



# "The Connection"

## Child Care Connection, Inc. - Resource & Referral

### Serving Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon and Taylor Counties

Newsletter #99

November—December, 2009

## MEMO

**To:** Community Stakeholders of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies

**From:** Kelly Borchardt, Micki Krueger, and Lois Sliter

**Date:** October 20, 2009

**Re:** Updates on the Reorganization of CCR&R Services in Central Wisconsin

In an effort to maintain high quality Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) services across Wisconsin, CCR&R agencies and Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA) are moving to a regional model that will create strong collaborations between CCR&R's, within eight geographic regions.

As a result of these changes, Mid-Wisconsin Child Care Resource and Referral, located in Stevens Point and serving Marquette, Portage, and Waushara Counties, will be closing their doors on 12/31/09. We commend Lois, the CCR&R staff, and the Board of MWCCR&R for the truly compassionate services they have provided over the past 16 years!

Child Care Resource and Referral of Central Wisconsin, Inc. (CCR&RCW), located in WI Rapids, was chosen as the lead agency or "hub" for our geographic region in the central part of the state. CCR&RCW and Child Care Connection, Inc. (CCC), in Merrill, will work together to provide services to families, providers and the communities in a 10-county region that includes: Adams, Clark, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marquette, Portage, Taylor, Waushara, and Wood counties. As the lead agency, CCR&RCW will begin processing referrals in 2010 for the entire region out of our office in Wisconsin Rapids. CCC in Merrill will continue to provide local services to child care programs and communities in Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon and Taylor Counties, and CCR&RCW in WI Rapids, will provide the same services in Adams, Clark, Marquette, Portage, Waushara, and Wood counties.

In an effort to provide a smooth transition for families, child care programs and others, our three agencies will continue to work together closely through 2009. Please anticipate additional correspondence with details and contact information for all of the services that will be offered in our region.

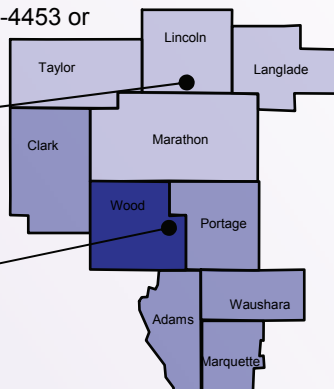
If you have questions, feel free to contact:

- Kelly Borchardt, Executive Director, CCR&R of Central Wisconsin, 1-800-628-8534 or [crrcw@tznnet.com](mailto:crrcw@tznnet.com), or
- Micki Krueger, Executive Director, Child Care Connection, 1-800-848-5229 or [childcareconnection@g2a.net](mailto:childcareconnection@g2a.net), or
- Lois Sliter, Executive Director, Mid-Wisconsin CCR&R, 1-866-472-4453 or [lois@charterinternet.com](mailto:lois@charterinternet.com).

### Your Regional CCR&R Service Delivery Area:

**CCC:** providing assistance and support to child care providers and communities in Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, and Taylor Counties

**CCR&RCW:** providing child care referrals to families in the entire region, and assistance and support to child care providers and communities in Adams, Clark, Marquette, Portage, Waushara, and Wood Counties



### Inside this issue:

CCR&R Services	1
Bulletin Board	2
Insert: Vacancy Update Form	^
Wisconsin Shares	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](mailto:childcareconnection@g2a.net)

[www.childcareconnectioninc.org](http://www.childcareconnectioninc.org)

### Staff:

**Micki Krueger**

-Executive Director-

**Rachele Cherek**

-Resource & Referral  
Specialist-

**Kao L. Xiong**

-Bi-Lingual Aide/  
Referral Specialist-

# The Bulletin Board



Please call if you have information you would like posted in "The Connection".

