



Issue #28

October, November, December 2016



Our Mission

To enhance and support a quality early childhood education system by providing resource and referral services to families, child care programs, and communities.

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

Both Childcaring locations accommodate office hours by appointment

1.800.628.8534
www.childcaring.org
info@childcaring.org



The Resource Connection

How Will YoungStar Benefit My Program? Incentives, Technical Assistance & Consultation, and Micro-Grants

"The technical consultant helped me stay organized when it came to earning new points for my rating. She brought me handouts and ideas for ways to help deal with a difficult child. She also brought me flyers for upcoming training at her visits." -YoungStar Participant



All Wisconsin child care providers who serve children from birth through their school years can participate in YoungStar, as long as they're in good standing with state regulations. In fact, providers that receive a Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy must participate. When they do, they gain access to training opportunities, technical assistance, even micro-grants to fund books and learning materials. In that way, YoungStar doesn't just rate the quality of Wisconsin's child care. It improves it.

What are some incentives for child care providers to participate in YoungStar? Of course, the most important incentive for participation in YoungStar is the opportunity to improve program quality and thus improve the outcomes for the children enrolled in your program.

Other benefits available to programs participating in YoungStar are:

- ★ On-site training and technical assistance, upon request
- ★ Local training opportunities
- ★ Professional development counseling and supports for credit- and noncredit-based growth opportunities
- ★ Micro-grants - \$200, \$250, \$500, or \$1,000 (amount varies according to the providers regulation type) to support the goals outlined in programs' Quality Improvement Plans

What was most helpful for your program through this YoungStar consulting experience?" YoungStar participants had this to say:

"Truthfully, everything from setting up meeting times to questions on new criteria (family engagement), and just the feeling that WE were not under a microscope."

"The consultants are very wonderful to work with. They explain things completely so the process is not overwhelming."

"The consultant was very engaged and offered support and meaningful knowledge that will help our center grow and succeed."



What questions do you have about YoungStar? Please contact Childcaring staff directly to assist you with any additional information you may need.

YOUNGSTAR CORNER

YoungStar Updates

- ★ 2017/2018 YoungStar criteria will be finalized on November 1. DRAFT criteria is currently available on the YS website for review. <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar>
- ★ Starting July 1, 2016, if you are going through the formal rating process, your Technical Consultant (TC) will score the YoungStar Evaluation Criteria for your program. SFTA's Environment Rating Scale (ERS) Observers will only complete the required Environment Rating Scales for each rating. Your TC and the ERS Observer will collaborate during the final consultation to give you thorough and meaningful feedback to draw upon your strengths and support you in your future quality improvement efforts.
- ★ Beginning in 2017, programs participating in YoungStar will only need to be rated every two years. This will give programs more time to improve their quality between ratings. All currently participating program sites were divided between even year and odd year rating groups in July, 2016. Programs were divided through a computer generated system that took a variety of factors into consideration. Even year and odd year rating assignments were mailed to programs in August. Note that programs are not able to change which rating group they are assigned to. Not sure if your program was assigned to the even or odd year rating? Contact Childcaring, your local YoungStar office.

Congratulations to these child care providers for recently completing the Child Physical Activity and Nutrition Program:

- ABC Child Care Center
- Child Care Centers of Marshfield
- Diane's Little Learners Day Care
- Kinder Cottage Child Care Center
- Newman Catholic Early Childhood Center - St. Michael
- Newman Catholic Early Childhood Center - St. Therese
- Play, Learn and Grow
- Shining Stars Child Care
- Story Book Kids on Maple Ridge
- Trinity Learning Center & Preschool
- YMCA Child Care Center – 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.



Childcaring Staff

- Kelly Borchardt** ~ Executive Director
- Micki Krueger** ~ Assistant Director
- Linda Francis** ~ Office & Financial Manager
- Kristine Joyce** ~ Quality Improvement Specialist
- Mary Olson** ~ Quality Improvement Specialist
- Susie Sandow** ~ Quality Improvement Specialist
- Lori Shafranski** ~ Quality Improvement Specialist
- Carrie Steinke** ~ Quality Improvement Specialist
- Chelsey Thill** ~ Quality Improvement Specialist
- Kao L. Xiong** ~ Quality Improvement Specialist/
Bi-Lingual
- Gayle Schizik** ~ Training Coordinator/Certifier/
Pre-licensing Consultant
- 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, Langlade, 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

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
Jamie Lane 715.323.2546

Training Opportunities

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

Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention

Training in identification, prevention and the grave effects of SBS.

- **Thursday, October 13 (10:30am-12:00pm)**
Childcaring, Wisconsin Rapids
\$10/Register by Thursday, October 6
- **Wednesday, November 16 (10:30am-12:00pm)**
Childcaring, Wisconsin Rapids
\$10/Register by Thursday, November 10

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.

