



Issue #29

January, February, March 2017



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

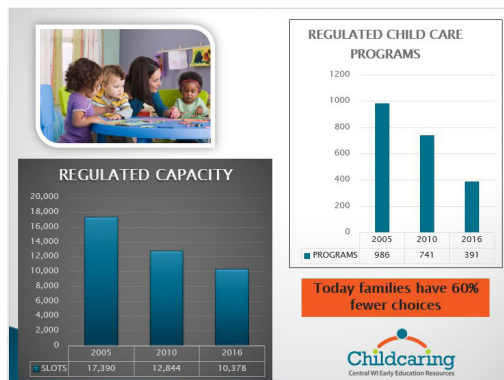
Investing in Early Child Development Means a Healthier Community

No matter which community you live in, the research is telling us that investing in early child development makes sense on both social and economic levels. The importance of focusing on early childhood development is affirmed by both emerging neuroscience and the economic research of Nobel laureate James Heckman and others. We also know that, while the U.S. spends much more on health care than its peer developed nations with inferior outcomes, those peer nations spend much more on social services early in the life course.

Kelly Borchardt, Childcaring Executive Director, recently served on a panel at the "Investing in Healthy Communities – Ideas to Action for Healthy People, Places, and Planet," a conference hosted by Incourage and Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, where information was shared about the importance of focusing on early childhood development.



Investing in People Over the Life Course -Childhood (conference panel left to right): Sister Edna Lonergan, Founder and President St. Anne Center for Intergenerational Care; Salli Martyniak, President Forward Community Investments; Kelly Borchardt, Executive Director, Childcaring, Inc.; Moderator - Doug Jutte, MD, Building Healthy Places



According to the US Census Bureau, "In Wisconsin, 74% of children under age 6 have resident parents in the labor force." Through referral services, Childcaring hears directly from parents the difficulties families can face in finding available child care especially when families are looking for infant care or

second and third shift care. Many families also struggle to pay for child care. Child care can cost more than housing or food in a given month for some families.

Families in central Wisconsin also have 60% fewer choices for child care than in 2005. "Since 2005, there has been a heavy decline, particularly in family child care providers, in our service area," stated Kelly Borchardt.

Childcaring supports initiatives to make child care affordable, ensure quality care for all, and further support the child care workforce. Smart, early care investments include: supplementing child care payments, building the supply of regulated child care programs, maintaining a quality child care workforce with adequate pay and benefits for child care workers, and increasing child care quality. Expanding public-private partnerships and looking at intentional, creative community-level planning can have a substantial impact on children and families in central Wisconsin.

YOUNGSTAR CORNER

Changes in YoungStar (YS) for 2017/2018

- ★ Starting in 2017 programs will only be required to be rated every other year as assigned on an Even or Odd basis. Each year you will still receive a contract (either YS Contract Renewal or a YS One-Year Extension Contract) that needs to be completed and returned to the local YS office. Each year you can still choose to receive TA and a micro-grant, you can even choose to complete a rating on your off year if you think your program will increase star level.
- ★ Family Engagement: programs are now required to achieve one point to earn 3 stars and 2 points to earn 4 or 5 stars. The examples in the criteria document have been clarified and modified by program type to better help providers understand the intent of the activities.
- ★ Health and Well-being: This indicator has been reworked for 2017/18, requiring a self-assessment in the areas of physical activity and/or nutrition. There are also more options available to allow programs more flexibility in demonstrating how they are meeting this indicator. To view the document of clarifications or modifications that will be made to YS for 2017/2018 implementation visit:
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/youngstar/pdf/ys-changes/2016-ys-changes.pdf>

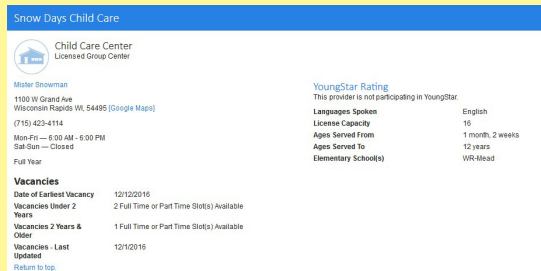
DCF Launches New Website

The WI Department of Children and Families launched a new site, including the YoungStar webpages. Check out the new site (<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/>) to familiarize yourself and make sure to update any links you have saved to the DCF or YoungStar sites, since those have all changed.

