



Child Care Connections



A Bi-Monthly Publication

March/April 2011

Volume 21 Number 2



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

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Deana Hunt Named CCC's New Executive Director

Child Care Connection's leader can officially drop the "Interim" before her title. Deana Hunt has been named Executive Director of Child Care Connections. Deana joined the Child Care Connections staff in 2006 and has served as the interim director since August 2010. She has a degree in Family and Human Development from Utah State University and is a local trainer for EQIT, Touchpoints, Cradling Literacy, and CDA.

The Board of Directors is very appreciative of Deana's continued

support and dedication to our organization. We believe that she will lead Child Care Connections into the future.

Please join the Board of Directors in welcoming Deana as our new Executive Director. She can be reached at 719-638-2065 or email her at ccc.deanahunt@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Renee McLaughlin - Board President
Child Care Connections

QRIS: *The Next Generation* Input Questionnaire for Family Child Care Homes

The CO Department of Human Services wants your input! Please take a few minutes to answer the questions below.

As QRIS: *The Next Generation* continues to develop quality rating and improvement standards we want to reach out to as many stakeholders as possible. Each type of child care program has unique needs and dynamics we want to consider as we continue the planning process.

Beginning in March 2011 work will begin on developing the five standards listed below:

- Curriculum and Learning
- Workforce Quality and Professional Development
- Environment
- Leadership, Management, and Administration
- Family Partnership

And, within the standards above, the following four areas will be included:

- Cultural Responsiveness
- Health
- Social-Emotional Development
- Inclusion for Children with Special Needs

1. **Based on the standards above, what questions or ideas do you have? What do you think is important to consider for Family Child Care Homes as we develop these standards?**
2. **QRIS: *The Next Generation* is committed to making the quality rating and improvement system accessible and affordable to all child care programs. A major component is providing provider supports and financial incentives to make this happen. What are the types of supports that would help you meet the standards listed above?**
3. **A major change from the current QRIS system is that Child Care Licensing staff will conduct the QRIS ratings and provide quality improvement supports and resources for Levels 1 and 2. Levels 3 and 4 will be contracted out to another organization. What are your thoughts and ideas about important considerations under this approach?**
4. **Do you have any additional questions or comments?**

You can e-mail your answers, questions or make comments at QRIS.Feedback@state.co.us.

You can find more information on QRIS on our website at www.cdhs.state.co.us/childcare/ORIS.htm.

Announcements

Health & Safety Tip: Daily Health Checks

A daily health check is done when a child initially arrives at the classroom and occurs throughout the day. During customary daily interactions the child care provider will check if a child's behavior is typical or atypical for time of day and circumstances. The child's appearance including skin (typical, pale, flushed, rash), eyes, nose and mouth (typical, unusual color, dry or discharge, rubbing), and breathing (normal or different) will be checked. Upon arrival, or at the earliest convenient time, there should be a discussion with the child care provider regarding anything out of the ordinary a child may be

experiencing regarding behavior at home, sleeping, eating drinking, bowels and urine, and if a child is due for a diaper change. The child care provider should be informed if a child is receiving any medication or treatment. The child care provider will check for any evidence of injury or illness or any indications of child abuse or maltreatment since a child was last participating in child care. Any unusual findings will be documented by and shared with the families by the child care provider. A child may be excluded from the program if he/she appears ill.

Have You Called Us Lately?

For Families, CCR&R provides:

- A list of child care options based on the expressed needs of the family
- Information about rates, policies, vacancies, licensing standards and other information about child care
- Guidelines on what to look for in quality child care
- Information about assistance paying for child care

For Child Care Providers, CCR&R provides:

- Free listing on our Child Care Referral Database
- Help with business, child care and regulatory questions
- Information about comprehensive trainings and workshops
- Bi-monthly newsletters

Call Child Care Connections to make sure your provider profile information is up to date. Call Ginette @ 638-2057 cccreferralspec1@gmail.com or

Leanne @ 520-1662

cccreferralspec2@gmail.com.

St. Patrick's Day Bunco Fund Raiser Supporting Child Care Connections



When: March 11, 2011
7:00 – 10:00pm

Where: Child Care Connections
Room 100

125 N. Parkside Dr.
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
Cost: \$15.00 Tax Deductible Donation
Call 719-638-2070 for more info

NAEYC Accreditation

Facilitation Project has openings for schools who are interested in seeking National Accreditation.

Contact Michelle at 719-638-6586 or
ccc outreach4@gmail.com

Receive:

- 4 hours monthly coaching
- Financial Assistance for NAEYC Accreditation & Trainings
- Specialized Training based off of NAEYC Standards.

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 ccc.officeadm@gmail.com 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.

Third Annual Community Children's Festival.



Saturday April 30th from
10:00 - 1:00

Elizabeth Fire Station
155 West Kiowa Ave/Hwy 86
Elizabeth, CO

Spring Cleaning Swap Meet

Child Care Connections would like to provide a Spring Cleaning Swap Meet sometime in June. This would be an opportunity for all area child care providers to rent a booth and swap, barter or sell/buy toys/books/educational materials etc. If you are interested in this event, please let us know at ccc.officeadm@gmail.com. Details are still being worked out; however this event will only take place if there is enough interest expressed.