- **Wednesday, October 12 (6:00pm-9:00pm)**
United Way of Marathon County, Wausau
\$15/Register by Wednesday, October 5

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 Scales.

- **Monday, October 31 (6:00pm-9:00pm)**
Trinity Lutheran Church, Stevens Point
\$15/Register by Monday, October 24
Portage County Child Care Association Members are free

(WMELS) Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards

A unique opportunity to understand and implement the WMELS into your early childhood setting.
(Must attend both sessions)

- **Friday, October 7 & 21 (8:00am-4:00pm)**
Trinity Lutheran Church, Stevens Point
\$40/Register by Friday, September 30

Supporting Language and Early Literacy

Learn about providing effective "read alouds" and evidence-based approaches to support language and early literacy.

- **Monday, November 14 (6:00pm-9:00pm)**
UW Extension-Lanlade County, Antigo
\$15/Register by Monday, November 7

As the end of the year is approaching, remember to use any Childcaring training certificates you may have as they expire on 12-31-16. Some restrictions apply. If using a training certificate, you are welcome to call the office, prior to mailing registration, and verify that it can be used for the training.

Presented in Hmong ~

Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care & Art From the Heart

- **Saturday, November 19**
NorthCentral Technical College, Wausau
Register by Friday, November 11

Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care (9:00am-12:00pm)

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

Art from the Heart: Fostering the Creative Process in Children (12:30pm-3:30pm)

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 Scales.

Registration Fees:

Full Conference (lunch included) \$30
Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care (excluding lunch) \$15
Art from the Heart: Fostering the Creative Process in Children (excluding lunch) \$15

You're Invited ~ Parent Cafés:

Parent Cafés are a great way to connect with other parents and learn from one another!

- **Monday, October 3rd**
- **Monday, October 10th**
- **Monday, October 17th**
(Come to one or all three dates – FREE of Charge)
Parent Cafés are: 5:00-7:30pm

Oxford Elementary School
222 South Franklin Street, Oxford

** FREE DINNER & CHILD CARE PROVIDED **

Please register before each event by contacting Childcaring at 800-628-8534 or info@childcaring.org

Caring Hands Brings You ...

Creating Environments for Quality Care

Presented by: Chelsey Thill, Quality Improvement Specialist, Childcaring, Inc.

FREE OF CHARGE

- **Wednesday, November 2**
Mid-State Technical College, Wisconsin Rapids
6:30pm-8:30pm
-OR-
- **Tuesday, November 15**
Streitel Conference Center, Marshfield
6:30pm-8:30pm

We plan for teacher development and curriculum development, but environmental development is just as important!

Come and learn:

- a. Thoughtful environmental design for supporting social/emotional skills
- b. Affordable and creative ideas for making quality care environments
- c. Aesthetic improvement planning– children deserve beautiful spaces, too!



2016 Leading the Way Early Childhood Educators Conference

Saturday, October 8 (8:00am-3:15pm)
University of Wisconsin Stevens Point
(1801 4th Ave., Stevens Point, WI 54481)

Registration begins at 7:30am
with coffee and muffins

View the registration form here:
http://childcaring.org/documents/LTW_2016_WEB.pdf



WISCONSIN INTER-TRIBAL CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION

Historical Trauma and Trauma-Informed Work

Lake of the Torches – Lac du Flambeau
510 Old Abe Rd, Lac Du Flambeau, WI 54538

October 26 – 28, 2016

View the flyer:

<http://www.childcaring.org/documents/historicaltraumaflyer.pdf>

Registration is FREE!

Register online for October 26th at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HistoricalOctober26>

Register online for October 27th and 28th at

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HistoricalOctober27_28

Register by phone at 1 (800) 733-KIDS

This event is made possible by funding from the Race to the Top - Early Learning Challenge Grant through the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. Partners in planning and hosting this event are the Wisconsin Inter-Tribal Child Care Association, Supporting Families Together Association, and Northwest Connection Family Resources.

Once Upon a Book Drive Collects Record-Breaking Number of Books for Wisconsin Children in Need

Childcaring, in partnership with Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA) and their other participating member Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) agencies and Family Resource Centers (FRCs), finished off the annual Once Upon a Book Drive this year with 9,868 books collected statewide—more than 4,200 over the highest number of books collected through the drive in any prior year. Childcaring collected 2,024 of these books to distribute locally.

Studies have shown that positive early literacy experiences are crucial to language, reading and writing development, skills that can play a significant role in the development of a child into adulthood. A young child accessing quality literacy materials now is more likely to be successful later on in areas of school readiness, employment and self-sufficiency. This is why programs like Once Upon a Book Drive that increase early access to literacy materials are so crucial.

