



Child Care Connections

**A Bi-Monthly
Publication**

July/August 2011

Volume 21 Number 4

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

Inside This Issue :

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

Meeting the New Crib Standards in 2012

Beginning **December 28, 2012**, any crib used in family child care homes and child care facilities must meet new and improved federal safety standards. The new standards take effect for manufacturers, retailers,

importers and distributors on **June 28, 2011**, addressing deadly hazards previously seen with traditional drop-side rails, requiring more durable hardware and parts and mandating more rigorous testing. As a child care provider, you must prepare to replace current cribs with

new, compliant cribs before December 28, 2010. You should not re-sell, donate or give away a crib that does not meet the new crib standards. For more information, contact the US Consumer Product Safety Commission at www.cpsc.gov.



Your Licensing Specialist

Child Care Centers

Martha Santistevan: 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

<u>James</u>	<u>Danielle</u>	<u>Emily</u>	<u>Tiffany</u>	<u>Krista</u>
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
		80930	81240	80922
				80924

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

Become A USAF Respite Care Provider

Love helping children? Like lending a hand to parents who are in need? Want to make extra cash? Call Sarah at 719-638-2070 to learn how you can become a U.S. Air Force (USAF) Respite Care Provider. Child Care Connections is excited to be part of NACCRRRA's newly launched program, USAF

Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) Respite Care. Care will be for 8-20 hours a month and dependent on the parents needs. Providers will be compensated depending on experience and specific yearly trainings will be provided by CCC. Call today to learn more!

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. Meeting are generally held on the second Thursday of the month from 3:30--5:00 pm. If you or someone you know might be interested or would like more information, please call Deana @638-2065. Thank you for your continued support of Child Care Connections and the work that we do.

Announcements

“Why do they keep calling?” Help us to help you!

Dear Providers, Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies collect data on child care supply and demand. The data is used to:

- Help parents and providers understand average rates in given communities and specific ages
- Help families understand options that best meet their needs
- Help inform recruitment efforts
- Gain information needed to get funding for quality improvement, scholarships and support of family child care and center providers
- Help establish market rates for the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP)
- Help inform capacity building efforts
- Help determine training and support needs

- Help in communication and outreach to providers, including providing information about grant opportunities
- Help us advocate on behalf of early childhood professionals

The data collected during calls is to update provider profiles. We are contracted to contact every licensed facility at least twice a year to update the information contained in our data base. This information is not shared with the regular public and is used in aggregated form. We realize you are very busy, but encourage you to please take some time to assist us when contacted for an update. If you like to know what information we have for you or to update, please call:

Ginette @ 638-2057
ginetteb@childcareconnections.net
or
Leanne @ 520-1662
leannec@childcareconnections.net

PIKES PEAK REGION FAMILY CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, July 19, 6:45-9:00PM – General Membership Meeting at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, SW corner of Murray & Constitution. Business meeting and training – Children’s Eye Health presented by the Vision Center For Children. Free for members, \$10 cash for non-members and adults only, please. Participants must attend entire meeting to receive certificate for 2 hours of re-licensing credits.

Saturday, October 1, 2011, 8AM-12:30PM – Fall Mini-Conference, *Eyes Toward The Future*. Earn 4 re-licensing credits. Sessions will cover the topics of Young Children & Behavior Struggles, Childcare and the ADA, and Kindergarten Readiness. Members cost is \$25, non-members \$35. POC – Terry, 597-7138. Go to www.coloradospringschildcare.com and click on training for a conference brochure. This is an adult-only event.

Alliance
for
Kids
El Paso County's Early Childhood Council



Quality Improvement Checklists

The Alliance for Kids has prepared this document to help Early Care and Education Providers serving children ages 3-5 to become aware of important indicators of quality. The checklists are a tool, not a test. This is an assessment to bring awareness. The focus is on improvement.

If you are interested in evaluating your setting and program, visit :

<http://www.allianceforkids.org/e-c-professionals/checklists> and print your own.

Alliance for Kids and El Paso County Public Health are pleased to again offer the Child Health Liaison Program

The goal of the Child Health Liaison (CHL) Program is to improve health and safety for children and adults at Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes. To accomplish this, specialized training will be provided to one staff member from each enrolled center/home one Saturday a month, over a 10-month period. (Subject to change pending start date.)

Each participant will also receive monthly mentoring with a Registered Nurse from El Paso County Public Health.

Participants will earn 3 hours of college credit from Pikes Peak Community College. This class can be used in place of ECE 205 for your director’s qualifications or as part of the continuing education needed to maintain your qualification.

The CHL Program will provide lunch for each Saturday session and more than \$250.00 worth of books, supplies and educational goodies.

Class starting date to be announced.
Currently accepting applications. There are a limited number of spots available.

For applications or information, please contact:
Mary Utsler, at El Paso County Public Health
(719)578-3203 Monday-Friday 7:30 to 4:00 or
MaryUtsler@epchealth.org.