Child Care Providers - Update Your Vacancies

Updating your program vacancies can help give families the most up-to-date information. Current information will help families make their child care choice. This information is now available on the referral information that families receive from Childcaring.

Child care providers can go online and update vacancy information! Use your Business Information Form link to access your account and make updates as needed. If you need your individual link sent to you again, please email info@childcaring.org.



Snow Days Child Care

Child Care Center
Licensed Group Center

Mister Brownian
1100 W Grand Ave
Wisconsin Rapids WI, 54485 (Google Maps)
(715) 423-4114
Mon-Fri — 6:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Sat-Sun — Closed
Full Year

Vacancies
Date of Next Vacancy: 12/12/2016
Vacancies Under 2 Years: 2 Full Time or Part Time Slot(s) Available
Vacancies 2 Years & Older: 1 Full Time or Part Time Slot(s) Available
Vacancies - Last Updated: 12/12/2016
[Return to top](#)

YoungStar Rating:
This provider is not participating in YoungStar.

Languages Spoken	English
License Capacity	16
Ages Served From	1 month, 2 weeks
Ages Served To	12 years
Elementary School(s)	VR Head

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 Schiszik ~ Training Coordinator/Certifier/
Pre-licensing Consultant
Rachele Johnson ~ 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:
Contact Childcaring if interested in developing an advocate group at 800.628.8534

Taylor County: Meet the 3rd Monday of month
For more information, call Kelly Emmerich at 715.748.6192

Wausara 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.

** Childcaring gift certificates are not redeemable for these trainings.*

Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention

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

- **Thursday, January 12 (10:30am - 12:00pm)**
Childcaring, Wausau
\$15/ Register by Thursday, January 5
- **Thursday, March 9 (10:30am - 12:00pm)**
Childcaring, Wisconsin Rapids
\$15/ Register by Thursday, March 2

Strengthening Families in Early Care and Education (with Mandated Reporter)

The Strengthening Families initiative is a strength-based approach to preventing child abuse and neglect. A component of this training is aligned with and meets the bi-annual Licensing and YoungStar requirements to complete training in Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Mandated Reporting.

- **Tuesday, January 17 (6:00pm - 9:00pm)**
Streitel Center at Saint Joseph's Hospital, Marshfield
FREE to MACCA members and \$20 for non-members
Register by Tuesday, January 10
- **Thursday, April 13 (6:00pm - 9:00pm)**
United Way of Marathon County, Wausau
\$20 / Register by Thursday, April 6

* CPR with AED

Cost to attend: \$48.50

Classes are 6:00pm - 9:00pm at Childcaring, Inc, Wausau

- **Monday, January 23**
- **Thursday, February 9**
- **Monday, March 13**
- **Thursday, April 27**
- **Monday, May 22**

Pyramid Model for Social Emotional

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

- **Monday, January 23, Friday, February 24, Monday, April 17**
(Must attend all dates)
(8:00am - 4:30pm), Stevens Point Area Public School District, Stevens Point
\$50/ Register by Monday, January 16

Supporting Early Language and Literacy: Providing Effective Read Alouds

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

- **Monday, February 6 (6:00pm - 9:00pm)**
Childcaring, Inc, Wisconsin Rapids
\$15/ Register by Monday, January 30

* 2017 Early Childhood Conference Health and Wellness in Early Childhood

■ Saturday, February 18, 2017

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

NTC – Wausau Campus

(Main Entrance – E101/102)

1000 West Campus Drive, Wausau, WI

Continuing Education hours provided.

Cost: \$35.00 (payable to Northcentral Technical College)

Register before February 6.

Tentative Conference Agenda

- 8:30 am – Check In & Coffee
- 9:00 am – Welcome
- 10:00 am – Breakout Track
- 12:15 pm – Lunch (Soup and Sandwich, provided)
- 12:50 pm – Breakout Track
- 3:00 pm – Closing

Highlights Include:

- The WI Early Care & Education Physical Activity Training" (presented in Hmong and English) – Childcaring
- Growing Healthy Children with Farm to Early Care & Education – Community Groundworks
- Yoga is for Everyone! – be well yoga

Look for registration materials in the mail soon, or visit ntc.edu

Ages & Stages Questionnaire

Learn more about Ages and Stages Questionnaire and how to empower parents to meet their children's needs.

■ Wednesdays, March 22, 29 and April 5

(Must attend all dates)

(6:30pm - 9:00pm) Loyal City Hall, Loyal

This program is supported by the Clark County Health Department and Clark County Birth to Three

\$30 / \$15 Reduced cost for Clark County providers only

Register by Wednesday, March 15



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Clark County Health Department

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.