Books collected through Once Upon a Book Drive will be distributed to early education programs and families in need throughout Wisconsin by CCR&Rs, FRCs and SFTA. Childcaring will distribute books through our services in Adams, Clark, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marquette, Portage, Taylor, Waushara, and Wood counties. Outside organizations may apply to receive books to distribute through their services if they are a non-profit and meet the additional qualifications:<http://supportingfamilies.together.org/applyforbooks/>.

A special thank you to the organizations who served as local drop off sites for the book drive: Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point; Lester Public Library of Vesper; and T.B. Scott Free Library, Merrill. We hope to continue this partnership in the years to come.

SAVE THE DATE for next year's Once Upon a Book Drive, June 15th through the end of August, 2017.



Start with your GOAL, then find your activities and adapt if necessary!

WMELS B.EL.2 Exhibits eye-hand coordination, strength, control and object manipulation.

"Better late than early," says Occupational Therapist Marianne Gibbs, EdD, OTR referring to having children use pencils and other writing utensils. She advocates for building strength and agility with fun and appropriate motor activities. She suggests waiting until the child is 4 or 5 to expect a child to hold a pencil. Here is a link to her webinar that is archived: <http://home.edweb.net/fine-motor-skills-write-out-of-the-box/> OR use the QR code below for the webinar.

Here are some activities you can try to increase the children's ability to later hold a pencil – all seem like things we already do but do them more! Need more ideas? Go to Pinterest and search "pincer grasp."

Put objects, snacks, counters, toys in zipper type sandwich and storage bags.

Use tongs of varying sizes to pick up objects. Use finger puppets. Have children use stickers.



Submitted by:
Beth Tepper, CESA 9

Join Childcaring at the **WAUSAU AREA HMONG NEW YEAR CELEBRATION**

DATE: November 5 & 6, 2016
Doors Open 8am-4pm

For more information call: 715-348-6253

**LOCATION: DC Everest High School,
6500 Alderson St., Schofield, WI 54476**



ATTN: Clark County Parents: MyWIChildCare EBT Subsidy Need assistance making your first Child Care EBT Payment for the WI Child Care Subsidy Program?

WREA will be available during regular business hours, 8a-4p, October 3, 2016 – October 7, 2016 to assist you in making your first payment to your child care provider. Walk-in's only, no appointments necessary. WREA local county ES agencies include: Pepin, Buffalo, Trempealeau, Clark, Jackson, Monroe, Vernon and La Crosse.



There will also be assistance after business hours at select local County ES offices October 4, 2016, October 6, 2016 and Saturday morning October 8, 2016. If you would like additional information for help with the EBT subsidy child care payment after business hours, please contact Stacey Miller at 608-317-6913.

If you have other questions regarding MyWIChildCare Subsidy Program or would like to apply or report a change please call WREA at 888-627-0430

WANTED:

All child care providers are asked to fill out and return a Business Information Form (BIF) yearly to Childcaring. Childcaring sent out emails with an unique provider link to your BIF. This link can be saved and used each time an update to your program is needed. This helps to make sure that parents receive the most up-to-date information on child care programs. Contact Childcaring if you still need your link.

Healthy Choices

Join the 2016 Great Lakes Apple Crunch!

Date: **Thursday, October 13, 2016**

Location: Schools, early care settings, hospitals and other organizations across Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio

Details: Celebrate National Farm to School Month by crunching into locally and regionally grown apples at NOON on Thursday, October 13. Everyone is welcome to Crunch!

All registered schools will receive the updated 2016 Great Lakes Apple Crunch Guide with tips on finding local apples, integrating the crunch into school curricula, and sharing your event via social media. Sign up today at [http://www.cias.wisc.edu/applecrunch/!](http://www.cias.wisc.edu/applecrunch/)



Wisconsin Rapids Office

1107 West Grand Avenue | Wisconsin Rapids | WI 54495

Wausau Office

1500 Merrill Avenue, Suite 201 | Wausau | WI 54401



Childcaring is supported in part by:



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.



We would like to wish you and your family a happy holiday season.
We look forward to working with you in the new year!

Vision

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

2016 Childcaring Board of Directors

Brad Gast, President

Jane Brandt, Vice President

Nick Faber, Treasurer

Donna Ginzl

Sarah Grosshuesch

Joan Krohn

Michelle Rantala

Julie Rodger

Tammy Schreiber

Mandy Stanley

Childcaring Board Member Spotlight:

My name is Tammy Schreiber. I have served on Childcaring's board since the merger of Child Care Connection and Child Care Resource and Referral of Central Wisconsin. Prior to the merge I served on Child Care Connection Board for many years.

I have been the Child Care Certifier for Taylor County Human Services Department for sixteen years. I assist child care providers through the child care certification process and I truly enjoy working with the providers in their homes. My position has provided me the opportunity to work with many wonderful child care providers over the years and I see their dedication to children.

I have also enjoyed working with Childcaring staff as they are a valuable resource to our providers and our families. Their dedication and commitment to all facets of child care is truly commendable.

