



Child Care Connections

**A Bi-Monthly
Publication**

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Volume 21 Number 3

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

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Provider Appreciation Day 5/6/2011

Provider Appreciation Day is a special day to recognize child care providers, teachers and other educators of young children everywhere. Today's child care professionals are the world's unsung heroes. This profession is one of the most underpaid occupations in the country; yet research shows that early childhood is the most critical developmental period in a child's life. It takes a special person to work in this field and the contribution these individuals make to the quality of

children's and families' lives often goes unnoticed. Provider Appreciation Day offers a unique opportunity to recognize and commend the unselfish dedication, commitment and compassion that child care providers demonstrate every day. Even the smallest of efforts mean so much to those who have your children in their care. Your provider's smile will be your reward. This information, and more about this non-profit organization, can be found at providerappreciationday.org.

**PPRFCCA's Provider
Appreciation
Meeting and Potluck**

Tuesday, May 17, is the Pikes Peak Region Family Child Care Association's Provider Appreciation Meeting & potluck, 6:30-9PM, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church. All providers are welcome. PPRFCCA members/free, non-members/\$10 cash. 2 hours re-licensing training offered. Check their website, www.coloradospringschildcare.com for more information.

**Imagination
Celebration**

Not sure what to do with your children over the summer? Step into Celebration Place at The Citadel and you'll find a whole world of creativity waiting for you. Singers, dancers, puppet shows, storytelling, magicians, summer camps, family art workshops, poetry slams, art exhibitions...whew!...the fun never ends. Come clown around with us and find out for yourself how the arts make the world a better, more colorful place! This is a free program! Located on the third level, by Burlington.
www.imaginationcelebration.org

FREE CAR SAFETY CHECK

Ninety Percent of Kids Aren't Safe

Despite parents' efforts, most car seats are put in wrong, while booster seats and seat belts are used incorrectly.

Free Car Safety Checks

To help parents, we offer free car safety checks by certified safety technicians. While walk-ins are welcome, parents may avoid waiting in line by pre-scheduling. Please call **719-265-5834** and allow 20 minutes for each car seat.

Booster Seat/Seat Belt Law Changes

Are you familiar with Colorado's recent height and weight changes for kids in booster seats and seat belts? These may also be included in a car safety check.

**2011 Car Safety
Check Schedule**

January through May

- Colorado Springs

First Wednesday

2 to 4 p.m. .

American Medical
Response

Second Wednesday

2 to 4 pm

Police Operations
Center

Third Wednesday

2 to 5 pm

CS Fire Dept. Station
#19 2490 Research
Parkway

Fourth Wednesday

Stratmoor Hills Fire
Dept. 10 am to 2 pm
2160 B St.

Fifth Wednesday

7 to 10 am
Stetson Hills Sub
Station
4110 Tutt Blvd.

**By Appointment
Only:**

Memorial HealthLink
5360 N. Academy
Blvd.

Call **719-365-2260**
Sponsored, in part, by:



Announcements

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. Each participant will also receive monthly mentoring from staff at 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.

The next program year begins in August.

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

"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
leanne@childcareconnections.net

Health & Safety Tip: Reporting Child Abuse

Reports can be made to several agencies. The appropriate agency is determined by the jurisdiction where the alleged abuse occurred. Also, any reports thought to have occurred within a given county can be reported to that county's Department of Human Services. Staff there can help you decide who else may need to be notified.

Local Agencies:

- El Paso County Department of Human Services
444-5700
- Colorado Springs Police Department
444-7000/444-7540
- El Paso County Sheriff's Office
390-5555/520-7155
- Fountain Police Department
382-8555
- Manitou Springs Police Department
685-5407
- Peterson Air Force Base Office of Special Investigations
556-4000
- Ft. Carson Criminal Investigations Division
526-3991
- United States Air Force Office of Special Investigations
333-3305
- Falcon Air Force Base Office of Special Investigations
567-5049
- Woodland Park Police Department
687-3335
- Teller County Sheriff
687-9652
- Cripple Creek Police Department
689-2655
- Elbert County Child Protective Services
621-3198
- Elbert County Sheriff's Department
660-7500

Remember, we are mandated to report child abuse if we have "**reasonable cause**", to know or suspect that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect or if we have observed the child being subjected to circumstances or conditions which would reasonably result in abuse or neglect. If reported in good faith, we do not have to have proof and are immune from civil or criminal liability.

