



Our Mission

To be the key resource of comprehensive child care services that support and enhance the quality of the early care and education system.

Wisconsin Rapids Office

1107 West Grand Avenue
Wisconsin Rapids | WI 54495

office hours:

8:30am - 4:30pm

715-423-4114

fax: 715-423-2444

Wausau Office

1500 Merrill Avenue, Suite 201
Wausau | WI 54401

office hours:

9:00am - 5:00pm

715-301-1800

fax: 715-301-1804

1.800.628.8534



www.childcarings.org

info@childcarings.org

The Resource Connection

Our Merrill Office Moves to Wausau



Childcarings is excited to announce that effective May 18 our Merrill office relocated to Wausau. After 11 years in Merrill, Childcarings chose to move to the Wausau office location that offers more space, a training area, and an easy to find location for child care providers, families and the community.

"Our new space is wonderful! It is more spacious for our staff and services. We hope the providers, families, and community agencies we work with will join us at our Open House on July 14th to celebrate our new location!" said Micki Krueger, Childcarings Assistant Director. The Wausau office is easy to find – Just off I39/51 (exit 194) near Northcentral Technical College.



Update our contact information to:

1500 Merrill Avenue, Suite 201, Wausau, WI 54401

Wausau office phone number: 715-301-1800 | fax number: 715-301-1804

Please find your open house invite on page 3 of this newsletter.
We look forward to seeing you there!

YOUNGSTAR CORNER

YoungStar Marketing Efforts

As part of ongoing efforts to increase awareness of YoungStar and its many benefits, DCF has been working with a local marketing firm to develop new YoungStar promotional materials. These items include brochures; videos; fact sheets; print, radio, and online advertising; press releases and news articles; and other materials.

Some of the marketing effort objectives include:

- Teaching parents about the value of YoungStar
- Getting parents to recognize the value of quality child care
- Helping parents understand the rating system and how to use it when choosing child care
- Getting parents to encourage their child care providers to enhance their practices and increase their star ratings
- Encouraging parents to visit the YoungStar website (<http://youngstar.wisconsin.gov/>) to learn more
- Supporting parents to become "YoungStar Ambassadors" to spread the word about YoungStar and quality child care



Please view the new marketing materials on the YoungStar website: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar/campaign.htm>.

You can request copies of the new parent and provider brochures from your local YoungStar office. The brochures are available in English and Spanish.

2014 Childcaring Annual Report Available Online

The 2014 annual report available online details the many early care and education services that Childcaring provides and promotes. Some of the 2014 information highlighted in the report includes:

- 86 Childcaring trainings provided, which attracted 1,504 participants
- 233 community meetings attended by Childcaring staff
- 399 YoungStar applications received
- 805 families served through referrals
- \$300,000 received from United Way of Marathon County to offer Good Start Grants to eligible families

To view the complete report please visit: childcaring.org/aboutus.html

Childcaring Staff

Kelly Borchardt ~ Executive Director

Micki Krueger ~ Assistant Director

Linda Francis ~ Office & Financial Manager

Kristine Kettleson ~ Quality Improvement Specialist

Mary Olson ~ Quality Improvement Specialist

Susie Sandow ~ Quality Improvement Specialist

Lori Shafranski ~ Quality Improvement Specialist

Carrie Steinke ~ Quality Improvement Specialist

Kao L. Xiong ~ Quality Improvement Specialist/
Bi-Lingual

Gayle Schiszik ~ Training Coordinator/Certifier

Rachele Cherek ~ Program Coordinator

Tracy Verjinsky ~ Program Coordinator

Jessica Frick ~ Resource & Referral Specialist

Shelley Weiler ~ Referral & Communication Specialist

Sarah Agena ~ Child Physical Activity & Nutrition
Consultant/Flexible Nutrition Solutions, LLC
(Independent Contractor)

Provider Support / Advocate Groups

Adams, Clark, Marathon & Marquette County:

Contact Childcaring if interested in developing an advocate group at 800.628.8534

Portage County:

Portage County Child Care Association

Joan Garski at 715.341.5873

Portage County Leaders

RoxAnne Forrest at 715.342.2999

Langlade County: Contact

Donna Murra at 715.350.4159

Lincoln County: Contact Dolly Tanck at 715.536.7581

Marathon County: Storyteller Network

Support Group for Asian Providers

Maichao Lor at 715.432.1958

Taylor County: Meet the 3rd Monday of month

For more information, call Kelly Emmerich at 715.748.6192

Waushara County:

Contact Krista Sobieski at 920.566.0545

Wood County:

Marshfield Area Child Care Association

Krisann Mauritz at 715.387.2218

Wisconsin Rapids Child Care Advocates Council

Beth Knuth at 715.423.5312

please join us and celebrate our new location!

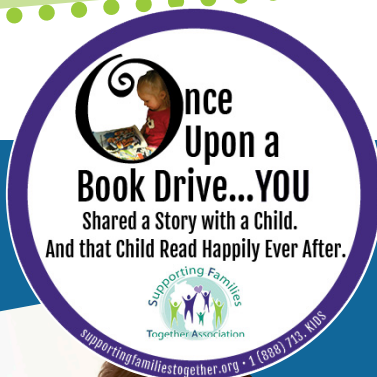
1500 Merrill Avenue, Suite 201
Wausau, WI 54401

Tuesday, July 14, 2015
4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

- Meet our Staff
- Tour our new office space
- Light refreshments
- Door prize drawing
- Check out the resources available to you:
books, DVD's, laminator, and more!
- Children are welcome!

**Feel free to drop off Once Upon a Book Drive
donations during the open house!**

*If you're unable to join us in-person,
"like us" on Facebook and leave a post -
we'll enter you in the prize drawing!*



Once Upon a Book Drive Is Going On Now Through August

Once Upon a Book Drive is an annual effort on behalf of SFTA, Child Care Resource and Referrals across the state, and community partners, to collect and distribute quality children's books to child care programs and families in need across Wisconsin. This drive will run from June 15th through August 31st. We will accept new or gently used books that contain educational, appropriate content for children from ages 0 to 12. You may drop off books at the Wisconsin Rapids and Wausau Childcaring offices, Portage County Public Library in Stevens Point, Lester Public Library of Vesper, T.B. Scott Library in Merrill or visit the SFTA website for a book drop off site near you: <http://supportingfamilies.together.org/once-upon-a-book-drive/>



Training Opportunities

Visit our online training calendar for the most up-to-date training opportunities.

Family Engagement: Partnering with Families for Children's Success

This 3 hour course will explore best practices in family engagement, challenges and barriers to connecting with families and will look at concrete strategies to improve your ability to develop relationships with families and increase their engagement.

- **Monday, July 20 (6:00pm-9:00pm)**
Redeemer Lutheran Learning Center, Tomahawk
\$15 / Register by Monday, July 13
- **Saturday, October 17**
Rome Town Hall, Nekoosa
\$15/ Register by Friday, October 9

Waushara County Health Department: Overview of Services

Overview of programs and services provided by Waushara County Health Department.

- **Tuesday, July 21 (6:30pm-8:30pm)**
Location TBD / No cost to attend

Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care

Because mothers need ongoing support from child care providers to provide breast milk for their babies, child care programs are becoming breastfeeding friendly.

- **Thursday, September 10 (6:00pm-8:00pm)**
UW-Extension Taylor County, Medford
\$15/ Register by Thursday, September 3

Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3)

Learn more about Ages and Stages Questionnaire and how to empower parents to meet their children's needs. Presented by Cindy Muhar, Family Living Educator, Milwaukee County UW Extension.

- **Saturday, September 12 (8:00am-3:30pm)**
Trinity Lutheran Church, Stevens Point
\$30/ Register by Friday, September 4

Presented in Hmong ~ Enchanting Family Child Care Environments & Family Engagement: Partnering with Families for Children's Success

- **Saturday, September 19**
NorthCentral Technical College-Room CBI 110, Wausau
Register by Friday, September 11

Enchanting Family Child Care Environments (8:30am-11:30am)

This course will provide training to early care and education providers on how to plan, design, and support an environment that encourages young children's development.