- **Thursday, April 20 (6:00pm - 9:00pm)**
UW-Extension Lincoln County, Merrill
\$20 / Register by Thursday, April 13



CPAN: Child Physical Activity & Nutrition Work toward a YoungStar Health & Wellness Point by participating

Good nutrition and plenty of physical activity are essential to a young child's growth and development. These behaviors begin early in life and are fostered by the environment in which children live and play. Because many children spend much of their day in childcare settings, you are essential to the development of healthy behaviors. Childcaring and Security Health Plan would like to offer you a **FREE** opportunity to work together with a Health Consultant to find ways to integrate more physical activity and healthier foods into their lives plus work toward a point for your YoungStar rating!

For more information or to participate in the program contact:

Sarah Agena, MS, RD

Health Consultant

Phone: (715) 423-4114 or (800) 628-8534

Email: sarah@childcaring.org



Tanya Polansky, Play, Learn and Grow ChildCare Participated in CPAN:

I just wanted to share with you how much you have helped me and my program. When we met for the first meeting I was hooked by your enthusiasm and your knowledge for childcare programs. Right away I was like a sponge and absorbed all you had to offer. I have learned about physical education, nutrition, engaging children's learning and family participation. You have not only helped educate myself, my children and families in my program but also our community by providing key information through the CPAN program. My childcare planted a garden and with your weekly updates and emails I was able to incorporate an amazing outcome with knowledge, handouts and hands on activities. The children love physical activity time with the wide range of activities you have supplied me with and my hope is that every childcare program takes full advantage of CPAN for the wonderful outcome it can have. Again, I just want to thank you for all you do as it is well worth it! Thanks, from my program, myself and the children and families here at Play, Learn and Grow ChildCare, Tanya Polansky



(Pictured: Child Care Providers
Attended the free MyWICChildCare:
Informational Session at the Pittsville
Lion's Club on December 8)

MyWICChildCare (MyWICC)

The MyWICChildCare EBT card will provide Wisconsin families with the ability to pay for child care using approved Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy funds using an EBT card. For more information about MyWICC, including parent outreach documents visit: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/mywchildcare>

Childcaring Announces Training Winners – Jennifer Bond and April Michalik

Congratulations to the 2016 Childcaring Training Winners: Jennifer Bond and April Michalik. Annually, Childcaring selects two training participants from the names of everyone who attended Childcaring trainings throughout the year. Past winners include: Jennifer Rasmussen and Sue Lee (2015) Laurie Konkol-Glodowski and Beth West (2014) and Donna Plahmer and Carolyn Zielinski (2013). As the 2016 Childcaring Training Winners, Jennifer Bond and April Michalik will receive a new children's book and a gift card!

Congratulations!

National Read Across America Day Celebrate Dr. Seuss Day With Childcaring

Dr. Seuss Day is Thurs., March 2, 2017 and Childcaring staff would like to celebrate the day by reading to the children at child care programs in our area! Although we would love to, we can't possibly get to every program, so we will randomly select programs on Wed., February 8. For your chance to participate, please email info@childcaring.org with the name of your program and your phone number, enter in the subject line: Celebrate Dr. Seuss Day With Us. You can also give us a call and we can enter you as well. We will contact the programs to finalize the details well in advance, so please submit your request by February 8.

*We truly love the silly goose --
We truly love him -- Dr. Seuss*

Start with your goal then go searching for activities!

WMELS A.EL.2 Understands and responds to others' emotions.

Continuing to bring learning opportunities around recognizing others emotions throughout the year is very important as we learn from both the WMELS and the Pyramid Model. At the school age level this is called PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports.) As children get older they may express that there are people they do not want to be friends with (this is an acceptable feeling), the message than can then be "We don't have to be friends but we need to be *friendly*. What does that look like?"

Expressing their own emotions and imagining how others might feel are both important skills and there are many ways to work on each of them!



Learn more at havingfunathome.com

Sort pictures of emotions, add more sets of pictures and descriptors as time goes on.



Empathy Game:

Free Printable Tool to Teach Kids to Be Considerate of Others

<http://www.momentsaday.com/empathy-game/>

Submitted by: **Beth Tepper, CESA 9**



Standard Meal Allowance Rates for 2016 income tax returns (in the continental U.S.)

