



Issue #31
July, August, September 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

Wausau Office

1500 Merrill Avenue, Suite 201
Wausau | WI 54401

office hours:
9:00am - 5:00pm
715-301-1800

Both Childcarings locations
accommodate office hours by
appointment

1.800.628.8534
www.childcarings.org
info@childcarings.org



The Resource Connection

Take Advantage of YoungStar Consultation Every Year

Would assistance reviewing, revising and updating your parent and/or personnel handbook be helpful? Do you need help figuring out a child care room arrangement? What about setting up a parent bulletin board? These are only a few consultation time ideas. A YoungStar Technical Consultant can talk with you to determine how to best utilize their knowledge and skills to meet the needs of your program.

As part of the YoungStar program, participating child care programs can receive technical consultation every year. Programs participating in YoungStar are now required to be rated every two years. This gives programs more time to improve their quality between ratings. It also allows YoungStar ratings to be more similar to accreditation rating timelines. Programs may, and are encouraged to receive annual onsite coaching support to continue their quality improvement efforts. Make sure your program selects to receive these optional services as well.

Thus far, statewide, about 72% of actively participating programs that are not required to complete a rating in 2017 have requested to participate in this optional on-site consultation.

YoungStar participants were asked to describe things they learned during their technical consultation:

"This year was not "renewal year," but I was aware of the changes in YS and wanted to be ready to continue as a 3 Star provider upon my renewal in 2018. 1) As with previous years, a few handbook items needed a bit of rewording to better reflect the updated YS requirements. 2) WMELS education, requirements (where, when, what) was planned. 3) Portfolio education 4) New nutrition requirements."

"The TC observed our classrooms and gave us tips on how to use the solution rules in our classroom from the Wisconsin Social and Emotional training. She (the TC) came to our staff meeting and helped the staff work on the developmental check list for all of our classrooms so we could work on earning the point for our portfolios."

"She (the TC) helped us with our lesson plans so that we include our goals for each child in our room on our lesson plans. We also will be working with Sarah Agena to support healthy nutrition and write a physical activity policy and implement it in our program."

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

YOUNGSTAR CORNER

Child Care Information Center (CCIC)

ccic.wi.gov - 1.800.362.7353 - ccic@wisconsin.gov

The Wisconsin Child Care Information Center (CCIC) is a mail-order lending library and information clearinghouse serving anyone in Wisconsin working in the field of child care and early childhood education. The goal of CCIC is to help Wisconsin child care professionals give the best possible start to Wisconsin's children.

Information to Answer Your Questions

- Free brochures, tip sheets, and articles
- Consultation to help you find trustworthy information
- Help using CCIC, Licensing, YoungStar, and Registry websites
- Referrals to other agencies, websites, and experts

CCIC Web Page

- FREE materials to print or order online for licensing compliance and parent support
- New online catalog to easily search for books and DVDs to borrow from CCIC
- Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards purchasing information

Lending Library

- Specialized books and DVDs loaned through the mail for only the cost of return postage - or delivered to your local public library for you to pick up and return there
- Materials recommended by YoungStar and Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards
- For training, self-study, problem solving, and quality improvement
- DVDs loaned for one week, books for two weeks

CCIC is funded by DCF and administered by the Department of Public Instruction. CCIC serves anyone in the field of early care and education and afterschool care in Wisconsin.

What is Child Find?

Child Find is a continuous process of public awareness activities and screening designed to "find" children who may have a delay in development or a disability. The Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires all states to have a comprehensive Child Find System that ensures that all children (Birth to 21) who are in need of early intervention or special education services are identified, located and evaluated.

Developmental screening with validated tools provides families and professionals with information about how a child's development compares with other children of the same age. Screening increases rates of early identification of children with developmental delays and disabilities. Early identification allows for timely referral to appropriate supports and services so that all children can reach their full developmental potential.

In Wisconsin, Birth to Three organizations, public schools and several other organizations provide screening, resources and qualified professionals to assist families. The YoungStar Inclusion web pages also provide helpful tips and resources for child care providers and families. Visit: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar/eci>



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 & Waushara 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 715.346.4370

Lincoln County: Contact

Dolly Tanck at 715.536.7581

Taylor County: Meet the 3rd Monday of month

For more information, call Kelly Emmerich at
715.748.6192

Wood County:

Marshfield Area Child Care Association
Krisann Mauritz at 715.387.2218

Wisconsin Rapids Child Care Advocates Council
Jamie Lane 715.323.2546

Provide Child Care In Your Home

Attend a **FREE** Information Session August 17 in Antigo



If you love children and want to support their growth and development; have a safe and comfortable home; and want to earn income while working at home, consider becoming a regulated child care provider. Come learn about different types of child care. Child care can be a rewarding profession and a viable career.