Family Engagement: Partnering with Families for Children's Success (12:30pm-3:30pm) This 3 hour course will explore best practices in family engagement, challenges and barriers to connecting with families and will look at concrete strategies to improve your ability to develop relationships with families and increase their engagement.

Registration Fees: Full Conference (lunch included) \$30
Enchanting Family Child Care Environments (excluding lunch)\$15
Family Engagement (excluding lunch)\$15

Pyramid Model for Social Emotional Competence

Model for supporting social competence and preventing challenging behavior in young children birth to age 5.

- **Mondays (6:00pm-9:00pm), September 14, September 21, October 5, & October 19**
Saturdays (9:00am-3:30pm) September 26 & October 10
Rome Town Hall, Nekoosa
\$50/ Register by Friday, September 4

Art from the Heart: Fostering the Creative Process in Children

Included within this training are hands on opportunities to learn how to incorporate art materials and concepts into your program and support children's experiences with art. Participants will explore the relationship of art within the Environment Rating Scale.

- **Monday, October 5 (6:00pm-9:00pm)**
United Way of Marathon County, Wausau
\$15/ Register by Monday, September 28

Enchanting Family Child Care Environments

How to plan, design, and support an environment that encourages young children's development.

- **Tuesday, October 13 (6:00pm-9:00pm)**
Loyal City Hall, Loyal
\$15/ Register by Tuesday, October 6
- **Tuesday, November 3 (6:00pm-9:00pm)**
Stevens Point, Ministry Medical Group
\$15/ Register by Tuesday, October 27

Stewards of Children, Darkness to Light with Mandated Reporter

A sexual abuse prevention training program that educates adults to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.

- **Monday, October 26 (6:00pm-9:00pm)**
Trinity Lutheran Church, Stevens Point
\$15/ Register by Monday, October 19

Discovering Science: The Laboratory of Life

The course will walk providers through strategies on how adults can support children's experiences with science. Science will be explored through hands on activities. Additionally, participants will learn how to incorporate science materials in their learning environment specific to the Environment Rating Scales.

- **Monday, November 16 (6:00pm-9:00pm)**
Aspirus YMCA, Weston
\$15/ Register by Monday, November 9

If you are in need of any special accommodations to attend a training, please contact Childcaring.

*** Childcaring provides trainings that align with YoungStar quality areas***

Training Opportunities

Visit our online training calendar for the most up-to-date training opportunities.

2015

CONNECTIONS



2015 Annual WECA Conference

November 12–14, 2015

Chula Vista Resort,
Wisconsin Dells, WI

Keynote Speakers:

Friday, November 13 - **Maurice Sykes**, National
Center for Urban Education, District of Columbia

Saturday, November 14 - **Marc Armitage**,
Playwork Consultant, Malarkey, Australia

For more information, visit:

<http://wisconsinearlychildhood.org/conference>

or call: 1-800-783-9322 X 7227



Save the Date:

13th Annual

“Leading the Way”

**Early Care and
Education
Professionals
Conference**

Stevens Point, WI

Note:

The conference date
is moving to

**Saturday,
October 10**

Stay tuned for more details!

Family Child Care Providers Join Us In Loyal, Stevens Point or Wausau

Register Today for: *Enchanting Family Child Care Environments* - see page 4 for more specific information

Family child care providers – this training is for YOU! This course will provide training to early care and education providers on how to plan, design, and support an environment that encourages young children’s development. The course will deliver theory and key messages related to the learning environment. Participants have the opportunity to explore important components of a quality learning environment to ensure optimal developmental outcomes for the children in their care. Additionally, participants will learn what materials and experiences will support children’s development and learning.

Join us to:

- Explore the design of the child care environment through the layout.
- Explore different components of the family child care learning environment.
- Shape the environment through storage, organization, and balancing needs of the space.
- Explore the children’s experiences.

