



Child Care Resource and Referral Newsletter

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Be An Empowered Provider

Submitted By: Sarah Camp; Referral Coordinator-
Child Care Resource and Referral

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Unfortunately, the economy has forced many of us take a good look at our finances, both from a personal and business perspective. You have probably even found yourself in positions lately of asking "Do I really need this?" OR "What's this going to cost me?" Although watching our every penny isn't always the most fun thing to do, it does however, turn us into better consumers. We want more for our money, we want services we pay for to be timely and efficient, and we want things done right! As a child care provider, you encounter many daily tasks that are of a business nature and it's important that you feel empowered as a consumer of services to help your business succeed. Now is the time to research your options before making big or small financial decisions for your program because every little bit of savings helps.

Whether you are purchasing a new heating and air system for your facility, pursuing an accreditation status, buying toys and equipment, or looking for training that counts toward the licensing clock hour requirements, you need to make an informed choice. Before making purchases, ask yourself these questions: (1) is this going to get me exactly what I need?, (2) are there other options available?, (3) will I see a return on my investment? , (4) is this really a "good fit" for my program or facility, and (5) what happens if the service doesn't turn out how I expected- are there refunds, returns, etc. to correct the matter and will that have a cost involved?

This is the time of meeting the consumers need so take advantage of it and remember, no matter what business move you are making today, you have the right to make an informed and educated decision!



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Do You Need Some FRESH IDEAS for Your Child Care Program?

Submitted By: Amy Cochran; Early Childhood Specialist– Child Care Resource & Referral

Participating in the Strengthening Families Initiative (SFI) and the Zero to Three: Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect training (PCAN) is a great way to gain new ideas and make sure you are developing healthy, supportive relationship among children, families, & staff in your program. Both SFI and PCAN are frameworks for child abuse & neglect prevention involving early childhood programs working with families to build strong support systems for children. Providers can expect to learn how to reach families during crisis, gain a host of strategies to help build up today's families, create environments where families feel welcome and want to be, as well as, increase family involvement. Providers can also gain information on guiding children's behavior, learning about children as individuals, and supporting staff when they are dealing with difficult issues regarding families. You can learn more about SFI by visiting <http://www.strengtheningfamilies.net>

There are three ways you can get involved in SFI and PCAN. They include:

- Participating in community PCAN trainings. CCRR plans and coordinates a minimum of 36 hours of PCAN trainings throughout the service delivery area from July 2009 through June 2010. Currently CCRR staff is organizing these trainings for fall. You can find new trainings online at www.ccochildcare.org
- Participate in the onsite technical assistance program. Through this program providers will get the chance to evaluate their sites using the SFI self assessment, attend the PCAN community trainings at no cost and receive one-on-one attention from a trained CCRR early childhood coach.
- Apply to be considered for group training to be delivered at your program with your staff. Providers who are considered for this type of training will be asked to fill out an application for consideration and if chosen will receive up to 6 hours of onsite training for their staff at no cost!

To obtain an application for consideration call Amy at 417-887-3545 X211 or email her at acochran@ccochildcare.org *Special Note: based on funding limited spots available.

Congratulations Vacancy Update Winners!!

Call us each month and let us know if you have any vacancies! We'll enter the name of each provider who calls with vacancies in a drawing that will be held on the last weekday of the month! Call (417) 887-3545 or (800) 743-8497.

