



# Child Care Connections

**A Bi-Monthly Publication**

**November/ December 2011**

**Volume 21 Number 6**

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 are going paperless!**  
**Starting in January 2012, CCC's Newsletter will be sent by email. If you still want to receive this newsletter by mail, please contact Sarah at 719-638-2070**

## Better Kid Care's New On Demand system provides professional development anytime you are ready to learn!

The Penn State Extension Better Kid Care program has been providing distance-delivered professional development to early childhood practitioners for more than 20 years. Better Kid Care is now offering a new on demand system for online learning. Lessons are completed with a short assessment following each lesson. Participants must register and pay a \$5.00 fee per lesson to receive professional development credits. After payment and successful completion of the lesson assessment, participants will be able to print a certificate of completion and/or have it sent to their email address. To access the Better Kid Care On Demand lessons, visit <http://extension.psu.edu/cyttap>. Click on the *Distance Education* button, then select the *On Demand* distance education option. Participants must have a **credit card** and an **email address** to access the On Demand Better Kid Care distance education lessons. There are 50 professional development lessons available (1 hr. and 2 hr.) but check back frequently as new lessons are being added monthly.

*\*For a limited time, Better Kid Care is partnering with the Department of Defense, USDA, and the University of Nebraska to provide online professional development lessons at no cost to licensed childcare professionals in military impacted areas including El Paso County. For more information visit: <http://extension.psu.edu/cyttap>*

## Changes to the Safe Sleep Policy

In an updated policy statement and technical report, the AAP is expanding its guidelines on safe sleep for babies, with additional information for parents on creating a safe environment for their babies to sleep.

The policy statement and technical report provide global recommendations for education and safety related to SIDS risk reduction. In addition, the AAP is providing recommendations on a safe sleeping environment that can reduce the risk of all sleep-related infant deaths, including SIDS. Three important additions to the recommendations include:

- Breastfeeding is recommended and is associated with a reduced risk of SIDS.
- Infants should be immunized. Evidence suggests that immunization reduces the risk of SIDS by 50 percent.
- Bumper pads should not be used in cribs. There is no evidence that bumper pads prevent injuries, and there is a potential risk of suffocation, strangulation or entrapment.

For a look at the full policy statement, see <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2011/10/12/peds.2011-2284>.

## The National Survey of Early Care and Education

The National Survey of Early Care and Education (NSECE) will be conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago between late October 2011 and May 2012. If you are selected for the NSECE sample, we urge you to participate. You may be contacted by email, mail, phone, or in-person. Your response is very important in ensuring accurate survey results. This exciting study will provide the first comprehensive portrait of the availability of early care and education in our country in over 20 years. The study is sponsored by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation within the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Child Care Connections endorses the NSECE because it will provide a foundation in building state and federal knowledge of critical considerations families face in finding care and a source of accurate, timely data to inform policymaking.

# 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](mailto: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 are going paperless! Please contact Sarah, no later than 12/19/11 if you would prefer to receive the newsletter by mail. Otherwise, look for your newsletter in your inbox starting January!**

719-638-2070

## Are There Alternatives to Chlorine Bleach?

### Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards

If a product that is not chlorine bleach is registered with the EPA and described as a sanitizer or as a disinfectant and is used according to the manufacturer's instructions, it can be used in child care settings. Check the label to see how long you need to leave the sanitizer or disinfectant in contact with the surface you are treating, whether you need to rinse it off before contact by children, and for any precautions when handling. Some child care settings are using products with hydrogen peroxide as the active ingredient instead of chlorine bleach. Hydrogen peroxide breaks down into water and oxygen

Check to see if the product has an EPA registration number and follow the manufacturer's instructions for use and safe

handling. Remember that EPA-registered products will also have available a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) that will provide instructions for the safe use of the product and guidance for first aid response to inadvertent exposure to the chemical.

If you are looking for environmentally friendly products, one EPA-registered product is a botanical-based disinfectant whose active ingredient is thymol which requires a ten minute contact time and, if applied to toys or food contact surfaces, a water rinse is required before use.