Child care providers who attended the spring session shared these comments about what they learned at the training: “How to create an environment that is appropriate for the children as well as fun, and exciting areas.” “I’ll relook at my home and make some positive changes.” “I’m going to reorganize my toy room!”



Congratulations On Your Accomplishment

Thank you and congratulations to the following child care facilities that completed the Child Physical Activity and Nutrition Program.

Parkside Preschool Center/Parkside Preschool 4K, Paula Koelsch, Merrill

Tootsie Bear Day Care and Preschool, Kim Gachnang, Wisconsin Rapids

Pine Oaks Kids, Danielle Hince, Stevens Point

Sand Box Child Care & Preschool, Kelly Jensen, Medford

Good Times Again Daycare, Donna Plahmer, Stevens Point

Barb's Country Daycare, Barb Stanislawski, Rosholt

Community Child Care Center, Lindsey Menning, Stevens Point

During the past several months with the guidance from a health consultant these facilities worked on nutrition and physical activity goals that they found important to their individual facilities. For more information or to participate in the CPAN program at no cost contact Sarah Agena at sarah@childcaring.org or call 1-800-628-8534.



You work hard to provide children with high-quality care and education. REWARD Wisconsin Recognizes your commitment.

Wisconsin's young children depend on high-quality and consistent child care. Yet, the early childhood profession offers low wages and few benefits, impelling many professionals to leave the field. When this happens, children's social and emotional development is negatively impacted. The **REWARD Wisconsin Stipend Program** is working to change this.

REWARD is an opportunity to:

- Increase compensation of early childhood professionals
- Reward and retain professionals who have attained education specific to the field
- Encourage continued education
- Reduce turnover

Improve the quality of care received by Wisconsin children
REWARD salary stipend recipients are providing children with lifelong benefits. Show your dedication to the field and apply for a REWARD salary stipend today. **For more information contact REWARD Wisconsin Stipend Program:** reward@wisconsinearlychildhood.org or call: 608-240-9880



Nearly 2,000 Wisconsin Adults trained in Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention 192 Adults Trained By Childcaring

Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA), Childcaring, and other Child Care Resource & Referral agencies throughout Wisconsin have brought the Small Change Makes a BIG Difference Teach-a-Thon to a successful close after training a total of 1,985 Wisconsin adults through 112 trainings across the state, in child abuse and neglect prevention.

After a month long push in April to train a minimum of 1,800 Wisconsin adults in child abuse and neglect prevention, SFTA and member agencies surpassed our training goals and our expectations for the 2015 Small Change Makes a BIG Difference Teach-a-Thon. "Childcaring, offered nine trainings locally and trained 192 adults this year," stated Gayle Schiszik, Childcaring Training Coordinator / Certifier.

"The number of participants we trained in this year's Teach-a-Thon is a success for us, and more importantly, for Wisconsin children and families," said Kelly Borchardt, Executive Director at Childcaring. "It is crucial that adults have the tools, resources, and knowledge to prevent child abuse before it starts, and to recognize and respond to it when it happens. Thanks to the Teach-a-Thon trainings, almost 2,000 more adults across the state have that information."

The Small Change Makes a BIG Difference Teach-a-Thon is an annual event held during the month of April to coincide with National Child Abuse Prevention month. Trainings within the Teach-a-Thon are targeted to supporting parents, child care providers, and community members in how they can prevent child abuse and neglect. These trainings are emphasized during the Teach-a-Thon, but are held throughout the year. Visit supportingfamiliesaltogether.org for more information.

In recognition of Provider Appreciation Day on May 8th Childcaring coordinated a drawing to include the names of every regulated child care provider in our 10 county service area. This year the child care names drawn were: **Karen Potter Jaecks, Jennifer Osowski, Angel Huber and Yang Thao**. These providers received a Visa gift card & a Childcaring utility bag. **Congratulations**, and thank you to all the child care providers who help shape the future of children every day.