## 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:

Daisy Mae Daycare-Hewitt Texas, Wausau  
Daisy Mae Daycare-Marathon Elementary, Marathon

### Licensed Family Child Care:

### Certified Family Child Care:

Chia Her, Wausau  
Esterjean Shelton, Schofield

### Provisionally Certified Family Child Care:

Chong Vang, Wausau  
Mary Baker, Rothschild  
Julie Hoeffs, Wabeno  
Brook Vanvuren, Merrill  
Carol Nyman, Mosinee  
Jamie Wirkus, Edgar  
Caitlin Leininger, Wausau

### Increased Regulation

Xao Vang, Mosinee, Provisional to Certified

## **VACANCY UPDATE FORM**

Please return the enclosed vacancy update form by December 1st

**The Wisconsin Division of Energy Services provides services to Wisconsin qualified residential households with energy assistance and weatherization needs. For more information call 1- 866-HEATWIS (432-8947).**

The Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) administers the federally funded Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and Public Benefits Energy Assistance Program. LIHEAP and its related services help over 100,000 Wisconsin households annually. In addition to regular heating and electric assistance, specialized services include:

- Emergency fuel assistance,
  - Counseling for energy conservation and energy budgets,
  - Pro-active co payment plans,
  - Targeted outreach services,
  - Emergency furnace repair and replacement.
- Services are provided locally through:

- County social services offices,
- Tribal governments,
- Private non-profit or other government agencies.

**For more information on WHEAP, call 1-866-HEATWIS (432-8947).**

## **FYI: Low Enrollments... referrals are down.**

From January 1 to September 30, 2009, CHILD CARE CONNECTION has provided 548 referrals to families looking for child care (35% have been completed through our website). This is a 27% decrease in the total number of referrals, compared to this time last year.

## **North Central Association for the Education of Young Children NCAEYC**

**Serving Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, and Taylor Counties**

Congratulations to the new Affiliate Officers!

President: Micki Krueger

Vice President: Sandy Suprak

Treasurer: Mary Olson

Secretary: Melissa Barwick

WECA Representatives: Carmen Behringer and Rachael Sherfield

If you are interested in joining this affiliate, attending meetings, or helping with events, please contact Child Care Connection at 715-539-9779.

## **Quotes for Positive Thinking:**

**"The best is yet to be."**

John Lenon

**"We are all in the gutter,  
but some of us  
are looking at the stars."**

Oscar Wilde

## **Department of Children and Families Stops Wisconsin Shares Payments to 19 Child Care Providers**

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) has stopped Wisconsin Shares payments to 19 child care providers effective Saturday, October 3. These providers were suspended from the Wisconsin Shares program because DCF discovered evidence that leads to a reasonable suspicion of Wisconsin Shares regulation violations. These providers will be referred to law enforcement. These are the third wave of suspensions in the last three weeks during which DCF suspended a total of 88 providers.

"We are ensuring that taxpayer dollars are helping hard-working, honest low-income families have access to affordable child care that enables them to financially support their families," stated DCF Secretary Reggie Bicha, "Instead of lining the pockets of criminals."

Providers were suspended for various violations to the Wisconsin Shares program. Two notable examples include:

### **Chonlada Family Day Care, Milwaukee**

During a DCF visit at Chonlada Family Day Care in September, the center had no children present and attendance records from the previous week also indicated no children had been in attendance. Attendance records collected during this visit indicated that attendance sheets were photocopied with dates entered later. When a DCF staff member visited the facility last week, only four children were present and the provider was found to have two separate attendance records.

### **Miracles Start Young, Milwaukee**

DCF staff has attempted multiple times to visit Miracles Start Young in 2009 and have not been able to gain access as no children or adults were present.

These suspensions are as a result of new authority given DCF through a change in Wisconsin law. Information about why each of the 88 providers has been suspended from the Wisconsin Shares program is available on the DCF website, [www.dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://www.dcf.wisconsin.gov).

As part of the recent budget, DCF can now suspend providers during investigations if fraud is reasonably suspected. In efforts to detect fraud, DCF is developing a system to automatically collect attendance records from child care centers receiving Shares reimbursements. The Department has also created a five person fraud detection and prevention unit that includes two former police officers and contracted with an investigative firm with expertise in public subsidy fraud investigations. In partnership with the Milwaukee District Attorney's office, DCF is co-leading a Child Care Anti- Fraud Task Force which includes representatives from the Milwaukee County sheriff, the Department of Justice, Milwaukee County, and the FBI.