March Winner:

Creative Minds

April Winner:

Linda Dixon

May Winner

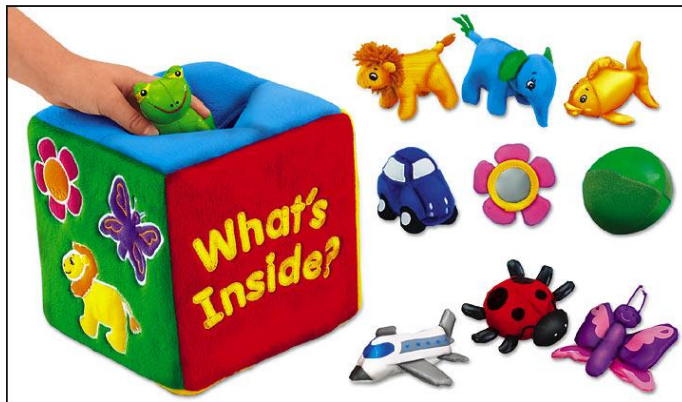
Tammy Stephens



Recall Information

For more Recalls, visit www.cpsc.gov

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has announced a voluntary recall of Children's Toy Boxes by Lakeshore Learning Materials due to a choking hazard. The head of the stuffed butterfly toy can detach from the body, posing a choking hazard to children. The recalled product is a soft, multi-colored box with a different color on each side. "What's Inside?" is embroidered on the front of the box and symbols of a lion, flower, and purple butterfly are stitched on another side. Each feely box contains 10 small stuffed pieces and sold for about \$40. Consumers should take the product away from children and contact Lakeshore for a replacement butterfly. For more details, contact Lakeshore Learning Materials at (800)428-4414 or visit www.lakeshorelearning.com



Inclusion Corner: Redirect Inappropriate Behavior at Meal and Snack Times

Taken From Child Care Plus+ Newsletter, Spring 2002, Vol. 12, No. 3

Imagine you have a child in your care who fidgets a lot during meal and snack times and has trouble staying seated. An effective way to prevent inappropriate behavior is to provide active ways for children to take part. Here are just a few basic ideas to use with this child:

- Give the child something meaningful to do. Maybe they could be the mealtime helper, responsible for helping set the table or hand out plates, napkins, cups, or food.
- See the fun in mealtimes. Engage the child in conversation by commenting on what you observe. For example, you might say, "Jason, I see you are trying the broccoli today."
- Add something different. Just for fun, do something silly like wear a funny hat while you serve the food or sing a silly song while children find their places. See how the child reacts to what you are doing, then build on their reaction.

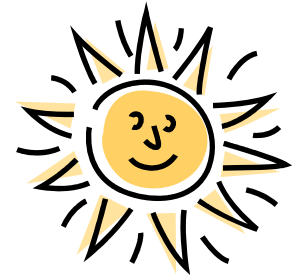
CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE ST. JOHN'S
EMPLOYEE CHILD
DEVELOPMENT
CENTER PRE-K
PROGRAM!

THIS PROGRAM WAS
RECENTLY AWARDED
THEIR
ACCREDITATION
CERTIFICATE FROM
MISSOURI
ACCREDITATION!

Sun Safety 101 for Child Care Providers

Submitted By: Linda Maddux, RN– Springfield-Greene County Health Department

Providing the best care for children involves helping them to learn sun safety habits. Be a good model yourself. Wear a hat, use sunscreen, and cover up when in the sun. Modeling good behavior and being a good example is the best way for children to develop good sun safety habits. Remember these tips as you care for children outdoors this summer:



- Limit time in the sun between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. when the sun's rays are the strongest.
- Encourage children to play in the shaded areas during the midday.
- Use the shadow test. When the child's shadow is shorter than they are, sunburn is likely. Encourage play in the shaded areas.
- Have children wear a hat. The best ones have a brim that shades the face, ears, and the back of the neck.
- Wear clothes that cover the upper back and shoulders.
- Always wear sunscreen with an SPF of a least 15 that has both UVA and UVB protection.
- Use at least one ounce- about four tablespoons – of sunscreen and apply 15 minutes before going outside. Reapply every two hours or immediately after swimming or strenuous activity.
- Protect the eyes with UV ray-blocking sunglasses.
- Drink plenty of fluids throughout the day instead of waiting until thirsty. Your body needs water to help keep cool. Children may not always ask for water if they are busy with activities.



Mark Your Calendar!