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](https://www.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

May

- Medication Administration**-contact Child Care Connections @719-638-2070 for more info
- Saturday, 5/7 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
 - Monday, 5/9 from 6:00pm - 10:00pm
- Pre-licensing Training**- contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info
- Saturday, 5/14 & 5/21 from 8:30am - 5:00 pm
- Universal Precautions**- contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info
- Saturday, 5/21 from 10:30am - 12:00pm
- Project Learning -Tree Environmental Experiences** - contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info
- See page 5 for more details.

Check out our Summer Training Series on www.childcareconnections.net

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.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.

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.

ONLINE

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 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 |

June

- Medication Administration**- contact Child Care Connections @719-638-2070 for more info
- Saturday, 6/25 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
 - Monday, 6/27 from 6:00pm - 10:00pm
- Diversity is in the Details: Presented by Kelly Matthews** - contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info
- See page 4 for more details
- Cradling Literacy** - contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info
- See page 6 for more details

New CCCAP Training coming in June!

Topics:

- Understanding the New C.H.A.T.S. System
- Best Practice to get the quickest reimbursements

Call **Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070** to be put on a list to get more details as they become available.



2011 Accreditation Facilitation Project Family Child Care Providers

Early Connections Learning Centers is currently working with Family Child Care Providers in El Paso County on becoming NAFCC Accredited or Reaccredited. 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 additional 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 coaching and assistance in meeting Accreditation standards

Benefits of being Accredited:

- Improved level of Professionalism
- Increased opportunities for Marketing and Enrollment
- Greater opportunities for Income

CONGRATULATIONS to participants from the previous Accreditation Facilitation Project for Family Child Care Providers that have reached NAFCC Accreditation so far! These Providers include **Julie Brecto, Heidi Clearo, Valerie Dunn, Wendy Epp, Laura Fredrickson-Sena, Eudora London, Dawn Palazzolo, Vicki Shupe and Tijuana Thornton-McLin!**

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

A Rhymed Presentation

Through support of a foundation we offer scholarships for education in the Early Childhood vocation.

For the child care occupation young children across the nation are our motivation

but we hope for elevation of our meager compensation... and that usually comes with education.

I can help with enrollment complication

and feelings of trepidation. Depending on your situation we can do cost calculations. You accomplish goals and expectations... you may even want graduation!

I just wanted a new presentation of the same information hope you enjoyed this incantation call me for explanation.

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



CPR/First Aid Classes

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

- **MAY** - CPR - Monday 5/16, First Aid- Tuesday, 5/17 from 6:00-10:00pm @ Child Care Connections
- **JUNE** - Monday & Wednesday, 6/6 & 6/8 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, 5/7 & 7/9** starting at 9:00 am w/CPR, First Aid in the pm @ Sunnyside Christian Church - 2025 N. Murray
- **Saturday, 5/21 & 7/16** starting at 9:00 am w/CPR, First Aid in the pm @ Pueblo-CSU-Pueblo Child-care 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

Announcing Child Care Connections

1st Annual Mini Golf Tournament

Saturday, July 23, 2011 from 9:00 - 1:00

Location:

Academy Mini Golf
1825 Dominion Way

Cost:

\$6.00 per person
5 people per team max

**FUN, FOOD
and PRIZES!**

To register or more details go to: www.childcareconnections.net

Diversity is in the Details

Presented By: Kelly Matthews

Enjoy a day of engaged discussion, activities, and guided reflections exploring the complexity of diversity, framed through the lens of experiences, memories, ECE practices, family culture, and rituals.

