

“The Resource”

Child Care Resource & Referral of Central Wisconsin, Inc.
Serving Adams, Clark and Wood Counties



“The Resource”
June-July 2009

INFORMATION ON THE GOVERNOR’S BUDGET PROPOSAL:

The Governor’s proposed budget for 2009-2011 provides an additional \$20.4 million to the Wisconsin Shares child care subsidy program for each year of the budget. Additionally, the proposal calls for several cost saving measures to better manage the overall cost(s) of the program. The proposed changes include:

- Freezing child care reimbursement rates
- Changing how payments are made to child care providers, based on attendance rather than enrollment
- Authorizing restructuring of parent co-payments to better manage overall utilization
- Authorizing creation of waiting lists if needed
- Counting child or family support payments as income

The proposed budget also includes \$2.7 million to develop and implement a child care Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS). This proposed funding would support child care quality improvement activities, including contracts to implement a quality rating system in which child care providers will be rated according to the level of quality based on several factors. The proposed funding would also support information technology costs to make quality information easily accessible to parents.

If the Legislature votes to support a QRIS, the main evaluative activity would be the actual implementation of a QRIS in Wisconsin in 2009-2011.

For more information please visit the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families website: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/quality/default.htm> or the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families website: www.wccf.org

ADMINISTRATOR’S CREDENTIAL COURSE OFFERINGS

Beginning in May, Course #1 of the Administrator’s Credential (Administration/ Supervision in Early Childhood Programs: Roles and Responsibilities) is being offered in a face-to-face format in Marshfield through Mid-State Technical College.

This fall, Course #1 will be offered in a hybrid format (*in-person and on-line*) and will meet on campus in Wisconsin Rapids approximately once per month. The course will be offered from September 21 through December 21, 2009. The first class will be a face-to-face session on Monday, September 21 in room E118 from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. Additional face-to-face sessions will be held on November 2nd and December 14th. The remainder of the course will be held on-line, including the final class on December 21st. This is course #63998 and has a tuition cost of \$323.35. Registration information is available through MSTC at 715.422.5300.

The Credential courses are specifically developed to meet the unique needs of the administrators and managers in early child childhood care and education programs. No other courses can be substituted for the administrator’s credential courses.

The courses in the Administrator’s Credential are:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Administration and Supervision | 2. Operations Management |
| 3. Financial Management | 4. Marketing and the External Environment |
| 5. Best Practices | 6. Leadership Seminar |

Information on additional Administrator’s Credential opportunities is included on the calendar.



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Vision
⇒ For all Central Wisconsin children to benefit from the best child care possible.

Mission
⇒ To be the key resource of comprehensive services to enhance quality child care in Central Wisconsin.



IDEAS FOR CRAFTING FUN FROM FAMILY FUN.COM

EASY WREATH BIRDBATH

Use an inexpensive grapevine wreath and a flowerpot saucer to create a refreshing spot for feathered friends. A snap to assemble, this project is perfect for any child who thinks that bathing is for the birds!

MATERIALS NEEDED: 3/8-inch manila rope, 15-inch grapevine wreath, 10-inch terra-cotta saucer, artificial grape leaves (optional)

1. Cut three (5-foot) lengths of rope and knot them together at both ends. Nestle the wreath inside the ropes.
2. Place the saucer inside the wreath. If you like, tuck grape leaves into the wreath and wind them around the ropes.
3. Use more rope for hanging the birdbath if needed.



SALT ART

This three-step project pulls off what might be considered the hat trick of the toddler art world: the child will get to smash, smear and sprinkle in the name of creativity. When she’s done making her creation from dyed salt and glue, you’ll be left with some truly eye-catching artwork that features texture as well as color.



MATERIALS NEEDED: salt, liquid watercolor or food coloring, clean, empty salt or spice shakers, glue, paper

Step 1: Tint the Salt For each color, put approximately 1 cup of salt and 1/2 teaspoon of liquid watercolor or 20 to 25 drops of food coloring in a Ziploc bag. Seal each bag, removing as much air as you can. Outside, let your child shake, smash and knead the contents until all of the salt is dyed. Next, pour the salt onto newspaper lined trays to dry for about two hours (or just open the bags and let the grains dry overnight). When it’s no longer wet to the touch, pour the salt into clean, dry salt or spice shakers, one color per shaker.

Step 2: Make a Pattern Offer the child a glue stick and some stiff paper or a paper plate. Encourage her to scribble all over the paper with the glue.

Step 3: Add Color Hand the child the shakers of dyed salt and show her how to sprinkle it onto the paper. Once the glue has dried, simply shake off the excess salt and marvel at the colorful masterpiece.