September 3, 2009: Keynote speaker and inspirational Early Childhood Consultant, Dr. Thomas Moore, is coming to Springfield. This event will be open to providers, parents, and children. For more details about Dr. Moore, visit www.drthomasmoore.com and for more information about the event, contact Andrea Kennedy with OACAC Head Start at 417-864-3402.

September 18 & 19, 2009: Dr. Becky Bailey's *Conscious Discipline*®: *Two Days to a Better Way* is coming to Kansas City. This workshop will offer immediate strategies to decrease problem behaviors, increase academic achievement, and develop emotional intelligence. For more details, visit www.beckybailey.com/workshops.cfm or call (800)842-2846.

ONLINE REGISTRATION ADDED TO CCR&R TRAINING CALENDAR

Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral Network's (MOCCRRN's) statewide training calendar allows you to access all clock hour coursework available statewide. Right now, the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and MOCCRRN are piloting online registration through the MOCCRRN training calendar. This new calendar function allows potential participants to register for clock hours through the online calendar. Starting now, those who provide clock hour training events in pilot counties may allow potential participants to register online.

Starting on or around July 1, 2009, online registrations will be available to participants for all MOCCRRN early childhood education clock hour trainings throughout Missouri. Eventually this will be the way participants can automatically track their clock hours to meet licensing requirements. In the future, you will be able to look up your completed clock hour trainings, see how many spaces are available before registering, and see the status of your registrations all in one place.

In order to offer this service, this attendance information will be shared with Opportunities in a Professional Education Network (OPEN) for the Professional Achievement and Recognition System (PARS) database. This also means that in order to benefit from online registration, participants must provide their OPEN ID. If a provider does not have an OPEN ID they can enter their date of birth and last five digits of their social security number and still successfully register online for clock hour trainings. Because of this partnership, we no longer need to ask for your full social security number.

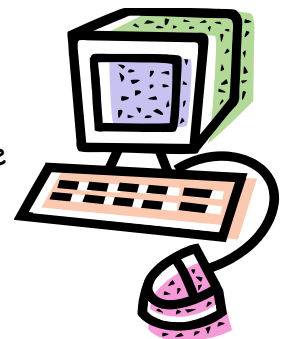
If a provider does not have access to the Internet, your local CCR Training Coordinator can help. This is also why MOCCRRN and its local CCR&R have added date of birth and the last five digit of social security number on all the sign-in sheets at trainings.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to call CCR&R at 800-743-8498 or (417)887-3545, x 213.

Director's Cut- Check Out The Website for the Missouri Coordinating Board for Early Childhood

The Coordinating Board for Early Childhood was established by statute in August 2004 to be the state's public/private entity for coordinating a cohesive system of early childhood programs and services that would result in the healthy development of, and high quality education for, all Missouri children birth through age five.

The website serves as a way for the Board to communicate with early childhood professionals, child advocates, legislators, parents, and others interested in the development of young children. Visitors to the website are encouraged to share their ideas with the Board. To view the plans for this Board or to post your comments, visit www.dss.mo.gov/cbec



Just for Parents- What Is Safe Kids Springfield?

Keeping your child safe no matter where they go is always a priority to parents, however, sometimes it's hard to know exactly **how** to do this. The Springfield Safe Kids Coalition was established in 1989.

Throughout the years, the Coalition has expanded to cover almost 1/2 a million people in Christian, Dade, Dallas, Greene, Laclede, Lawrence, Polk, Stone, Taney, and Webster Counties. The Coalition's activities focus on child passenger safety, bike/pedestrian safety, fire

prevention, sports safety, water safety, and other child injury prevention programs.

To learn more about this group and the services available, visit their website at:

<http://safekidsspringfield.org>

The website offers information on a variety of injury prevention topics, lists car seat check events, provides helpful links to other safety related services, and much more!