Topics

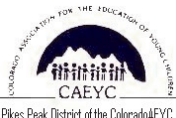
- Reinventing the 3 R's: Remembering + Ritual + Respect = Relationship
- Diversity isn't A Black & White Issue: Exploring Diversity in the ECE World

Cost: \$50 per person (includes Lunch)
\$40 PPAEYC or PPRFCCA

Members

Worth 6 Training Hours

Date: 06/18/2011
Time: 9.00 am - 4:00 pm
Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel
2886 South Circle Drive



Sponsored By:




To Register Contact:



Phone: 719-638-2070

www.childcareconnections.net



Summer learning series

Additional
Trainings
on the back!



May 21st

Project Learning Tree presents:
Environmental Experience

2855 Mesa Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80904
9am - Noon

**Cost :
\$35.00**

This indoor/outdoor nature training integrates nature based exploration, art, literature, math, music and movement and outdoor play into early childhood education programs. Includes *Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood Activity Guide* and CD, yours to keep!

June 18th

Cultural Diversity presented by:
Harvest Resource Associate: Kelly Matthews

Location: TBD
Crowne Plaza Hotel
2886 South Circle Drive
9.00 am - 4:00 pm

**Cost:
\$50.00**

Kelly Matthews, published author in *Learning Together with Young Children & Reflecting Children's Lives*, will be presenting "Reinventing the 3 R's: Remembering + Ritual + Respect=Relationship" & "Diversity isn't A Black and White Issue: Exploring Diversity in the ECE World".

This engaging workshop will have time for discussion and leave you with a better sense of ways we can support ABE (Anti-Bias Education) in our programs.

July 30th

Scott Burns from Lakeshore Learning presents:
Math & Science Safari

5625 North Union Blvd.
Colorado Spring, CO 80918
9am - Noon

**Cost:
\$35.00**

Free prizes and giveaways will be included in this fun and hands on training reviewing the connection between Math and Science.

Lakeshore

products designed with learning in mind™

August 24th

Come Sing With Me presented by:
Child Care Connections, Malie Visser

125 N. Parkside Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
6pm - 9pm

**Cost:
\$35.00**

Come learn how to make your circle time effective and create circle time props to use immediately with your children.

Special Thanks To:

Colorado Springs Utilities, Larry & Denise Martinez, St. Lukes's Lutheran Church, Kelly Matthews, Lakeshore Learning & Project Learning Tree



Ask about our Multi-Training Discounts!

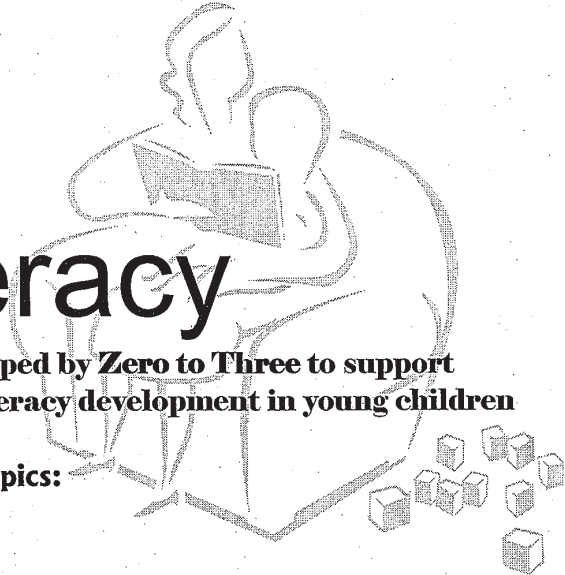
child care
Connections

A child care resource and referral agency

Please call for discounts and to register!
Space is limited!