Join us at this **FREE** information session to get the questions answered you may have about starting a child care business:

Thursday, August 17th - Aspirus Langlade Hospital
(6:00-8:00pm) 112 E. Fifth Avenue, Antigo, WI 54409
Main Entrance, Large Conference Room

Register by: Thursday, August 10 - call Childcaring at 1-800-628-8534

Funded in part by United Way of Langlade County.



Childcaring 2016 Annual Report Available Online

Check out the 2016 Childcaring annual report online www.childcaring.org! Some of the highlights include:

- **78 trainings (300 hours) provided**
- **211 community meetings attended by Childcaring staff**
- **272 out of 392 regulated child care providers participated in YoungStar**
- **995 families were served through referrals**
- **22 child care programs, reaching 958 children ages 2-5, completed the CPAN program**

Program Goal is “the cutting edge of child care”

YoungStar from the Start

April Niemi has been with the CAP program for 19 years, currently as the Assistant Director of Early Childhood Development, responsible for the Children's Discovery Center child care center. Samantha Zimmerman, Site Manager for the center, has been with CAP Services for 6 years. Both women recall when the program took on YoungStar the first year it began, earning a 5 Star for their first rating and maintaining it steadily until today. “Our program always strives for high quality services to children and families,” said April. Taking on YoungStar just meant “tweaking a little bit of the systems we had in place... and making changes overall that actually improved the quality of services.” Such changes included giving staff more office time for planning and self-assessment, educating families on the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards (WMELS) and implementing Ages and Stages Questionnaires (ASQs). Promoting 90 minutes of quality gross motor activity for the children has also been a huge focus, said Samantha. “It’s having staff consider; what is your intention behind that physical activity and the process? How are you using that time?” Since starting YoungStar, the program has worked through these changes with the same Technical Consultant (TC), Carrie Steinke from Childcaring, Inc. They wouldn’t have it any other way. “I could not ask for a better coach,” noted April. “She promotes YoungStar in a positive way, she knows the materials, and if she doesn’t, she is able to find the answer. Childcaring has been very supportive of our program.”



Families at the Foundation

At the core of changes the program has made through YoungStar over the years, are the families they serve. “Involving families and parents, that makes it even more rewarding,” emphasized Sam, describing how parents will stop in to compliment changes the program has implemented. Parents are highly encouraged to be a part of their children’s early education experience, through volunteer opportunities, monthly parent meetings and family events, parent surveys, and parent trainings based on parent feedback and interest. Parents even take part in the interview process for new staff. “The family involvement piece, it is the foundation of our program,” said April. “Their input and involvement is very important to us.” The program’s family-focused approach and their philosophy that play is important, continues to thrive with the support of their YoungStar TC and the incentives that come with maintaining their 5 Star. “Your coach [TC] is not there to judge, they are really there to support you,” said April. “In the end, it is well worth it.”



“Reprinted from Supporting Families Together Association” <https://supportingfamilies.together.org/testimonials/program-goal-is-the-cutting-edge-of-child-care/>

We would love to celebrate your program’s success. Reach out to Childcaring to have your YoungStar story featured in an upcoming newsletter!

Training Opportunities

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

*CPR with AED

Cost to attend: \$48.50 Classes are 6:00pm-9:00pm at Childcaring, Wausau Office

- Thursday, August 10
- Monday, September 18
- Monday, October 23
- Thursday, November 2

Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention

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

- Thursday, July 13 (10:30am-12:00pm)
Childcaring, Wisconsin Rapids
\$15/ Register by Thursday, July 6
- Thursday, September 14 (10:30am-12:00pm)
Childcaring, Wausau
\$15/ Register by Thursday, September 7
- Thursday, November 9 (10:30am-12:00pm)
Childcaring, Wisconsin Rapids
\$15/ Register by Thursday, November 2

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.

- Wednesday, August 23 (5:45pm-8:45pm)
St. Lawrence Early Childhood Center, Wisconsin Rapids
\$20/ Register by Wednesday, August 16

Wisconsin Pyramid Model for Social Emotional Competence

(Must attend all sessions)

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

- Mondays: September 18 & 25, October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, & November 6 (6:00pm-9:00pm)
MCCDA Head Start Barrington Center, Wausau
\$60 / Register by Monday, September 11

Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards

A unique opportunity to understand and implement the WMELS into your early childhood setting.