Training Opportunities

March

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

- Saturday, 3/12 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- Monday, 3/14 from 6:00pm - 10:00pm

CAEYC 2001 Spring Conference - Denver Merchandise Mart, Denver, CO

- **More information at www.Coloradoaeyc.org**
- Saturday, March 5th Denver Merchandise Mart

Playground Safety Training - Clayton Early Learning 3993 Martin Luther King Blvd., Denver, CO

- Tuesday, March 8 from 9:00—12:00
- For more info contact Renee McLaughlin at (303) 355-4411 x 264 or rmclaughlin@clayonearlylearning.org

Creating Natural Outdoor Environments-Clayton Early Learning 3993 Martin Luther King Blvd., Denver, CO

- For more info contact Renee McLaughlin at (303) 355-4411 x 264 or rmclaughlin@clayonearlylearning.org

8th International Conference on Positive Behavior Support – Denver, CO

- Thursday, March 10th - Saturday, March 12th
- More information at www.apbs.org or call 570-389-4081

Developmentally Appropriate Social/Emotional Practices– contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info

- Wednesday, 3/23 from 6:00 - 9:00pm
- We will be looking at how and why challenging behavior takes places and how we can teach social/emotional practices to help young children learn self regulation skills and how to recognize and express feelings in more appropriate ways.

Please note. Medication Administration and Universal Precautions prices have changed. Medication Administration is now offered for \$45 and Universal Precautions is now offered for \$20. CDA Observations are now \$100.

B L O G S	Birth to Thrive	Eye on Early Education
	Bridging Differences	Foundation for Child Development
	Early ED Watch	
	Early Stories	NACCRRRA Early Childhood
	Early years	Focus
	Edwin	Preschool Matters

Stories from School

April

Alliance for Kids 4th Annual School Readiness Conference, "Smart From The Start" -contact Alliance for Kids at 719-634-8045 or www.allianceforkids.org

- Saturday, April 2nd at UCCS
- The keynote speaker is Janet Humphrey, who will deliver a powerful message on child brain development entitled, "Critical Connections that Maximize Children's Potentials."

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

- Thursday, 4/7 from 6:00pm –9:00pm
- **Donna Sheldon**, Autism/Behavior Specialist with The Resource Exchange, will share effective strategies for supporting young children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Providers will learn ways to improve the child's communication and reduce challenging behaviors. There will be time for questions and discussion.

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

- Saturday, 4/9 & 4/16 from 8:30am - 5:00 pm

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

- Saturday, 4/16 from 10:30am - 12:00pm

1st Annual Rocky Mountain Early Childhood Conference - Colorado Convention Center, Denver, CO

- Friday & Saturday, April 15th - 16th
- **Keynote Speakers Dr. Jerlean Daniel** - NAEYC Executive Director & **Geoffrey Canada** - CEO of the Harlem Children's Zone
- For more information go to www.econference.com

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

- Saturday, 4/16 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- Monday, 4/18 from 6:00pm - 10:00pm

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.ppcc.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

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.

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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: Office has moved. Call for location.
Main Business Line: 719-444-8178

★ You can now register for trainings online, from the comfort of your own home! Just go to child-careconnections.net and look under Child Care Professionals.

Rocky Mountain Early Childhood Conference

April 15-16, 2011

Colorado Convention Center • Denver, CO
www.ecconference.com • info@ecconference.com • 303.860.7174

Presented through the collaboration of:

Sponsored by:



Colorado Head Start Association



Early Childhood Education Association of Colorado
Shaping the Future



Key Note Speakers:

- Dr. Jerlean Daniel - NAEYC Executive Director
- Geoffrey Canada - CEO of the Harlem Children's Zone

Saturday, April 2, 2011

4th Annual Alliance for Kids School Readiness Conference

University Center at UCCS from 7:30 am - 4:30 pm

- * 6 clock hours of training
- * Sessions for all Early Childhood Professionals
- * Vendors
- * Networking
- * Breakfast & Lunch



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?

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

Smart from the Start!

Keynote Address by Janet Humphreys
"Critical Connections that Maximize Children's Potentials"



El Paso County's Early Childhood Council

www.allianceforkids.org



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 info

- First Aid- Tuesday, 3/15, CPR - Monday 3/21 from 6:00-10:00pm @ Child Care Connections
- Tuesday & Wednesday, 4/19-4/20 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

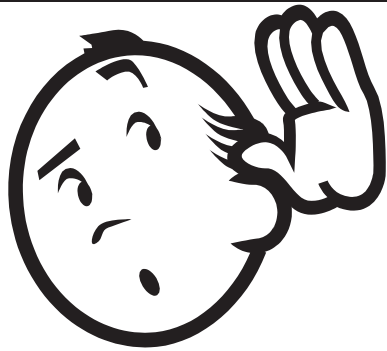
- Saturday, 3/5 starting at 9:00 am w/CPR, First Aid in the pm @ Sunnyside Christian Church - 2025 N. Murray
 - Saturday, 3/19 starting at 9:00 am w/CPR, First Aid in the pm @ Pueblo-CSU-Pueblo Childcare Center-on campus
- Norlynn Nelson** - Contact 719-277-7219 for more information

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

Child Care Connections News



Family, Friends and Neighbors

The Family Friends and Neighbors program is set up to assist and support exempt providers through personal visits, training opportunities, materials, and becoming licensed, if interested. If you know of an exempt provider, or if you are currently an exempt provider, please contact: Malie Visser at 638-2067, cccoutreach3@gmail.com. I am looking forward to hearing from you and working with you!