In addition, some manufacturers of sanitizer and disinfectant products are working towards developing "green cleaning products" that can attain EPA registration. As new environmentally friendly cleaning products appear in the market, check to see if they are EPA-registered.

# Training Opportunities

## November

- Medication Administration**—contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info
- Saturday, 9/17 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
  - Monday, 9/26 from 6:00pm - 10:00pm
- Pre-licensing Training**— contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info
- Saturday 11/12 & 11/19 from 8:30am - 5:00pm
- Universal Precautions**— contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info
- Saturday, 11/19 from 10:00am—11:30am
- Sensory Processing Disorder**—contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070
- Saturday, 11/5 from 9:00am-12:00pm

## December

- Project Learning Tree presents: Window on the World**— contact Child Care Connections @ 719-638-2070 for more info
- Saturday, 12/10 from 9:00am-12:00pm
- Due to the Holiday Season, there will no additional classes offered in the month of December. We look forward to bringing you more of your favorite trainings, events and classes in the year 2012. Thank you for continued patronage and supporting of Child Care Connections.*

**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.
- 11/29-11/30 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, 11/5 starting at 9:00 am w/CPR, First Aid in the pm @ Sunnyside Christian Church - 2025 N. Murray

- Saturday, 11/12 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

## 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
- You can register for January's trainings online at [www.childcareconnections.net](http://www.childcareconnections.net)*

**Don't Forget to Like Us on Facebook**  
[Facebook.com/childcareconnections](https://www.facebook.com/childcareconnections)



- Child Care Lounge** - [www.childcarelounge.com](http://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](http://www.ppcc.edu)
- Offers all courses for Group Leader and Director Qualifications
- Colorado Community College Online** - [www.cconline.org](http://www.cconline.org)
- Offers all courses for Group Leader and Director Qualifications
- Reducing the Risk of SIDS in Child Care** - [www.healthvchildcare.org/sids.html](http://www.healthvchildcare.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.

## Blogs

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

Eye on Early Education  
Foundation for Child Development  
NACCRRRA 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](http://www.childcareconnections.net)

### CCCAP Office

**Location:**  
1675 W. Garden of the Gods Rd  
**Main Business Line:**  
719-444-8178



## 2011-2012 NAFCC 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 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, 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

## **WE ARE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD SCHOOLS**



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

**Contact Michelle at 719-634-6586 or  
michelleg@childcareconnections.net**

Receive:

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



SafetyFactor+ for Families Programs  
Offered September 19, 2011-  
January 28, 2012

SafetyFactor+ for Families is **FREE** injury prevention and safety program designed **for adults who are caretakers of young children ages 0-6 years old as well as caretakers of older adults.** The information provided aims to empower adults with the knowledge they need to provide safe environments and experiences for their children as well as safety skills that they can share with older adults. These older adults, ages 65 and older, may be serving as caretakers to young children as grandparents but are also a **high-risk audience** with a need to acquire safety skills to prevent accidents that frequently occur to their age group. Program participant feedback, follow-up and evaluation will be included.

**Presentation Topics:** Burn prevention, cooking safety, helmets and bike safety, outdoor safety for children, emergency phone numbers to know, basic first aid, choking and poisoning prevention, basic CPR and fire safety skills

**Who:** Adult audiences such as: caretakers, parents, preschool teachers, Headstart and Early Headstart teachers, babysitters, grandparents, PTA's

All programs are **FREE** of cost to the public and can be scheduled  
by calling Jane Zook at (719)385-7366 or email at: jzook@springsgov.com



## Expanding Quality in Infant Toddler (EQIT) Care Classes

2011-2012 Registration

The 48-hour EQIT Curriculum provides a solid introduction to infant and toddler development, with a focus on providing quality group care for our youngest children. The EQIT course builds on the knowledge and experiences of infant and toddler caregivers through interesting, interactive and fun activities.