- Fridays, September 22 & 29 (8:30am-4:30pm)
Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield
\$45 / Register by Friday, September 15

Mark Your Calendar for These Trainings:

Discovering Science

- Monday, October 2
Rome Town Hall, Nekoosa

*Online - Strengthening Families in Early Care and Education

- Monday, December 4-10

We are currently working on implementing an online learning solution. These online courses will be common across the CCR&R network's 10 Agencies and the CCR&R Network office: Supporting Families Together Association. If you are interested in learning more about this initiative or would like to participate in the CCR&R network's online training offerings, we invite you to learn more by contacting Childcaring.

Ages & Stages Questionnaire-3

- Coming this Fall – Watch for details.

*Childcaring gift certificates are not redeemable for these trainings.



Over 1900 WI Adults Trained to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect

Each April, coinciding with National Child Abuse Prevention month, Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA) leads the push to train as many Wisconsin adults as possible in child abuse and neglect prevention, with SFTA staff and board and participating member Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) agencies and Family Resource Centers (FRC). This year, over 1900 WI adults were trained in child abuse and neglect prevention through 132 trainings across the state. This was the sixth year running for the Teach-a-Thon, and over those 6 years we have collectively trained approximately 10,000 WI adults in child abuse and neglect prevention who may not have otherwise had access to these resources.

Trainings within the Teach-a-Thon are specifically targeted to support parents, child care providers, and community members in preventing child abuse and neglect. While these trainings are emphasized during the Teach-a-Thon, they are held by SFTA staff and member agency staff throughout the year.

ONCE UPON A BOOK DRIVE IS GOING ON NOW UNTIL AUGUST 31

Help Us Collect Books for Child Care Programs and Families in Need

Once Upon a Book Drive is an annual effort on behalf of Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA), SFTA members, and community partners, to collect and distribute quality children's books to child care programs and families in need across Wisconsin. The drive runs annually from June 15th through August 31st.

During the book drive we accept new or gently used books that contain educational, appropriate content for children from ages 0 to 12. If you are considering a donation please keep in mind that while distributing

books collected in previous years we saw a need for more birth-3 age books, so we are emphasizing donations of infant and toddler-aged books.

Last year, 9,868 books were 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.

Let's plan to collect even more books this year! Please drop books off 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/>



Join the No Hit Zone Initiative

No Hit Zones promote healthy relationships and safe environments across the lifespan through awareness, education and skill-building.

A No Hit Zone is an environment that supports a culture of safety and health where:

- No adult shall hit another adult.
- No adult shall hit a child.
- No child shall hit an adult.
- No child shall hit another child.

For more information visit:

<http://www.thisisanohitzone.org/thisisanohitzone/>
or call: (608) 775-4891



SFTA and United Way of Wisconsin's Advocacy Day 2017

Early Investments to Support Children and Families Make Sense

Childcaring Executive Director Kelly Borchardt and Assistant Director, Micki Krueger attended Advocacy Day in Madison, April 17-18. The day included legislative visits with the offices of Senator Patrick Testin, Senator Jerry Petrowski, Representative Katrina Shankland and Senator Tom Tiffany. Discussions focused on the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) recommendations for the 2017-2019 budget, Three Smart Investments to Build Wisconsin's Future. To learn more about the ECAC visit: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/ecac> Be an advocate for young children and visit: <https://supportingfamilies.together.org>



Pictured left to right:

Deanna Schuette, United Way of Marathon County;
Dominic Belmonte, Communications Director for
Senator Tom Tiffany;
Micki Krueger, Childcaring Assistant Director



Pictured left to right:

Emily Stieve, United Way of Inner WI;
Senator Patrick Testin; Lisa Falduto,
United Way of Portage County; and Kelly
Borchardt, Childcaring Executive Director

Congratulations On Your Accomplishment

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

Building Blocks Learning Center, Wisconsin Rapids

Firehouse Friends, Stanley

Tender Loving Children's Center and Preschool, Port Edwards

Child Care Centers of Marshfield, Marshfield

Little Scholars Preschool & Kindergarten, Wausau

Key to Life, Weston

Tiny Toes Toddler Care, Wausau

Urban Sprouts, Weston

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.



PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY SURPRISES & THANK YOU'S

To celebrate child care provider appreciation day on Friday, May 12, 2017, Childcaring coordinated a drawing to include the names of every regulated child care provider in our 10 county service area. Congratulations to these Provider Appreciation Day Drawing Winners: **Kenneth Poeschel, Bao Xiong, Laura Strebig, HeadStart (Vesper), Kathleen Dahlke. Winners received a Visa gift card.**

Childcaring also held a Facebook contest where anyone who commented with a thank you to child care providers or, if they are a child care provider, commented about what they enjoy the most about providing child care was entered in the drawing for a chance to win a Visa gift card. **Deanne Patten** was the drawing winner. "Like" the Childcaring Facebook page for early care resources and upcoming fun contests ☺.