FCCQIP

Family Child Care providers can get support for trainings, materials, and coaching through the FCCQIP program, to help provide the best possible care for the children and families being served. There are still a couple spots open for participation. If you know anyone who is interested, or if you are interested in becoming involved in the FCCQIP program, please contact: Malie Visser at 638-2067, cccoutreach3@gmail.com.

NAEYC Accreditation Facilitation Project

The sites within the NAEYC Accreditation Facilitation Project are making great strides moving forward in the Accreditation process. With St. Luke's Children's Center already in the Application process, we have two more programs joining them, Bear Creek Early Childhood Center in Monument and Rainbow of Friends Preschool in Fountain.

We have a new center joining our program, Wilson Christian Preschool. We are very excited as they move forward to become nationally accredited.

There is one more opening for a center or preschool who is interested in the NAEYC AFP project. If you would like to join or have any questions about the NAEYC accreditation process please contact Michelle Gonzalez at 719-634-6586 or email her at cccoutreach4@gmail.com.

MERIT

We are wrapping up another grant cycle year for the MERIT program. Thank you to all the programs who have participated and who have worked so diligently to improve the quality of their child care center. We are anticipating another year of grant monies to continue the MERIT program. If you are interested in becoming a participant, or would like more information about MERIT, please contact: Malie Visser at 638-2067, cccoutreach3@gmail.com.

CDA Program Child Development Associates Credential

A new CDA class started January 6th, 6:00pm-9:00pm. Classes are held at Child Care Connections on Thursday evenings. Presently we have twelve candidates in the classes. They are anxious to complete the process and be teacher qualified by the Rules and Regulations in Colorado. I can say, it is a great group of people who have lots to offer and are willing to share their ideas with the group. If you would like additional information on this training call, Cathy @ 638-2068, or for more info on the CDA process visit www.cdacouncil.org.

ACCYN

ARMY CHILD CARE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

January was a busy month for the ACCYN Program. We are going through a transition with Fort Carson. A Meet & Greet was held on January 11th. After introductions there were lots of questions regarding when and how the transition from Child Care Connections to Fort Carson personnel will be complete. At this time, CCC continues to oversee the grant through NACCRRRA. The providers themselves have been working on Quality Improvement

Plans and continue to enroll military children. Congratulations to Pikes Peak Community College, both the Centennial and Rampart Range Campuses have sent for their NAEYC reaccreditation visit paperwork. If you know of a military family that could benefit from excellent childcare and receive a subsidy for care, please have them call Leanne @ 520-1662. Any other information please call Cathy @ 638-2068.

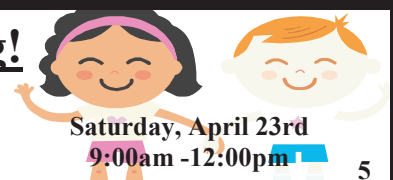
JardinTax

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



Kidsfest is coming!

Ute Pass Cultural Center
210 East Midland Avenue
Woodland Park, CO



Saturday, April 23rd
9:00am -12:00pm



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



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U.S. POSTAGE
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Colorado Springs, CO
Permit No. 185

Goodwill Licensing Update

Greetings from Childcare Licensing. As we close out the first quarter of 2011, we have been able to look back at the first full year operating under the new Licensing guidelines with optimism and encouragement. Most of you have been very supportive and receptive of the revised regulations. Hopefully we've adequately addressed any uncertainties in the changes and we will be diligent in continuing to answer any lingering question and/or concerns. We want to thank you again for your collective cooperation and enthusiasm in increasing the level of quality of care our clients are receiving.

As most of Colorado natives already know, we are just now entering our harshest months in regards to wintry weather, thus it's time to remind all parents and providers to exercise due diligence in keeping the kids safe and

healthy. Despite being in the middle of winter, please make the daily efforts to get the kids outside, even if for just a brief period of time. This will keep them excited, and also keep them from getting too restless from being "cooped up" all day. Obviously, use common sense during extreme weather conditions. Also, please make sure the children have all of the necessary protective clothing (gloves, hats, layers, etc.) and that they keep their socks dry. Finally, hydration is key to healthiness. Kids can lose a lot of moisture while playing out in cold weather so please make sure they get plenty of fluids. Keep them healthy and happy, and spring will be here before you know it.

We value your partnership. As always, thank you for all that you do for our children.



Your Licensing Specialist

Child Care Centers

Martha Lopez : 719-534-9181

Family Child Care

Main Office : 719-574-9363

James	Danielle	Emily	Tiffany	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
Tiffany @ 547-3388
Krista @ 266-6403