



Child Care Connections

A Bi-Monthly Publication

January/ February 2012

Volume 22 Number 1

A Child Care Resource and Referral Agency serving El Paso, Teller, and Elbert Counties

Inside This Issue :

Announcements....	2
Trainings.....	3
CCC News.....	5
Licensing	6



We have gone paperless! Child Care Connections Newsletter are now to be sent by email. If you still want to receive this newsletter by mail, please contact us at 719-638-2070

When the Weather Outside is Frightful

We know that winter months can be long for children and child care providers alike because outdoor play is often limited. We can't ignore or avoid gross motor movement activities during this time because movement skills cannot be overlooked. So much is involved when young bodies are in motion, muscle-memory, problem solving, spatial awareness, assessing and adapting and more. When children play simple, basic games like Simon Says, musical chairs (mats, hula hoops), Hokey Pokey, bean bag basketball, Red Light-Green Light, Follow the Leader, or Duck-Duck Goose many different movement skills are learned and mastered. These include locomotion skills such as running, skipping, dodging and hopping. Stabilization benefits as well in balancing, twisting, bending and turning. Even manipulation where throwing,

catching or striking are improved. These are just a few benefits gained when children have the opportunity to stay active. Include activities like making an obstacle course, yoga, balloon hot potato, chores or songs with body actions. Be creative!

Movement activities and games are not only good for building coordination and keeping young children healthy, they are also a good way to reinforce critical skills like following directions, taking turns, making choices, playing cooperatively, show curiosity, participation and learning the alphabet, numbers or colors. Learning and practicing these skills during play is an important part of early childhood development and school readiness.

We have the ability to turn an ordinary moment in a child's life into a meaningful experience. Weather or not.

All of our 2012 trainings are now online. You can register and pay for them on our website. Visit <http://www.childcareconnections.net/community/training>



From Child Care Connections



Save the Date:

Provider Appreciation Event

Location: Radisson Hotel

On: Friday May 4th, 2012

More Details to Coming Soon

Announcements

The Early Learning Venture Alliance at
Early Connections Learning Centers

The Many Roles of a Center Director or Family Child Care Provider



Can you relate to these pictures? Do you wish there was a more efficient way to run your business?

- **Remain Independent**
- **Gain Buying Power**
- **Save Time and Money**

For more information on the benefits of becoming a part of the Alliance...

Contact:

Josie Watters
Vice President of Home Operations
Early Connections Learning Centers
(719) 632-1754 x 1014
jwatters@earlyconnections.org

We assist Independent Early Care and Education Businesses with:

- Collecting Tuition and Fees
- Reaching Full Enrollment
- Saving on Purchases, Marketing and HR
- Maintaining a High Quality Program
- Maintaining child/family/staff records



Important News from Child Care Connections

- Are you waiting until the last minute to register for classes? Are you finding that when you call, classes are already filled? Do not wait to get registered for the class of your choice. Classes are filling up weeks in advance! Remember all trainings have a limited class size, payment is due at the time of registration and trainings are on a first come first serve basis.
- We have gone paperless! Please contact Sarah, if you would prefer to receive the newsletter by mail.

719-638-2070

Volunteers Needed @ The Resource Exchange

The Resource Exchange is in need of volunteers for their Break Time program.

Break Time is a respite program that is vital for the health and well being of families of children with special health care needs. Parents need personal care themselves in order to adequately care for others. Families with a child with special needs appreciate the qualified nursing and professional staff, as well as myriad teaching students from local universities, who take pride in volunteering their time, to give special care to these children.

A unique feature of the program is that all siblings of children with special needs are encouraged to be part of Break Time as well, and they often enjoy Break Time as much as their sibling with a special need, as they are given one-on-one attention, do fun crafts, and play as they wish. This often affords parents the opportunity for five uninterrupted hours of time to spend together or to do much-needed errands.

To volunteer or for more information, contact TRE's Break Time Director, [Glenn Azare](#), (719) 785-3703.

JardinTax

Dan & Cheryl Jardin
6674 Fielding Cir.
Colorado Springs, CO 80911



BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

We have hundreds of books
come take a look
they make great gifts
and give you a lift
five bucks a bag
all you can drag
five days a week
come take a peek!

Open 5 Days a week and before CCC training
Call Child Care Connections
@ 638-2070 to schedule a time to come in.