NAFCC Accreditation: Open to Family Child Care Providers and Group Homes

Submitted By: Kim Gillman; Training Coordinator– Child Care Resource and Referral

The National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) sponsors the only nationally recognized Accreditation System, designed specifically for family child care providers. This system was designed by hundreds of experts in an effort to create a quality indicator for family child care programs across the country. The NAFCC quality standards address five areas of quality: Relationships, Environment, Developmental Learning Activities, Safety and Health, and Professional and Business Practices. By meeting the standards designed by accreditation, providers are delivering child care that

is high quality and healthy for developing children.

To qualify for NAFCC accreditation a provider must meet the following candidate qualifications:

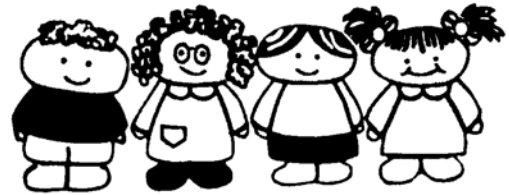
- Offer care and education to children in a home, spending at least 80% of the time with the children for a minimum of 15 hours per week
- Be at least 21 years old
- Have a high school diploma or GED
- Have at least 18 months experience in family child care and be a licensed provider

- Complete background screening and documentation requirements;
- Have a minimum of 3 children enrolled and present during the observation

If you are interested in moving the quality of your program forward NAFCC might be right for you. To learn more about NAFCC visit www.nafcc.org or you can call the CCRR office at 417-887-3545 x213.

This and That Reminders From Child Care Resource & Referral

Child Care Resource and Referral would like to take this opportunity to offer a few friendly reminders to all of you providing care to young children.



1. Don't forget to call us regularly with vacancies/ openings you might have in your program. This helps your business stay current in our database and it helps us provide quality referrals to parents looking for child care.
 2. Please call us if you have changes to the services your program offers. This could be changes in rates, hours of operation, the ages of children you are caring for, licensing status changes, the obtainment of accreditation, or simply changes to your telephone number or e-mail address.
 3. If you have a change to your e-mail address or would like to receive our training information and newsletters via e-mail, please let us know immediately. CCRR is trying hard to do less via mail in order to cut costs and to be friendly to the environment.
 4. Remember, if you are an unlicensed/exempt family home provider, Section 210.211.1, RSMo, does not allow you to provide care for more than four (4) unrelated children without having in effect a license issued by the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS). Any care provided for more than four (4) unrelated children is in violation of this section and subject to penalties as set forth in Section 210.245, RSMo.
 5. If you are looking for training opportunities, please visit the CCRR website at www.ccochildcare.org and view the on-line training calendar. This on-line calendar provides you with the most up-to-date training opportunities in your area. You can search by location, topic, and date AND you can find out how that training fits into your professional development plans.
 6. The CCRR lending library is a wonderful and FREE resources available to you and even families you might have in your care needing some additional resources. The library includes topical kinds of books, including curriculum, child development, special needs, as well as children's books, toys, videos and DVD's. Materials can be checked out for 30 days and don't worry if you are not the Springfield area—many of our staff are frequently on the road and can drop things off where you are!
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Meet the CCRR Staff

Call us anytime with questions or to get the latest information on quality child care

(417)887-3545 OR (800)743-8497

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Kim Gillman (Training Coordinator) ext. 213

Sarah Camp (Referral Coordinator) ext. 215

Sherri Eldred (Early Childhood Specialist) ext. 218

Sara Potter (Referral Specialist) ext. 210

Tina Bell (Early Childhood Assistant) ext. 217

Amy Cochran (Early Childhood Specialist) ext. 211

"Good Beginnings Last A Lifetime-
Make a Smart Child Care Choice"

Visit us on the web:
www.ccochildcare.org

CCRR is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Services are provided on a non-discriminatory basis. An Operating Agency of the Council of Churches of the Ozarks. Member of the Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral Network. Funding provided by the Missouri Department of Social Services, Children's Division, Early Childhood and Prevention Services Section, in conjunction with the Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of Regulation and Licensure, Section for Child Care Regulation