Parents whose child care provider has been suspended from receiving Wisconsin Shares payments should contact 4C in Milwaukee at 414-562-2676 or outside of Milwaukee at 800-750-5431 to assist in finding a new child care facility. For more information about 4C, visit their Web site at [www.4c-milwaukee.org](http://www.4c-milwaukee.org) or [www.4-c.org](http://www.4-c.org). To report suspicions of fraud, call the DCF child care fraud hotline at 877-302-FRAUD or 877-302-3728 or visit the DCF website at [www.dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://www.dcf.wisconsin.gov) to submit tips directly to fraud detection and prevention unit.

*Article from the WI Dept of Children & Families Website: [http://dcf.wi.gov/press/2009/100509\\_stopped\\_payments\\_to\\_providers.htm](http://dcf.wi.gov/press/2009/100509_stopped_payments_to_providers.htm)*

## **Reporting Child Care Fraud From the WI Dept of Children & Families**

**If you suspect fraud in Wisconsin Shares, be a part of the solution.**

### **How to submit allegations:**

- Fill out the Report Child Care Fraud form found at: [http://dcf.wi.gov/program\\_integrity/fraud/mailto\\_cdo.asp](http://dcf.wi.gov/program_integrity/fraud/mailto_cdo.asp)
- Send an email to [dcfmbchildcarefraud@wisconsin.gov](mailto:dcfmbchildcarefraud@wisconsin.gov)
- Call 1-877-302-FRAUD
- Write to: Department of Children and Families  
Child Care Program Integrity Unit  
PO Box 8916  
Madison, WI 53708-8916

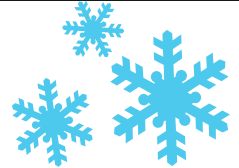


## November

2nd : Cookie Monster Day  
 10th : National Young Readers Day  
 20th : Children's Day  
 27th : Flossing Day

4th : National Dice Day  
 11th : International Mountain Day  
 21st : Humbug Day  
 29th: Tick Tock Day

### Sparkling Snowflake



Need: Paper plate, scissors, shaving cream, glue, glitter

Take a paper plate, fold in half, three times. Cut out shapes from the folded paper plate. Unfold paper plate and decorate, with a mixture of 2/3 shaving cream to 1/3 glue, have children cover the entire plate. While wet, sprinkle with glitter. Let dry over night.

### No Bake Pumpkin Pie

Small custard-sized pie crusts  
 2 tbsp canned pumpkin, 1 tbsp marshmallow cream  
 1 tbsp whipped topping, Sprinkle of cinnamon

Mix all ingredients together and pour into the crust, and enjoy! Also can try it frozen by freezing it!

### The Turkey Hop

Sung to: "The Bunny Hop"

Do the turkey hop, do the turkey run  
 Do the turkey gobble, it's a lot of fun

Now flap your wings,  
 Like the turkeys do  
 Then run from the farmer,  
 Before he catches you!!

Children (the turkeys) line up on one wall and one child (the farmer) stands in the middle. Say the poem and do the actions. At the end of the poem the "turkeys" run to the other side. If one of the farmers touches them, they turn into farmers.

### I'm a Friendly Snowman

("I'm a little teapot")

I'm a friendly snowman big and fat.  
 (stretch arms out to sides)

Here is my tummy and here is my hat.  
 (point to tummy, then top of head)

I'm a happy fellow, here's my nose.  
 (smile, then point to nose)

I'm all snow from my head to my toes.  
 (point to head, then to toes)

I have two bright eyes so I can see.  
 (point to eyes)

All the snow falling down on me.  
 (flutter fingers downward)

When the weather's cold I'm strong and tall.  
 (stand up all)

But when it's warm I get very small.  
 (crouch down low)

### Frozen Bubbles

Chill containers of bubble solution in the fridge. When the temperature is below freezing, take the children outside to blow bubbles. Observe what happens to the bubbles as they blow and what happens when the bubbles pop? (They shatter!!)



### Spice Turkeys

Need: paper, glue, spices

Directions: Trace each child's hand on paper. Have them paint glue on the palm & fingers. Than sprinkle on different spices (nutmeg, salt, pepper, cinnamon, etc) on fingers. Let dry and enjoy the smell!

