



Issue #43
July, August, September 2020



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Baymen Professional Building)

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www.childcaring.org

info@childcaring.org



Office hours:

8:30am - 4:30pm

Additional office hours
available by appointment.

Office is temporarily closed to the public;
Childcaring staff is available by
phone, email or by appointment.

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.

The Resource Connection

We Want You to Know - WE CARE



Everyone at Childcaring is here to help and provide resources. We are good listeners and we invite you to call us if you can't find the resources you need. Especially during these uncertain times, we are all challenged with difficult conversations and decisions.

Please stay connected.

We are continuously updating our website and Facebook page with more resources.

Visit: <https://childcaring.org/beta/additionalresourcesforproviders/> to find resources about topics like: Family Support, COVID-19, Mental Health, Tolerance/Anti-Bias and Equity in Early Childhood, and more. We are also sharing a variety of resources about these topics on Facebook (@ChildcaringInc).

Today is a great day to choose to be kind to ourselves. Children are watching us every day and learning from us. Let's model self-care. Good self-care is key to improved mood and less anxiety. Take care of the person in the mirror.

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

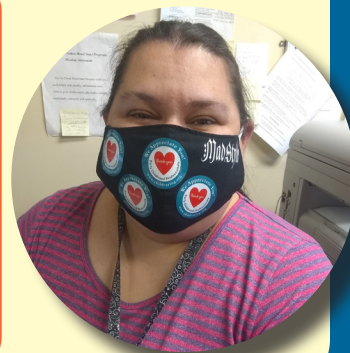
— Dr. Seuss

During this unprecedented time - and ALWAYS - WE CARE.

mindful minute

Did you know that remembering a happy memory releases the same "feel good" chemical in our brain that flooded it at the time of the experience? We can practice mindfully recalling favorite memories as a strategy to cultivate optimism, alleviate negative emotions and boost our physical health. One suggestion is to make a "Joy List" to help you identify things that make you happy. List those things you LOVE to do. Include everything...things that have brought you joy in the past and the present AND things you want to do in the future. They could be big things like your favorite family vacation or small like your favorite food or song.

Source: Extension University of Wisconsin- Madison/ Lincoln County



Serving: Adams | Clark | Langlade | Lincoln | Marathon | Marquette | Portage | Taylor | Waushara | and Wood Counties

YOUNGSTAR CORNER

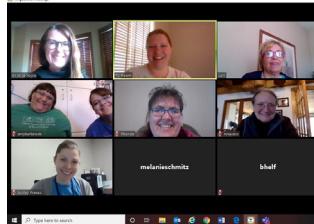
YoungStar participation, still important, still happening!

It is important that you return your YoungStar renewal contracts during this time. If contracts are not received by your anniversary date, your participation status will change and you will become ineligible to receive WI Shares payments from families. YoungStar consultation is still happening at this time, but it does look a little different. We are holding off on scheduling onsite visits, but if you are open to it, consultants are completing some visits on a virtual basis through phone and video calls. Your consultant can be a great resource during this time, and may be able to help you navigate through all of the information around the health crisis. If you prefer to continue on with in person visits, we will keep in touch with you and will look forward to coming to your program when it is safe to do so.

At this time, the quickest way to return your contract is to email it to tracy@childcaring.org or to fax it to 715-841-9466. If you have any questions about YoungStar, please feel free to reach out to your consultant, or to any of the Childcaring staff members.

Virtual Huddles

COVID-19 has presented some challenges! One, is how to safely stay connected. Like many of the CCRR's around the state, the Childcaring team wanted to provide an opportunity for the child care providers to connect with each other and share ideas, concerns, and resources. It was a lot like a virtual support group; we called them Huddles. Weekly sessions were planned for 4 weeks – two sessions of family child care providers and two sessions of group center directors. The Childcaring team planned a very fluid agenda with a few focus questions and plenty of time to talk about any hot topics that were presented. As you can imagine, much of the conversation related to COVID-19. Some of the topics discussed were: staff appreciation, policy changes, updated procedures, Paycheck Protection Program and unemployment, online resources, cleaning and supplies, advocacy, activities, rates, and more. Each session was left with positive thoughts, ideas for self-care, and good news. At one of the Huddles, participants were asked to share one word to describe their experience; we heard things like camaraderie, togetherness, support, helpfulness, inspiring.



We're excited to continue the virtual huddles!

Tuesdays: June 23, July 28, and August 25 from 1:00 to 2:00 pm. We'll have separate sessions for family child care providers and group center staff.