Training Opportunities

January

Pre-licensing Training– contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info

- Saturday 1/7/2012 & 1/21/2012 from 8:30am - 5:00pm

Universal Precautions– contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info

- Saturday, 1/21/2012 from 10:00am—11:30am

Business Practices & Taxes for Child Care

Professionals—contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070

- Saturday, 1/14/2012 from 9:00am-12:00pm

All Kids Count: Child Care and the ADA– contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070

- Tuesday, 1/17/2012 from 6:00pm-8:00pm

Medication Administration–contact Child Care Connections @719-638-2070

- Wednesday, 1/18 & Wednesday 1/25 6pm-10pm

Reminder: Please remember that with the changing weather you allow yourself enough time to arrive for trainings. Instructors will give certificates at their discretion and you may not be allowed to participate in the training if you arrive past the scheduled time. Thank You.

CPR/First Aid Classes

(For directory of all State Approved Vendors please go to <http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/childcare/FirstAid-CPR.htm>)

CPR – First Aid / Universal Precautions– Contact

Jim Sheldon @ 719-473-5482 for more information.

- 1/23 & 1/24, 2/20 & 2/22 from 6:00pm - 10:00pm @ Child Care Connections

Sav-A-Life – Contact Cindy Slater @ 719-282-1779 for more information

- Saturdays from 9-3 @ Sunrise United Methodist Church - 2655 Briargate Blvd.

HeartSmart - Contact Rich Perse @ 800-894-3439 for more information

- Saturday, 1/7 starting at 9:00 am w/CPR, First Aid in the pm @ Sunnyside Christian

Church - 2025 N Murray
 • Saturday, 1/14 starting at 9:00 am w/CPR, First Aid in the pm @ Pueblo-CSU-Pueblo Childcare Center-on campus

Norlynn Nelson - Contact 719-277-7219 for more information

American Red Cross, Pikes Peak Chapter - Contact Heather Wilma @ 719-632-3563 for more information

Pikes Peak Family Connections - Contact Dee Thomas @ 719-442-6333 for more information

Simple CPR, LLC - Contact Mark Schaefer @ 719-205-0003 for more information

February

Pre-licensing Training– contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info

- Saturday 2/14 - 2/15/2012 & 2/28- 2/29/2012 from 5:30pm - 9:00pm

Universal Precautions– contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info

- Saturday, 2/15/2012 from 5:30pm—7:00pm

Understanding Attachments - contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info

- Tuesday, 2/21/2012 from 6:00pm—9:00pm

Easy Changes for Healthy Eating - contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info

- Tuesday, 2/21/2012 from 6:00pm—9:00pm

Medication Administration–contact Child Care Connections @719-638-2070

- Wednesday, 2/8 6pm-10pm & Saturday 2/18 9am-1pm

Learn about classes and happenings faster!

Find us on Facebook at

facebook.com/childcareconnections



Child Care Lounge - www.childcarelounge.com

- Offers a wide variety of ECE trainings including CDA trainings
- All classes are taught by Qualistar Advanced Level Trainers

Pikes Peak Community College– www.ppec.edu

- Offers all courses for Group Leader and Director Qualifications

Colorado Community College Online - www.cconline.org

- Offers all courses for Group Leader and Director Qualifications

**O
N
L
I
N**

Blogs

Birth to Thrive
 Bridging Differences
 Early ED Watch
 Early Stories
 Early years
 EduWonk

Eye on Early Education
 Foundation for Child Development
 NACCRRA Early Childhood Focus
 Preschool Matters
 Stories from School
 The Frontal Cortex

**Child Care Connections
 125 N. Parkside Ste. 202
 Colorado Springs, CO 80909**

Main Office: 719-638-2070

Referrals: 719-638-2057

Fax: 719-638-2059

www.childcareconnections.net

CCCAP Office

Location:

1675 W. Garden of the Gods Rd

Main Business Line:

719-444-8178

**2012 NAFCC Accreditation Facilitation Project
Family Child Care Providers
82% of the NAFCC Accredited Family Child Care
Providers in Colorado are in El Paso County!
Come Join Us!**

Early Connections Learning Centers continues to work with Family Child Care Providers in El Paso County on becoming NAFCC Accredited. This is a great opportunity for Providers that are interested in being Accredited and receiving assistance to reach their goal. There is still space for Providers to join the Project.