L O C A L

A D V O C A T E

G R O U P S

Adams County

- Adams County Early Childhood Education Council– Kelly Allen (608.339.2868)

Clark County

- Contact CCR&R if interested in developing an advocate group (800.628.8534)

Wood County

- Marshfield Area Child Care Association– Krisann Mauritz (715.387.2218)
- Wisconsin Rapids Child Care Advocates Council– Kitty Gross (715.421.1092)

While we try to
teach our
children all about
life, our children
teach us what life
is all about.



~Angela Schwindt



ARE YOU RECEIVING EMAIL UPDATES FROM CCR&R?



CCR&RCW has an email listserv that allows us to send updates and important information between newsletters to those in the early childhood field. If you are interested in being part of the listserv, please call our office at 715.423.4114 or 800.628.8534 or email Kelly at cccrcw@tznet.com to sign up. If you are part of the listserv and your email address changes, please be sure to contact CCR&RCW to update. Thank You!

SALARY SURVEY RESULTS

Each year, CCR&RCW contacts group child care centers in our service and delivery area to learn about wages and benefits available to employees of their centers. This information is then compiled into a Wage and Benefit Survey Summary. 61% of centers in Adams, Clark and Wood counties responded to this year’s survey. 91% of the centers responding offer vacation pay to their employees and 93% offer continuing education reimbursement. 100% of the centers offered some type of employee benefit in addition to regular wages. The average wage for a lead teacher is \$8.66 with a minimum of \$6.55 and a maximum of \$14.73. An assistant teacher’s average wage is \$7.47. The average administrator wage is \$14.52 and the average for a director is \$13.67.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the two-page summary of the complete results, please contact us.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: FALL CARING HANDS OPPORTUNITIES

- Music Therapy in Marshfield on September 8th.
- Music Therapy in Wisconsin Rapids on October 6th.
- Sensory Triggers and Behavioral Techniques in Wisconsin Rapids on November 3rd.

SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAMMING AVAILABLE

Many school districts and private schools in our area offer special learning opportunities in the summer through summer school programming. Children have the ability to continue their learning throughout the summer with their participation in these unique programs. Contact your school today to learn about available classes.

HAVE YOU READ THESE FAVORITES WITH SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE CHILDREN?

- *It’s Summer!* by Linda Glaser
- *Eating the Alphabet: Fruits and Vegetables from A to Z* by Lois Ehlert
- *Wake Up, Sun!* by David L. Harrison
- *In the Night Kitchen* by Maurice Sendak
- *One Duck Stuck* by Phyllis Root

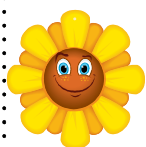


HOME SAFETY ASSESSMENTS AVAILABLE IN WOOD COUNTY

The Wood County Health Department has implemented a home safety assessment program this year. Families in Wood County with children five years of age and younger are the target population for the assessments. There are no income guidelines; all families are welcome to participate. Trained staff will come to your home and provide you with some of the safety supplies needed to protect your children from hidden dangers in your home. A donation of \$10 is encouraged to help support the purchase of program supplies. Please call Tyler at 715.421.8911 or 715.387.8646 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

JUNE IS:

- National Dairy Month
- Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month
- Zoo and Aquarium Month



JULY IS:

- Blueberries Month
- National Recreation and Parks Month





“The Resource”

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www.supportingfamilies.together.org



A United Way Partner

Great Start: Early Learning Matters is a statewide campaign of the Wisconsin Early Learning Coalition. Its purpose is to promote public policies and public investments that make high quality early care and education a top priority in Wisconsin. Visit their website at: <http://www.greatstartwi.org/>

High quality early learning experiences are important for Wisconsin. Early education is good for kids, good for parents and good for the economy.

Facts and Data:

Early learning prepares children for success in school and life.

- The early years are learning years. The foundation of a child’s intellect and personality is formed by age 5.
- Children with high-quality learning experiences and nurturing care develop competence that helps them succeed in school, including better social skills and solid foundation of language.
- Without available quality early education, children with disabilities have few, if any opportunities to interact with their non-disabled peers. This applies to 4K as well as child care/preschool. Inclusion matters!

High quality early learning settings support parents in their roles as caregivers and breadwinners.

- Wisconsin’s parents of young children want their children in nurturing settings that help them learn, develop, and get ready for school.
- 71% of Wisconsin’s children under age six have working parents. Those parents want programs where their children are cared for and prepared for school.

Early education is a wise investment for the economy.

- Wisconsin’s preschoolers are tomorrow’s workforce. Investments in early learning yield long-term positive impacts on school achievement and employment readiness.
- Investments in high-quality early education programs are cost effective, with the highest rate or return of any social investment, according to Nobel Laureate James Heckman, an economist at the University of Chicago.
- Early education for children with special needs is critical to their education and social development and also reduces the need for special education.

If you would like to receive your newsletter via email, please contact Carrie at carrie@ccrcw.org