Also, thank you to these participating Dairy Queen locations who provided child care providers a free small cone on Provider Appreciation Day:

Dairy Queen Store (551 E Grand Ave, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494-4644)

DQ Grill & Chill Restaurant (803 N Central Ave., Marshfield, WI 54449-2122)

Dairy Queen Store (1600 S Roddis Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449-4905)

DQ Grill & Chill Restaurant (511 N 4th St., Tomahawk, WI 54487-1353)

Dairy Queen Ltd Brazier (1938 Grand Ave., Wausau, WI 54403-6870)

DQ Grill & Chill Restaurant (W7740 State Road 21 And 73, Wautoma, WI 54982-7704)

DQ Grill & Chill Restaurant (5398 Highway 10 E, Stevens Point, WI 54481)

Dairy Queen Store (905 N Center St, Merrill, WI 54452-1245)



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

WMELS B.EL.4 Uses the attributes of objects for comparison and patterning Mary Hynes-Berry from the Erikson Early Math Collaborative describes children learning attributes starting at birth. "Attributes are properties or qualities that allow us to describe & classify the world around us. We perceive attributes of the world around us through our senses, Attributes can be used to group. Language allows us to describe attributes with increasing precision." It is that increasing precision that will lead to learning numbers, counting, patterns and measurement. Think about "3" being an adjective not a noun that stands by itself (a naked number.) Teaching attributes will feed into understanding the three-ness of three!

So the math lesson with the three bears is a lot about describing attributes! Think about all the ways you can expand and use that story! How many ways can you describe porridge? "sticky" "runny" "Two bowls are not edible." "One bowl is edible." "white" "brown" "nutty" "thick" Thinking in attributes will help the children compare, sequence by attributes and measure as they think mathematically!



Submitted by: Beth Tepper, CESA 9

Save the Date:

15th Annual Conference for Early Childhood Educators *Leading the Way*

Saturday, October 7

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point
More conference details coming soon ...
this year the theme is social and emotional development

Clark County Family Fun Festival

Saturday, September 16

Greenwood High School

10am-2pm

CommUNITY Fest September 23, 2017

9 am – 2 pm

Expo Building, Marathon Park, Wausau



Healthy Choices Potato Energy Bites

Makes 12 Servings

Ingredients:

- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1 Tablespoon chia seeds
- 1 Tablespoon ground flax
- 1 Tablespoon unsalted pumpkin seeds
- 1/2 cup dried cherries
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Flesh from 1/2 large russet potato, cooked (about 3/4 cup)
- 3 Tablespoons natural peanut butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup maple syrup

Instructions:

1. In a large bowl, combine oats, chia seeds, flax, pumpkin seeds, cherries and cinnamon.
2. In a separate bowl, mash together potato, peanut butter, vanilla, and maple syrup.
3. Add potato mixture to oats, and stir until fully combined.
4. Roll into 12 balls, and store in fridge or freezer for up to 2 weeks.

Nutrition information per serving: 137 calories, 4 grams fat, 5 mg sodium, 22 grams carbohydrates, 4 grams fiber, 4 grams protein, 185 mg potassium

<https://www.potatogoodness.com/recipes/potato-energy-bites/>

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.

Dates Closed:

Independence Day - July 4
Staff Retreat Day - August 8
Labor Day - September 4

Vision

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

2017 Childcaring Board of Directors

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Donna Ginzi, Vice President

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Childcaring Staff Spotlight: Rachele

Hello, my name is Rachele Johnson. I am the Good Start Grants Program Coordinator at Childcaring. I just celebrated 11 years with Childcaring, and I truly enjoy the work I do here.

I grew up in the north woods and ventured down to Wausau right after high school to pursue my education and to be closer to family. I started out at UWMC, received my associates at NTC and my bachelors in Human Services Leadership from UW-Oshkosh. I worked at a child care center before taking the position at Child Care Connection.

I am a newlywed as of September! We have a 16 year old son Jakob and an almost 9 year old beagle Obie! In my spare time I am the coordinator for Wausau Area Youth Soccer Association and the popcorn kernel for Jakob's Boy Scout troop. When I am not busy running around doing that or attending tennis meets or soccer games, I enjoy being outside, spending time with my family, and the occasional Netflix binge!

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

The book I enjoyed as a child was Shel Silverstein's *Where the Sidewalk Ends*. While Jakob was growing up we would read *Go Away Big Green Monster* every night! I don't really recall a favorite toy, but I do remember getting together with the neighborhood kids every Friday and Saturday night and playing kick the can or ghost in the graveyard!