Important News from Child Care Connections

- Child Care Connections is pleased to announce the launch of our new website and social network! Check us out at www.childcareconnections.net or on Facebook.com/childcareconnections
- Looking for a place to post your job openings? We'll do that for you!!! Contact Sarah at sarahm@childcareconnections.net or check us out online.
- You can now register for trainings online, from the comfort of your own home! Just go to childcareconnections.net and look under Child Care Professionals.

Training Opportunities

July

Medication Administration—contact Child Care Connections @719-638-2070 for more info

- Saturday, 7/23 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- Monday, 7/25 from 6:00pm - 10:00pm

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

- Saturday, 7/9 & 7/16 from 8:30am - 5:00 pm

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

- Saturday, 7/16 from 10:30am - 12:00pm

Cradling Literacy - contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info

- See page 4 for more details

Math and Science Safari Presented by Lakeshore—contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info

- Saturday, 7/30 from 9:00 am –12:00 pm

August

Medication Administration— contact Child Care Connections @719-638-2070 for more info

- Saturday, 8/20 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- Monday, 8/22 from 6:00pm - 10:00pm

Cradling Literacy - contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info

- See page 4 for more details

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

- Tuesday & Wednesday, 8/16 - 8/17 & 8/23—8/24 from 5:30pm - 9:30 pm

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

- Wednesday, 8/17 from 5:30 - 7:00pm

Come Sing With Me— contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info

- Wednesday, 8/24 from 6:00 –9:00 pm

ONLINE

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.pgcc.edu

- Offers all courses for Group Leader and Director Qualifications

Colorado Community College Online - www.ccconline.org

- Offers all courses for Group Leader and Director Qualifications

Reducing the Risk of SIDS in Child Care - www.healthychildcare.org/sids.html

- 1 hour training learning how to create a safe sleep environment to reduced the risk of SIDS and other sleep related deaths.

Information about the Expanding Quality in Infant Toddler Care classes will be coming soon. If you are interested in attending please check the Alliance for Kids (www.allianceforkids.org) website frequently for the most up to date information.

BLOGS

Birth to Thrive	Eye on Early Education
Bridging Differences	Foundation for Child Development
Early ED Watch	NACCRRRA Early Childhood Focus
Early Stories	Preschool Matters
Early years	Stories from School
Edwin	The Frontal Cortex



2011 Accreditation Facilitation Project Family Child Care Providers

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 space for Providers to join the Project beginning in July 2011.

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 **Margaret Becerra, Julie Brecto, Heidi Clearo, Valerie Dunn, Wendy Epp, Laura Fredrickson-Sena, Eudora London, Dawn Palazzolo, Tijuana Thornton-McLin and Vickie Shupe!** Great job!

For more information:

Josie Watters (719) 632-1754 ext. 1014 or jwatters@earlyconnections.org

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

Alliance Office of Professional Development

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?

Through our fourth project year, Alliance Office of Professional Development has directly supported 366 El Paso County Early Childhood Education providers with their Professional Development by providing college scholarships and/or individualized mentoring and support.

To date, AOPD participants have obtained the education requirements for the following:

234 Early Childhood Teacher (Formerly known as Group Leader) Qualifications

26 Director Qualifications

18 taking the classes recently added for Director Qualifications

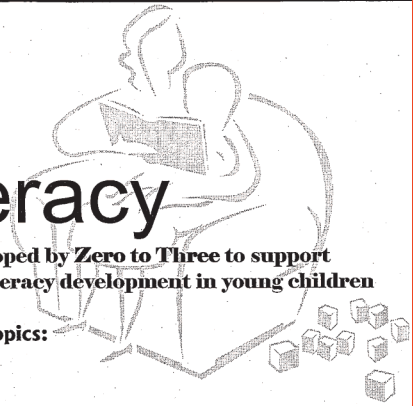
Would you like more information?

Contact:

Jade Suter, Coordinator
Alliance Office of Professional Development
(719)635-8332
or visit www.allianceforkids.org



Cradling Literacy



The Cradling Literacy curriculum was developed by Zero to Three to support caregivers in nurturing early language and literacy development in young children birth to five years of age.

Dates and Topics:

- Tuesday, June 7th, 6:30—8:30 pm:
The Powerful Role of Stories in Supporting Early Language and Literacy
- Wednesday, June 15th, 6:30—8:30 pm:
Cultural Influences on Language and Literacy Teaching Practices
- Thursday, June 23rd, 6:30—8:30 pm:
The Importance of Relationships in Early Language and Literacy Learning
- Tuesday, June 28th, 6:30—8:30 pm:
Early Language and Literacy Development
- Wednesday, July 6th, 6:30—8:30 pm:
Emergent Literacy in Two Languages
- Tuesday, July 12th, 6:30—8:30 pm:
Families as Partners in Supporting Early Language and Learning
- Saturday, July 16th 8:00 am—12:00 pm (2 Sessions):
The Role of Meaningful Experiences in Supporting Early Language and Literacy & The Link Between Observation, Assessment, and Language and Literacy Curriculum
- Wednesday, July 20th, 6:30—8:30 pm:
Strategies for Supporting Early Language and Literacy
- Thursday, July 28th, 6:30—8:30 pm:
Environments that Nurture Early Language and Literacy
- Tuesday, August 2nd, 6:30—8:30 pm:
Using Language and Literacy in Guiding Children's Behavior
- Tuesday, August 8th, 6:30—8:30 pm:
Effective Teaching Strategies for Supporting Social-Emotional Literacy

You DO NOT need to attend all of the classes to receive a certificate. You can choose to attend 1 class or all 12, but the more that you register for together, the more that you will save.