The EQIT Curriculum has been approved by the Division of Child Care as one of the classes that can be used for Early Childhood Teacher (formerly Group Leader) Qualifications and will count toward the Infant Toddler class that will be required for Director Qualifications. Infant & Toddler teachers will have first priority in the classes; center directors will have second priority.

Funding has been provided by the Colorado Department of Education for the Alliance for Kids to offer four sessions of the EQIT training in El Paso County for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. Two of these will be taught by Child Care Connections.

The **\$30.00 registration fee** helps offset some training supply costs. Each of these sessions will be limited to 30 participants. Refunds will not be given after sessions begin.

The Expanding Quality in Infant Toddler (EQIT) Care curriculum consists of 16 modules, covering the following topics:

- Emotional Development
- Responsive Care
- Family Partnerships
- Safety, Health, and Nutrition
- Learning Environments
- Curriculum
- Language Development
- Literacy
- Physical Development
- Culture
- Children with Special Needs
- Professionalism

*Session D Still Available*

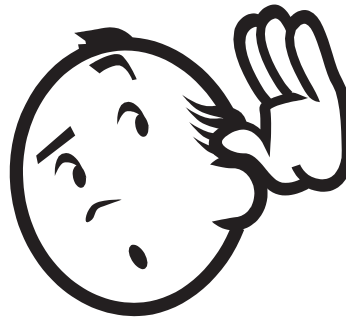
*You must attend all of the classes to get your certificate!*

Register online at: [www.allianceforkids.org](http://www.allianceforkids.org)  
or contact Jade Suter at (719) 635-8332 or  
e-mail [jade@allianceforkids.org](mailto:jade@allianceforkids.org)

# Child Care Connections News

## 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, and 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



## PIKES PEAK REGION FAMILY CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, November 15, 6:45-9:00PM – General Membership Meeting at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, SW corner of Murray & Constitution. Business meeting and training – *Speech/Language Development and Strategies for Ages Birth-5*. 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.



## 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](mailto:leannec@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](http://www.cdacouncil.org).

## 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](mailto:michelleg@childcareconnections.net)

## 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 @ 638-2065. Thank you for your continued support of Child Care Connections and the work that we do.

## JardinTax

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



**CCC is going green by going paperless! Please contact Sarah, no later than 12/19/11 if you would prefer to receive the newsletter by mail. Otherwise, look for your newsletter in your inbox starting January! 719-638-2070**



**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

Hello everyone – as the holidays approach and the year rapidly draws to a close, we thought it would be a good idea to send out a reminder regarding the most recent guidelines for immunization documentation. *Regulation 7.707.71A1c states that documentation of immunization must be updated and recorded as specified on the certificate of immunization or alternate certificate of immunization as supplied and approved by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.*

In meeting with providers this year, we have found that many providers are unsure what forms are approved by CDPHE and how to obtain these forms. Here are some resources and tips that you may find useful in meeting this regulation. You can print a copy of the correct form by following one of these links:

[http://www.caregivernetwork.org/files/documents/cert\\_imm.pdf](http://www.caregivernetwork.org/files/documents/cert_imm.pdf)  
[www.cdph.state.co.us/dc/immunization/Forms/CARD-certofimm.pdf](http://www.cdph.state.co.us/dc/immunization/Forms/CARD-certofimm.pdf)

We are still accepting the green/grey cards from the Health Department, but keep in mind that the health department is no longer giving out new cards. It is also important to know that we are no longer able to accept the yellow folding cards (or printed copies of these forms) as they are not considered an approved certificate. If you receive a record of immunization from the parents that is not on an approved form, you are able to transfer the record of shots given onto the approved forms yourself or ask that the parent transfers them. This does NOT need to be done by the child's doctor.

We hope this clears up any confusion and makes this simpler for you. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call your licensing specialist. Best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and as always, thank you for all you do for our children.



## Your Licensing Specialist

### 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		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  
 @ 547-3388  
 Krista @ 266-6403