### LETS READ!

**Food!** by Cookie Monster (Sesame Books)

**I Just Forgot (A Little Critter Book)** by Mercer Mayer

**The Candy-floss Tree** by Gerda Mayer, Norman Nicholson, and Frank Flynn

**The Bear Went Over The Mountain** by Rosemary Wells

**Tick! Tock! Jungle Clock: Turn the Hands to Tell the Time!** by Thomas Taylor

# Training



## Winter Themes

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

7:00 to 8:00 PM (1 hour of continuing education)!

MARATHON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, Wausau

Cost: \$8.00—payable to and mailed to CCC by December 1st

**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 or 1-800-848-5229

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

## Boy-Oh-Boy!

Join Bryan G. Nelson in this interactive and informative experience around boys and how they learn and react in our classrooms. Bryan will share many insights to boys, supportive behaviors, as well as creating programs that support dads, brothers, and male teachers. He also will have practical ideas that benefit girls, too!

Come ready to laugh, move and learn more about boys!

**Saturday, December 12, 2009 at Northcentral Technical College**

Watch your mail for registration information.

Questions, contact Kris Busch at NTC: 715-803-1592.



**Northcentral Technical College  
Early Childhood Continuing Education: Fall 2009**

### Shaken Baby Syndrome — \$10.00

Thursday November 12th: 6:30pm — 8:00pm

Thursday December 10th: 6:30pm — 8:00pm

### Sign Language for Babies — \$15.00

Thursday, November 12th: 6:30pm — 8:30pm

### SIDS, Child Abuse & Neglect — \$19.00

Thursday, November 19th: 6:30pm — 9:30pm

### ECE Book Club: Multi Ethnic Books — \$15.00

Thursday December 10th: 6:30pm — 8:30 pm

For more information, please contact Cathy Newby, at (715) 803-1861

## Winterm Classes—Accelerated

10-307-103, Introduction to Infant and Toddler Care  
January 5th, 2010: 8:00am - 4:00pm Class #63794

10-307-104, School-Age Child Care Curriculum  
January 7th, 2010: 8:00am - 4:00pm Class # 63800

10-307-150, Implementing WMELS  
January 6, 2010: 8:00am - 4:00pm Class # 63799

*\*All courses are 1 credit, and are only available at the Wausau Campus*

REGISTER online at [www.ntc.edu/wls/register](http://www.ntc.edu/wls/register) or by phoning the Wausau campus at 715-675-3331 x 5861, or your local campus.

## Heartsaver CPR Training w/ AED

**Monday, November 9th, 6:00pm-9:30pm**

Location: YWCA, 613 5th St. Wausau

**Monday, January 25th, 6:00-9:30pm**

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.**

## NAEYC

**2009 Annual Conference & Expo**

**Washington, D.C.**

**November 18-21, 2009**

For more information visit: [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)

## Wisconsin Shares: The Child Care Subsidy System

1.5 hrs of  
cont. ed!

**Thursday, November 5, 2009**

**6:30 to 8:00 PM**

Northcentral Technical College, Wausau  
Health Science Building, RM 3016

Or

Available by ITV at the NTC Campus in:

Antigo — RM T107

Medford — RM M118

Cost: \$5.00 (payable to Child Care Connection)

Register by calling Child Care Connection, **and** sending payment **before** October 30, 2009.

715-539-9779 or 1-800-848-5229

CCC, 407 W Main St, Merrill, WI 54452

### 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 @ 302-2240 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  
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."*



**Happy Holidays!**

... from our families,  
to yours.

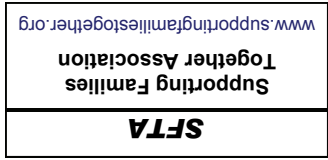
Micki, Rachele,  
and Kao

~Child Care Connection, Inc.

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

**109825**

**Visit our website: [www.childcareconnectioninc.org](http://www.childcareconnectioninc.org)**



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

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

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Child Care Resource and Referral Agency  
407 W. Main Street  
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**"The Connection"**