Family Child Care Providers receive:

- Financial assistance in becoming Accredited
- Training opportunities to meet Accreditation standards
- Meeting opportunities to learn from others in the process
- On-site support in meeting Accreditation standards

CONGRATULATIONS to previous project participants that have reached NAFCC Accreditation! These Providers include **Alisa Alexander, Margaret Becerra, Ann-Marie Bagues, Julie Brecto, Heidi Clearo, Valerie Dunn, Wendy Epp, Laura Fredrickson-Sena, Eudora London, Dawn Palazzolo, Vickie Shupe, Tijuana Thornton-McLin, Suzanne Trujillo and Dainty Wheaton!** Great job!

For more information:
Josie Watters (719) 632-1754 ext. 1014
jwatters@earlyconnections.org

**Alliance
for
Kids**

El Paso County's Early Childhood Council

Are you a Child Care Provider in El Paso County interested in college classes for Early Childhood Education?

Did you know that Alliance for Kids-Office of Professional Development offers scholarship funding and support to help you be a successful college student?

Do you realize that more than **400** Early Care and Education Providers in El Paso County have been approved to receive this \$ and participate in this project?

Would you like more information?
Visit our website at www.allianceforkids.org then click on "for professionals"

to see our scholarship application packet, or call (719)635-8332 to talk to Jade Suter, Professional Development Coordinator

Child Care Center Director's Group

**Alliance
for
Kids**

El Paso County's Early Childhood Council

**Child Care
Connections**

are hosting
networking and education opportunities for
Directors of Child Care Centers.



2012 Dates
(Thursdays)

February 23
April 26
September 20
November 29

Lunch will be provided!

Location: CPCC/Head Start
2330 Robinson Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Time: 12:00-1:30

For more information, please contact Jade Suter
Office of Professional Development Coordinator
(719)635-8332 or jade@allianceforkids.org

Certificates for training
hours will be available.

Save the Date!

**Alliance
for
Kids** Presents a
workshop on

**Conscious
Discipline®**

Life-Changing Social Emotional Education

**Includes
lunch!**

**March 3, 2012
at "The Lodge" at UCCS**

Register online at www.allianceforkids.org

Conscious Discipline is a comprehensive self-regulation program that integrates social-emotional learning and discipline. This training will emphasize creating a "school family," and challenging children.*

For more information, contact Jade Suter
(719)635-8332 E-mail: jade@allianceforkids.org

**Only
\$55**

* This training is for both those who have or have not attended Conscious Discipline training before.

**Alliance
for
Kids**

**5th Annual
School Readiness
Conference**

April 14, 2012

at Pikes Peak Community College
with Keynote by noted author,
professor, and national leader in
Early Childhood family literacy
Dr. Billie Enz

Register online at
www.allianceforkids.org

**For more information, contact Jade Suter
(719)635-8332 jade@allianceforkids.org**

Save the Date!

Child Care Connections

CCC is Looking For Board Members

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead

Child Care Connections is actively recruiting volunteers to serve on the Board of Directors. We need professionals with a variety of backgrounds that value the importance of Early Care and Education and the population that we serve. Meetings are generally held on the second Thursday of the month from 3:30pm -5:00 pm. If you or someone you know might be interested or would like more information, please call Deana @ 719-638-2065. Thank you for your continued support of Child Care Connections and the work that we do.

PIKES PEAK REGION FAMILY

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE PIKES PEAK REGION FAMILY CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION

All providers are welcome to our membership meetings, where we offer 2 hours of re-licensing training in a variety of categories including Social Emotional Development. We meet at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, located at the SW corner of Murray & Constitution in 80909, from 6:45-9:00PM. Mark your calendars for the following Tuesdays: Jan. 17, Mar. 20, May 15, July 17, Sept. 18 and Nov. 20. Meetings are free for members and \$10 cash for non-members. Go to www.coloradospringschildcare.com for information about membership, meetings, and events or call Betty at 392-6759.