Virtual huddles will be through Zoom, powered by RingCentral. To access, participants will need to download an app to a device such as a computer, tablet, or smart phone. Participation by phone is also available, however Zoom is encouraged as information could be shared visually.

REGISTER AT LEAST 3 DAYS BEFORE THE HUDDLE DATE. Contact Childcaring to register by emailing info@childcaring.org or calling 715-841-9490. Registered participants will receive a link or phone number to access the session prior to the start date.

Childcaring Staff

Kelly Borchardt ~ Executive Director

Micki Krueger ~ Assistant Director

Linda Francis ~ Financial Manager

Audrey Bittner ~ Early Childhood Consultant/Trainer

Kristine Joyce ~ Early Childhood Consultant/Trainer

Mary Olson ~ Early Childhood Consultant/Trainer

Andrea Mueller ~ Early Childhood Consultant/Trainer

Lori Shafranski ~ Early Childhood Consultant/Trainer

Carrie Steinke ~ Early Childhood Consultant/Trainer

Kao L. Xiong ~ Early Childhood Consultant/
Trainer - Bilingual

Gayle Schiszik ~ Certifier/Pre-licensing Consultant

Rachele Johnson ~ Training/Program Coordinator

Tracy Verjinsky ~ Program Coordinator

Shelley Nelson ~ Referral & Communication Specialist

Tara Biebl ~ Resource & Referral Specialist

Provider Support / Advocate Groups

Adams, Clark, Langlade, Lincoln, 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

Taylor County: Meet the 3rd Monday of month
For more information, call Kelly Emmerich at 715.465.0993

Wood County:

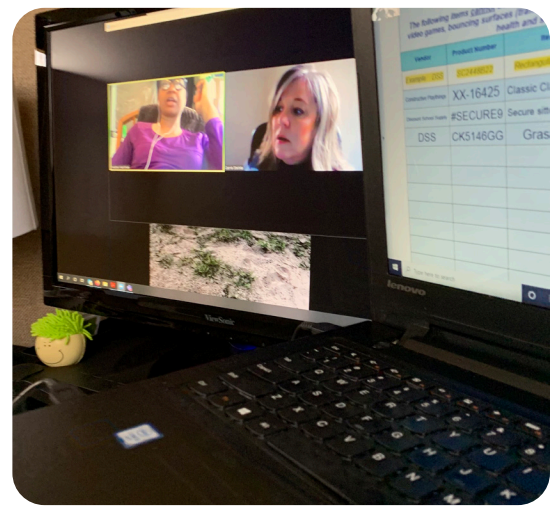
Marshfield Area Child Care Association
Krisann Mauritz at 715.387.2218

Wisconsin Rapids Child Care Advocates Council
Jamie Lane 715.323.2546



with a Regulated Early Childhood Professional: Family Child Care Provider Heather Harriman Topic: YoungStar Participation

Thank you Heather for your time and contribution to our newsletter!



Q: What do you like most about participating in YoungStar (YS)?

A: The year round help! I appreciate being able to get the resources I need to help the children in my care. I think sometimes people are intimidated and leery about having a YS Technical Consultant (TC) in their home. But the TCs are here to help and to be a resource. They go to many different child care centers and can share many different ideas to help you. You don't need to be afraid.

Q: What did you choose to have the YS Technical Consultant assist you with during your YS visit?

A: It is always nice to talk with a Technical Consultant because they understand and have background child care experience, in the field. I transitioned from being certified to being licensed in Sept., so I had planned to use YS time to further improve on some of my current practices. With COVID-19, my consultation services changed to needing support in different ways. My TC provided virtual technical assistance. It was nice to see a friendly face and feel supported. She helped me get resources and she also helped advocate for me during this difficult time.

Q: What would you recommend to other providers that may be hesitant to do virtual YS visits?

A: I think these work great! As a home provider, this worked well for me. The children were curious too. They liked showing our TC what they were busy with, it was a nice change in the day. I would recommend staying connected through the virtual visits. That is how I learned about the Huddles. Those were a great opportunity to connect with other providers. For our virtual YS visits, we used Zoom first and then Microsoft Teams later (for PC). Both were easy to use. If someone is still hesitant, I would tell them that I have also used the phone Zoom app to connect with friends and family and I think that is even easier to use.

Q: How will the micro-grant support your program goals?