1-4 sessions= \$25 each
5-9 sessions= \$20 each
10-12 sessions= \$15 each

Call 719-638-2070 to register or for more information



CPR/First Aid Classes

CPR— First Aid / Universal Precautions— Contact Jim Sheldon @ 719-473-5482 for more info

- **July** - CPR - Tuesday, 7/26, First Aid - Wednesday, 7/27 from 6:00—10:00pm @ Child Care Connections
- **August**— CPR - Tuesday, 8/30, First Aid— Wednesday, 8/31 from 6:00—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

- 4 • **Saturday, 7/9** starting at 9:00 am

w/CPR, First Aid in the pm @ Sunnyside Christian Church - 2025 N. Murray

- **Saturday, 7/16** 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 RedCross, 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

JardinTax

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



Child Care Connections News



CDA Program Child Development Associates Credential

We anticipate another CDA training class to start in the fall. If you are interested in becoming teacher qualified through the Colorado Rules and Regulations and would like to take the CDA training please check out the website at www.cdacouncil.org or call Michelle at 634-6586. We do have some scholarship monies available through another organization so call if you have questions.

NAEYC Accreditation Facilitation Project

We are beginning a new grant cycle this month and are looking forward to the coming year. Old Town Learning Center has joined our project and are now beginning the Self-Study process. We also have 4 schools who are getting ready for Candidacy and their site visit. If you would like more information about NAEYC and the Accreditation Facilitation Project call Michelle at 638-6586 or email her at michelleg@childcareconnections.net.

Family, Friends and Neighbors

We are very excited to get this program rolling. This is a support program for people who are exempt providers in all three counties: El Paso, Teller, and Elbert. Exempt providers are relatives watching children for family, or friends and neighbors who are taking care of children on a regular basis. For relative providers who care for children related to the provider, there is no limit to the number of children they can care for. Non-relative providers are able to care for

children from one family household. In addition, the provider may care for any children for whom they are the legal guardian or parent. There are monthly play groups and story times, home visits, free educational materials, opportunities for trainings, and assistance in becoming a licensed provider if interested. If you know of anyone, or are an exempt provider, please contact Malie Visser for more information. We would love to hear from you! 638-2067.

FCCQIP- Family Child Care Quality Improvement Program

For all of you home providers who are interested in either continuing to participate, or would like to become a participant, in this quality improvement program, we have met with our funder representative and are hoping to have approval to go forward by the end of July. We are anticipating space for 10 providers throughout El

Paso, Teller, and Elbert counties and would love to have providers who have not had the opportunity to participate in quality improvement programs in the past. Please give Malie Visser a call at 638-2067 if you are interested, or would like more information.

maliev@childcareconnections.net

ACCYN

ARMY CHILD CARE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Everyone associated with the NAC-CRRA grant continues to work toward quality programming in Family Child Care homes and Child Care Centers. This quality affects not only Army children and families but also our community. Another ACCYN provider has sent for her NAFCC paperwork to start her accreditation and two additional centers are waiting for their visit from NAEYC representatives. Eighteen providers attended a three-hour training on Social/Emotional development at Child Care

Connections in May and received additional resources provided by Zero To Three, to assist military families.

The ACCYN program is being transferred to Fort Carson for part of the responsibilities and CCC will continue with enhanced referrals and some analysis of the overall operation of the ACCYN program.

If you know someone who needs a military referral or you would like more information about ACCYN call Leanne at 520-1662.



Child Care Connection, 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

CCC'S FIRST ANNUAL **MINIATURE GOLF** **TOURNAMENT**

Saturday, July 23rd, 2011
1825 Dominion Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Enjoy a discounted rate of Mini Golf at the facility or the remainder of the day.

Hole in One Competition Sponsored by:

The proceeds from this event will go directly to Child Care Connections to support, maintain and expand future Quality Improvement Projects, and continue their goal of providing free child care resources and referrals to the community of El Paso, Teller and Elbert counties.

\$6 per person in advance until 7/20/2011
\$10 per person at the gate
Call Child Care Connections at 719-638-2070
To register your team or For more information
2-5 Players per Team
Prizes will be given to the top team in each division

Drinks Provided By:



Pizza Provided By:



SPONSORS
STEVEN W. VISSER, LLC
FAMILY LAW ATTORNEY & MEDIATOR
PARKER COMMUNICATIONS
THE SUGARPLUM CAKE SHOPPE
US TAEKWONDO CENTER
ECO - BABY DIAPER SERVICE



PRIZES DONATED BY:
FARGO'S PIZZA
DENVER CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
FLYING W RANCH CHUCKWAGON SUPPER AND WESTERN SHOW
DENVER DOWNTOWN AQUARIUM

