class.

Group Centers that have 8 staff needing training, contact CCC—the instructor may be able to come to your center.

**Register—(deadline is one week before each class)
call CCC at 715-539-9779.**

Fantastic Fall Activities

Wednesday August 26th
6:30-7:30 PM (1 hour of Cont. Ed!)

T.B. Scott Library, Merrill

Cost: \$8.00—payable to and mailed to CCC by August 17th

You need to register to receive materials and a certificate!

REGISTER! Call and send \$8 to:

Child Care Connection

407 W Main Street, Merrill, WI 54452

715-539-9779

This workshop is hosted by Krystal Pijan, Pammy Haefner, and Peggy Bliese—professional child care providers.

**LANGLADE CO—FAMILY CHILD CARE SUPPORT GROUP:
(Group Center staff are also welcome!)**
TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2009—6:00 to 7:45 PM—Antigo Library
- 6:00 to 7:00 PM Langlade Hospital Dietitian (1 hour of cont. ed.)
RSVP to Donna Murra at 715-350-4159

CHECK OUT THE TRAINING CALENDAR...

on Child Care Connection's website!

<http://www.childcareconnectioninc.org/trainingcalendar.html>

This is a great way to see what's going on... and coming up!

Provider Network / Support Group Meetings

A great way to meet with other providers and share successes, problem solving, and plan fun!

Langlade County: Meeting times to be determined. For more information contact, Donna Murra at 350-4159

Lincoln County: Meeting times to be determined. For more information contact, Brenda Danielczak at 551-4775

Marathon County: Meeting every-other month; location and topics vary. Call Ann Sheahan @ 693-7565 for details.

Taylor County: 3rd Monday of month - For more information, call Kelly Emmerich @ 748-6192.



**Child Care Providers may use the
Child Care Connection**

COPIER: 10 cents per white copy
LAMINATOR: 75 cents per foot

Both are self serve. **CALL AHEAD!**

**Child Care Connection
Board of Directors**

Marathon County

Georgia Fisher
Mary Olson
Sandy Suprak
Connie Zebro

Lincoln County

Joann Benedict
Carole Gessler
Rich Thwaites

Taylor County

Kelly Jensen
Linda Heinkel
Joseph Greget

Langlade County

Ginny Rusch
Kim Van Hoof

"The Mission of the Child Care Connection is to respond to needs and deliver services that improve and support a quality child care system."



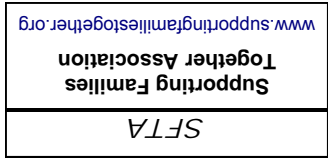
"We must teach our children to dream with their eyes open."

Harry Edwards

*Donate while you shop!
Use our Pick 'N Save number!*

109825

Visit our website: www.childcareconnectioninc.org



Think Big. Start Small.
Invest early in a child's future

Xav tau kev pab pes/txhais daim ntauw xovxwm no thov hu tuaj rau Kao Lai Xiong 539-9779 Hnub Mondays - 9:00 txog 4:00pm.

Child Care Connection, Inc.
Child Care Resource and Referral Agency
407 W. Main Street
Merrill, WI 54452

"The Connection"

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #150
Wausau, WI