125 N Parkside Drive, Suite 202
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
Business Line: 719-638-2070
Referral Line: 719-638-2057
www.childcareconnections.net

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

Buy More
Save More

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

Child Care Connections News



Family, Friends and Neighbors

If you are an exempt provider, come to our story time/play group on May 25th and meet other exempt providers, while having an opportunity for your children to play and interact with each other. The group is held in the Celebration Room of the Imagination Celebration center in the Citadel Mall on the third level by Burlington. The time is from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. There will be free materials for participants to take home! Call Malie Visser to register @ 638-2067, or maliev@childcareconnections.net.

Enhanced Infant/Toddler Training

The EQIT 48-hour course of training is designed for any individual who works with infants and toddlers in groups and is interested in improving his/her knowledge and skills. Successful completion of the EQIT course meets the training requirements specific to Infant Nursery Supervisor and the specialized Family Child Care licenses. If you are interested in signing up for this training please call Child Care Connections at 638-2070 to have you name added to the list. We are expecting to offer this training starting in August 2011. If you have specific questions please call Cathy at 638-2068.

CDA Program Child Development Associates Credential

The CDA training program continues to increase in the number of candidates. It has been seven weeks of Thursday evening trainings and the candidates have started on their paperwork along with participating in class activities. Many have signed up for the CDA coaching to improve their working environments and Resource File review. If you are interested in finding out additional information on the CDA process, you can go to the website, www.cdacouncil.org, or call Cathy at 638-2068.

NAEYC Accreditation Facilitation Project

Summer is fast approaching and some of the centers in the NAEYC program are getting ready for a well deserved break. But even though some are taking a break from the children, we have to remember that we must always be looking to improve ourselves as teachers.

This summer, we are encouraging professional development so that the children get our very best. The AFP project is looking at assisting participating centers with assistance for their employees to get that professional development whether that be training hours, earning a CDA or attending college courses.

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 michelleg@childcareconnections.net

UPDATES FOR FCCQIP AND MERIT PROGRAMS

April marked the end of the grant cycle for the FCCQIP program, and I am currently working on the grant report and request for funding for the next grant cycle. I am anticipating that we should be up and running full-speed ahead in a couple months. In addition, we are waiting on approval for funding for the MERIT program, and will hopefully have good news before too long. When the funding is available, there will be openings in both programs for family home providers, and child care centers to participate. Please give me a call if you would like more information about either of these programs.

Malie Visser 638-2067
maliev@childcareconnections.net

JardinTax

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



ACCYN ARMY CHILD CARE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

The ACCYN program continues to grow in the number of military children receiving quality care outside the gates of Fort Carson. We have nineteen family child care homes and four child care centers that have provided the quality required to participate in the program. The ACCYN program is in

a transitional period with Fort Carson taking over as the administrators of the program. The actual date of that transition continues to change. If you would like additional information or have questions please call Cathy @ 638-2068. Military families needing enhanced referrals can call Leanne @ 520-1662.



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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 PAID
 Colorado Springs, CO
 Permit No. 185

Goodwill Licensing Update

Greetings from your Licensing team. As we begin to thaw out from the long winter, we wanted to take the opportunity to acknowledge each of you and thank you for your cooperation and patience over the last year and a half. Since the implementation of the new rules, we have received a lot of good feedback, and we have also received some questions requesting clarity in regards to rule interpretation, and the rationale behind some of these rules. Please be assured that this process has been a learning process for the licensing team as well as for each of you, and your cooperation and support has been greatly appreciated. You have one of the most

important jobs in the world, and one that can be full of both challenges and rewards. Please be assured that the new rules are not in place to make things more difficult, but simply to protect you and the children you serve. We will continue to do our best to provide the clarification and encouragement that you each deserve. We appreciate each of you, and the efforts you put forth each day. Thank you for your support, and thank you for all that you do for our children.



719-574-9363

Your Licensing Specialist

Child Care Centers

Martha Lopez : 719-534-9181

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 |
| | | | 81240 | 80922 |
| | | | 81244 | 80924 |
| | | | | 80933 |

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