A: It is important to purchase quality things for my program. The micro-grant helps me to get things I couldn't normally afford to improve my space and program. I ordered quality chairs for the children, an area rug because the floor gets cold in the winter, and some craft organizers. I also ordered and would suggest, if someone was looking for something, the secure sitter, that works great as a lower to the ground highchair. I also plan to use some of the micro-grant to pay for professional development – a Pyramid Model training.

Q: Is there anything else you would like to share about your experience participating in YS?

A: It's great – don't be afraid, it has been very helpful. YoungStar TC's rock!

REMINDER: Notify Your Licensing Specialist/Certifier and Keep Your Open/Closed Status Current

All child care providers that were temporarily closed during the COVID-19 pandemic must contact their licensing specialist/certifier **prior** to reopening. Modifying the status in the Provider Portal does not notify the licensing specialist. Anytime a change in status occurs, the licensing specialist/certifier must be contacted and the Provider Portal updated.

UPDATE:

During these unpredictable times, the Department of Children and Families (DCF) Division of Early Care and Education (DECE) will send updates every Tuesday and Thursday throughout the pandemic to everyone who has subscribed to the DCF Child Care listserv. <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/email-signup>

Training Opportunities

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

Register Online for Childcaring Trainings

To register, please visit www.the-registry.org, click on Statewide Trainings and type the name of the training in the Keywords search.

If you're already a Registry Member, simply sign-in and proceed with the payment process. If you're not a Registry Member, create a free account to register. If you need other payment options, please call our office.

Some trainings are not eligible for online registration and will be noted. Contact Childcaring to register.

Keep Your Registry Information Updated: You need to have a current and unique email address listed. If you participate in an online training, the email address you list will receive the training information sent by the instructor. Two or more people cannot have the same email address listed.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, many trainings and events have been canceled and facilities closed. Childcaring is working to develop online training options. For the most up-to-date list of Childcaring trainings please visit: <http://www.localendar.com/public/Childcaring>

(WMELS) Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards – Cognition & General Knowledge Development

Prerequisites: Must have completed a full 15 or 18 hour WI Model Early Learning Standards Training.

During this training, we will explore in depth the WI Model Early Learning Standards sub-domains, to maximize your understanding of how children approach their learning and their role in facilitating activities. Through practice observations, you will be given opportunities to define, examine, and recognize the importance of supporting growth in each domain. You will demonstrate how to assess children's current skills and intentionally develop planned experiences related to the developmental domain.

■ **Thursday, July 9 (6:00pm-9:00pm)**

Presented Virtually through Zoom Powered by RingCentral
\$20/Register by Thursday, July 2

CPR with AED

The training will provide participants with Infant, Child, & Adult CPR and automated external defibrillator training

■ **Classes are 6:00pm-9:00pm at Childcaring, Inc Mosinee**

Cost to Attend: \$45/Book: \$5

Wednesday, August 19

***Please note, due to COVID-19 this training may be canceled. We will assess as the date approaches.**

Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention

This training will provide participants with an in-depth review on the identification, prevention and grave effects of SBS.

■ **Thursday, July 16 (10:30am-12:00pm)**

Presented Virtually through Zoom Powered by RingCentral
\$15 / Register by Thursday, July 9

Strengthening Families

This training will provide participants the connections between the factors that prevent child abuse and neglect and the strategies that quality early childhood programs can use to build them up.

■ **Thursday, July 30 to Wednesday August 5**

Presented Online through Canvas

\$20 / Register online by Thursday, July 23

FREE Registry Membership or Renewal

Use coupon code: PDG2020

This coupon is available for all individuals and as funding allows, but no later than December 31, 2020. Take your time submitting your membership application and list your complete education and employment history as it relates to the early care and education profession. To submit your application and to track the amount of funding available for this coupon visit: <https://the-registry.org/free-membership>.

Funding provided by the Department of Children and Families through the **Preschool Development Grant (PDG)**

UPDATED: Abusive Head Trauma Prevention Training for Child Care Providers

Abusive Head Trauma (AHT) Prevention Training for Child Care Providers will be required after August 31, 2020, in place of Shaken Baby Prevention Training for Child Care Providers. Either training will meet the training requirement through August 31, 2020. **Child care providers who have already completed SBS Prevention training are not required to complete the new AHT Prevention training; however, the training may count toward a child care provider's continuing education hours.**

Child care providers and teachers working with children under age 5 are required to receive training on Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) Prevention and how to manage crying, fussing, or distraught children. In addition to covering SBS prevention, the updated Abusive Head Trauma Prevention Training addresses the latest information on:

- Abusive Head Trauma
- The Period of Purple Crying
- Strategies and challenges of soothing
- Coping with frustration
- Having a plan and educating others

Learn more about getting SBS and AHT training and read the AHT FAQs for additional information at: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/ccic/sbs-training>

Alliant Energy Foundation Community Grant



Childcaring is pleased to announce that we were awarded an Adams County Parent Café Grant Award of \$2,000. The Alliant Energy Foundation Community Grant provides funding to hold additional café sessions in Adams County. The goal of Parent Café is to create an environment where parents, caregivers and community members can share and support each other as a strategy for strengthening families. In person sessions will be held at a later date when it is safe to do so. For more information about Parent Cafes visit: <https://childcaring.org/beta/additionalresources/>



Thank You for the Support!

In an effort to support child care providers during the COVID-19 pandemic, Childcaring is helping to collect and distribute various donations. We also applied for and distributed \$31,000 of local funding. In order to be very purposeful when applying for these funds, Childcaring developed a short survey for the child care programs to describe their top 2, most urgent needs. The survey was sent in April to all the child care programs within our database that serves our 10-county, service delivery area.

Childcaring received COVID-19 Response Funding from Lincoln, Marathon, Portage, and Wood Counties. This relief funding allowed Childcaring to provide Sustainability Grants to 59 different child care providers. The grant funds were sent directly to child care programs that responded to the survey and expressed a need for assistance for things such as cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, and other items needed for operation during this pandemic.

A variety of organizations and individuals have also been providing donations. We were able to deliver facemasks courtesy of Lincoln County Department of Social Services. United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties provided and delivered hand sanitizer to various providers. We also picked up a donation of diapers and baby wipes from Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin (through the Northeastern Region Licensing team) that will go to Waushara and Marquette County child care providers. A grant was also received to help Marathon County families enrolled in Good Start Grants to pay for the additional expense of fulltime care for their school age children.

A very sincere thank you to: Lincoln County Department of Social Services, Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin, the Community Foundation of North Central WI, United Way of Marathon County, United Way of Portage County, the Community Foundation of Central Wisconsin, United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties, Marshfield Area United Way and Community Foundation, Merrill Area United Way, and the many donors of the local COVID-19 Response Funds. We are so grateful for your generosity!

We would also like to thank all the early care professionals who continue to provide child care during this pandemic and always. **You Are More Than Essential!**

Child Care Counts:

COVID-19 Emergency Payment Program

The Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) is supporting the growing demand for child care access for essential workforce families by assisting in the launch of a number of payment programs to support child care providers.

Don't Delay – Application Periods are Limited.

Application Period 1 - May 18 - May 29, 2020

Application Period 2 - June 8 - June 19, 2020

Application Period 3 - June 29 - July 10, 2020

The DCF payment program has 3 different application periods, but providers can apply for all 3 payment programs each application period.

- **Payment Program 1** is for child care providers that were open and providing care to children of essential workers during the application period.

- **Payment Program 2** is for incentive pay for those who provided care during the application period.

- **Payment Program 3** is for providers that were temporarily closed during the application period and, if still closed, can reopen within 30 days of receiving funding or after the end of a local order (depending on which is later).

- In general, child care programs that were **open** during the application period should apply for **Payment Programs 1 and 2**; child care programs that were closed during the application period should apply for **Payment Program 3**.

For more information visit: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/childcare/payments>. If you need help or have questions about your Payment Program application, please call 608-535-3650 or email DCFDECECOVID19CCPayments@wisconsin.gov.



Start a Quality Child Care Business

Join Us for a FREE Virtual Start-Up Session in 2020

Because quality child care programs are so important to children, working parents, and to the economy, Childcaring is offering FREE virtual child care start-up sessions. The session will help you answer questions like: How many children can I legally care for? What are the benefits to becoming regulated (certified or licensed)? What classes or training do I need to get started? What would I charge the families?

Register for one of these upcoming sessions:

Wednesday, July 22, from 1-2pm

Register by: Wednesday, July 15

-OR-

Tuesday, September 22, from 1-2pm

Register by: Tuesday, September 15

Virtual sessions will be offered through Zoom, powered by RingCentral. To access, participants will need to download an app to a device such as a computer, tablet, or smart phone. Participation by phone is also available, however Zoom is encouraged as information will be shared visually. Registered participants will receive a link or phone number to access the session prior to the start date.