Help Us Keep Your Information Accurate

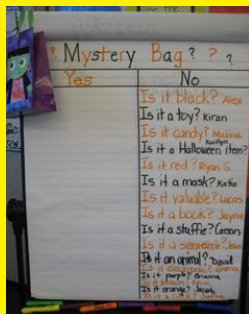
Once each year, we send out a Business Information Form (BIF) to all of the providers in our database. The form was recently emailed – if you would like the form emailed to you, please contact Childcaring. The BIF will also be mailed to programs that do not have email addresses on file. And as always, the BIF is available to you on our website. Your completion of this form allows us to give out accurate information about your program. We genuinely appreciate your support in keeping our database current, so we can better assist the families who need your care.

Start with your GOAL, then find your activities.

Start with your GOAL, then find your activity and adapt if necessary! The WMELS goal C.EL.3 is “Looks at picture books and asks questions or makes comments.” This leads into the Common Core State Standard CCSS ELA RL.K.1 which is: With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text. (both literature and informational texts)

Practice asking questions in many ways so it carries over into asking questions about what is in a text. Be sure to use fiction as well as non-fiction books. From finallyinfirst.blogspot.com

This site gives you many great suggestions on teaching questioning: speechandlanguagekids.com



Submitted by: Beth Tepper, CESA 9

You put an item in the mystery bag and then have the kids take turns asking questions to try to narrow down the possibilities. It is great to develop deductive reasoning skills. (mystery item was mini marshmallows)

This site gives you many great suggestions on teaching questioning: speechandlanguagekids.com

Teaching Questions

New Provider and Family Resources for Children with Special Needs and Disabilities

As families of children with special needs and disabilities begin to search for child care, both the family and child care providers may have concerns or questions about meeting the child's individual needs. Though this is true for all families, often these concerns are greater for families that have children with special needs.

There is a brand new resource and tool to help both families and providers navigate inclusion topics and the inclusion of all children in child care: the **YoungStar Early Childhood Inclusion** web pages at <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar/eci/default.htm>!

A key to educational and life-long success is being educated with typically developing peers. Child care providers who offer quality care in an inclusive environment create a solid foundation for the success of all children.



Healthy Choices Flavored Milks



Puree 2 cups thawed frozen strawberries, peaches or mixed berries and 3 tablespoons white grape juice concentrate with no added sugar in a blender. Stir about 1/3 cup of the fruit puree into 1 cup low-fat milk. Cover and refrigerate the remaining puree for up to 5 days.

Photographs by Charles Masters Recipe courtesy Food Network Magazine <http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/food-network-kitchens/flavored-milks-recipe.html>

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Wausau Office

1500 Merrill Avenue, Suite 201 | Wausau | WI 54401



Xav tau kev pab pes/txhais daim ntawv xovxwm
no thov hu tuaj rau
Kao Lai Xiong 715-301-1800
Hnub Mondays - 9:30 txog 3:30pm.

Vision

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

2015 Childcaring Board of Directors

Brad Gast, President
Kim Van Hoof, Vice President
Nick Faber, Treasurer
Allison Machtan, Secretary
Kim Gachnang
Donna Ginzi
Jane Brandt
Sheila Michels
Lisa Montgomery
Julie Rodger
Ruth Sattler
Tammy Schreiber
Mandy Stanley

What is Child Find?

Child Find is a continuous process of public awareness activities, screening and evaluation designed to locate, identify, and refer as early as possible all young children with disabilities and their families who are in need of an Early Intervention Program (Part C) or Early Childhood Special Education (Part B) services of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

School districts are mandated to locate, identify and evaluate children with disabilities within their attendance area. To assist in the child find process, districts have developed "informed referral networks" consisting of physicians, Birth-to-3 programs, Head Start programs, child care programs, parents, public health, social services, and others in the community that come in contact with young children. This community network refers children who may have exceptional educational needs (EENs).

For more information about Child Find please contact the pupil services department of your local school or visit: http://ec.dpi.wi.gov/ec_eccfpage