Family, Friends and Neighbors

We are still looking for people who are providing care for children to whom they are related to, or are friends or neighbors with. These providers do not have to be licensed and can reside in El Paso, Teller, and Elbert counties. Participation in this program will give providers the opportunity to have free materials for the children, attend monthly play groups and story times, plus I am able to go to their home to help with activity ideas or help with any difficult behaviors. Please contact me at: 719-638-2067 for more information. Malie Visser, Outreach Specialist

NAEYC Accreditation Facilitation Project

The NAEYC AFP Program is looking for new schools to participate for the 2011-2012 year. If you are interested in improving quality and would like to know more information please contact Michelle Gonzalez at 719-634-6586 or email her at michelleg@childcareconnections.net

CDA Program Child Development Associates Credential

Spring CDA Classes Begin in January. Reserve Your Spot Now!
A new CDA session will start on January 9th. Classes are held at Child Care Connections on every other Monday evening from 6:00pm-9:00pm. There are scholarships available to assist in paying for your CDA. If you would like additional information on this training call, Michelle @ 634-6586, or for more info on the CDA process visit www.cdacouncil.org.

CCC is going green by going paperless! Please contact us, if you would prefer to receive the newsletter by mail.
719-638-2070

Child Care for Military Families

What is an Enhanced Referral?

An enhanced referral consists of giving military families counseling and information on qualifying child care providers for the military fee assistance programs. An enhanced referral includes prioritization of high quality programs, vacancy/waiting list check verification, and providing the family with detailed information on each child care option.

How can you help?

Child Care Connections maintains a comprehensive database of licensed local child care options. Programs meeting the criteria for high-quality care will be referred so that eligible military families can qualify for fee assistance.

What is a military-approved high quality child care program?

- NAEYC accredited centers
- NECPA accredited centers
- NAC accredited centers
- NAFCC accredited FCC homes
- FCC providers with Child Development Associate credential
- FCC providers with Bachelor's in Early Childhood Education/Early Childhood Development
- FCC providers with Associate's in Early Childhood Education/Early Childhood Development

To offer this service to families using your child care program, please contact Leanne Cabral @ 520-1662 or leannec@childcareconnections.net



Child Care Connections

Child Care Connections, Inc.
125 North Parkside, Suite 202
Colorado Springs, CO 80909

Business Line: (719) 638-2070
Fax Line: (719) 638-2059
Referrals: (719) 638-2057

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Colorado Springs, CO
Permit No. 185



Goodwill Licensing Update

Your Licensing Specialist

Happy New Year's to each of you. We hope you had a great Holiday season, and we look forward to the privilege of working with you all in 2012. As we enter January, we want to address a few important issues so there is some clarity moving forward.

First, Goodwill Industries' Licensing Specialists can no longer issue temporary licenses on the spot for new licenses, or licenses that are changing. The process is still the same, but you must actually wait until the hard copy comes in the mail before beginning to provide the care covered in the license. State has assured us that they will make their process as efficient as possible so any delay is minimal.

Also, all of you are probably familiar with the yellow "ROI Response Forms". Historically, we have had a difficult time getting these completed, signed, and returned with your corrections. Effective immediately, State will no longer be accepting corrections, or recognizing providers as being "in good

standing" unless we have these completed forms. Why must we get that form...well, the yellow ROI Response form is a legal form that is scanned into the State's database to show that the provider has responded to the violations noted on the report of inspection (ROI). You will each be given one at your inspection – please be sure to sign & date, describe how you corrected the violation, and return them with your corrections (if applicable) from now on.

If you have questions on either of these important issues, please do not hesitate to call your specialist. Again, Happy New Year's, and as always, thank you for all that you do for our children.

Your Childcare Licensing Team

719-574-9363



Child Care Centers

Martha Santastevens: 719-534-9181

Nikki Gill: 720-851-5601

Aleece Barr: 303-284-1403

Sheena Sutter: 719-542-6250

Family Child Care

Main Office : 719-574-9363

James	Danielle	Emily	Julie	Krista
81008	80817	80809	81001	80106
80917	80901	80813	81003	80132
80918	80903	80814	81004	80133
80923	80905	80816	81005	80808
	80906	80829	81006	80831
	80907	80863	81007	80833
	80909	80866	81019	80840
	80910	80904	81022	80864
	80913	80911	81069	80908
		80915	81212	80919
		80916	81226	80920
		80925	81223	80921
			81240	80922
			81244	80924
				80933

James @ 573-7917
Danielle @ 576-0293
Emily @ 635-9631
Julie @ 547-3388
Krista @ 266-6403