\$1.32 for each breakfast

\$2.48 for each lunch or supper

\$0.74 for each snack

(up to 3 snacks per day for each child)

Healthy Choices

Television viewing is a major activity and influence on children and adolescents. Children in the United States watch an average of three to four hours of television a day. By the time they graduate high school they will have spent more time watching television than in the classroom.

The American Academy of Pediatrics strongly discourages television viewing for children ages 2 or younger. For older children, it advises no more than one to two hours a day of educational, nonviolent programs.



Childcaring staff attended "Candid Conversations that Drive Results" professional development training on Tuesday, Dec. 13. The training was facilitated by Tracy Butz, Think Impact Solutions, and focused on strategies to enhance communication skills.



Celebrate NAEYC's Week of the Young Child™ April 24-28, 2017

The Week of the Young Child™ is an annual celebration hosted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) celebrating early learning, young children, their teachers and families.

<https://www.naeyc.org/woyc>



Complete your Afterschool and Youth Development Credential with Mid-State. Starting January 2017, this four course credential offering will be available free of charge for two and three star centers. Classes will include one face to face session along with online coursework. Face to face sessions will take place on Saturdays. The availability of these courses was made possible through a grant from the Department of Education. Grant limits recipients to 2 and 3 star centers. For more information, contact Deb Clarke at deb.clarke@mstc.edu or via phone at 715-422-5476



Baked Potato Nachos from eatwisconsinpotatoes.com

Servings: 4
Prep Time: 25 minutes
Cook Time: 35 minutes

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 lbs Wisconsin russet potatoes
- 1 1/2 tbsp Vegetable oil
- 1/2 tsp Garlic salt
- 1 tsp Mexican seasoning blend
- 1 cup Mexican blend shredded cheese
- 1/4 cup Rinsed & drained canned black beans
- 1/4 cup Diced tomatoes
- 1/4 cup Sliced black olives
- 1/4 cup Sliced green onions
- 3 tbsp Canned diced green chiles Salsa guacamole and sour cream (optional)

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 425°F.
2. Scrub potatoes and cut into 1/2-inch thick wedges.
3. Place potatoes into a medium-sized bowl with the oil, garlic salt and Mexican seasoning. Stir well to coat potatoes with oil and seasonings.
4. Transfer to a large baking sheet and spread into a single layer.
5. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes, stirring several times, until crisp and golden brown.
6. Top with cheese, beans, tomatoes, olives, onions and chiles.
7. Bake for 5 minutes more to melt cheese.
8. Optional: serve with salsa, guacamole and sour cream.

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.

Vision

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

2017 Childcaring Board of Directors

Brad Gast, President

Donna Ginzl, Vice President

Nick Faber, Treasurer

Sarah Grosshuesch, Secretary

Jane Brandt

Joan Krohn

Michelle Rantala

Julie Rodger

Tammy Schreiber

Childcaring Staff Spotlight:

Hello, I am Mary Olson and I am a Technical Consultant working with the YoungStar program and I also do training for the agency as well.

I have a pretty extensive background in the early childhood field. I have been working in the field for 30 years and hold an Administrator's Credential from Nicolet Technical College, a bachelor of science degree in Early Childhood Education from UW-Stevens Point, and a master degree in Applied Teaching and Leadership from UW Green Bay.

I have also had a variety of experience in the field as well. I have been a classroom teacher, working with all ages of children, a child care director and administrator, and I have had the opportunity to substitute in family child care.

Other experiences include being an adjunct instructor in Early Childhood at Northcentral Technical College for 30 years as well. I have also had the opportunity to be the Resource and Referral Specialist for Child Care Connection and I have also served on the Child Care Connection Board.

I enjoy helping child care providers be and do their best. When child care teachers are at their best, they can provide the best care and education for all children, because they are so very important!

I have learned much about diversity while working with Childcaring. I feel I have always been very accepting of all people, but through trainings I have developed a better understanding of others and the challenges and struggles they have had in their lives.



What is your favorite children's book or toy and why?

As a child, growing up with my 7 siblings, I enjoyed playing games with them. I remember the Monopoly tournaments we had that lasted for days. I also loved books. One of my favorites was the Pokey Little Puppy. This book was about a puppy that tended to take time to "smell the roses" and he always wandered around. I think I can relate to that puppy. As a child, I felt I was a bit like that puppy. As an adult, I think it is time to be more like that puppy and take more time to "smell the roses".