Start-Up Grants Are Available! Register for a session to learn more about start-up grant eligibility. If you became regulated within the past six months you may still be eligible to apply, please contact our office for more information.



SCAN ME

To register call Childcaring at 1.800.628.8534, or scan the QR code, or visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/startupmtg>. This registration link is also available on the Childcaring website (see training calendar webpage) and on the Childcaring Facebook Event page.

Please help us share this information. If you know someone who is interested in providing child care, pass on this information. Also, like and share our Facebook Events.

Funding has been provided by: WI Department of Children & Families: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/>

Supporting Families Together Association: www.supportingfamilies.together.org

==== AFTER VIOLENCE ====

SUPPORTING CHILDREN WHO HAVE FACED TRAUMA

INFANTS AND TODDLERS, 0-2 YEARS OLD,

cannot understand that a trauma is happening, but they know when their caregiver is upset. They may start to show the same emotions as their caregivers, or they may act differently, like crying for no reason, withdrawing from people, and not playing with their toys.



CHILDREN, 3-5 YEARS OLD,

can understand the effects of trauma. They may have trouble adjusting to change and loss. They may depend on the adults around them to help them feel better.



WHAT STRESS MAY LOOK LIKE AND HOW TO RESPOND

Age Group/Behaviors	What You Can Do
INFANTS	
Crying more than usual	Keep routines in care normal and consistent
More clinginess	Hold and rock more, be affectionate
Difficulty sleeping or sleeping more than usual	Keep a positive attitude
Changes in eating or bowel movements	Reassure as needed
	Be patient
TODDLERS	
Loss of appetite	Play with them
May regress to acting younger, for example, wanting a bottle AND using "baby talk"	Continue to hug and give affection
Clinginess	Pay attention to how they play
Cries or screams a lot	
Being more aggressive hitting or pushing	

SUPPORTING CHILDREN



- Keep routines normal and continue favorite rituals or activities
- Maintain a "peaceful" atmosphere
- Make sure children are eating regular, healthy meals
- Always reassure children that you will do whatever you can to keep them safe
- Limit exposure to the media and adult conversations about the disaster
- Answer any questions children have. Be honest without giving a lot of detail
- Talk about the event when children bring it up - don't try to change the subject. Correct any "false" ideas young children may have about what happened. The language you use and information you give should always be age-appropriate.

Help children feel in control by	Teach children ways to calm themselves	Give opportunities for emotional expression
allowing them to have choices. Choices give them a voice and allow them to be responsible for their actions or decisions. Ex: Giving a 4-yr. old a choice of playing with blocks or an art activity.	like dancing to music, breathing deeply, or doing art activities.	through activities like playing with Playdough, drawing, building, and dramatic play.

www.childcareaware.org

Childcare Aware

Newly Regulated Child Care Providers:

Dawn Justman

LeRoyer Kool School Club
Antigo

Janelle Lone

Faith Christian Academy-The Train Station
Wausau

Heather Wenzel

Heather's Family Daycare
Edgar

Maggie Butkus

Huey's Academy
Medford

Start with your goal(s), then go searching for your activities:

WMELS Early Literacy C.EL.4 Uses writing to represent thoughts or ideas.

Bookmaking is one of the best ways to get children to think of themselves as authors. We often see journaling in schools but one caution - that is not often modeled for them by adults whereas they can find books all over the place that adults have written. Don't forget when you are asking children to make a book that you too are being an author of a book. The books can be pictures (even scribbles) or words. You can start with "list" books. There are list books about the alphabet, animals, foods multiple examples you can show of published list books. Allow children to take the time to read their book to you. Try to avoid telling the children what they are going to write about - you want them to be engaged because it is based on their own interests. This is one area I would avoid Pinterest since many of the ideas are prescribed. Vary the books instead by size, colored paper, number of pages, and shape leaving the topic up to the children.

homeschoolnotes.com

Submitted by: Beth Tepper, CESA 9



Purchase Your T-Shirt Today!

"Early Childhood Professionals Are More Than ESSENTIAL"



In honor of the Early Childhood Professionals and the quality care they provide, Childcaring designed this t-shirt to promote their hard work and dedication to the children, families, and communities they serve. Due to requests to buy the t-shirts, we have coordinated this summer opportunity to purchase them.

We have had a few questions about ordering, so we hope these clarifications are helpful ☺:

- The T-Shirt is Unisex and it is a softer/more fitted shirt. Please check the sizing chart. It is probably not a bad idea to order one size bigger if you like a little looser fit.
- No fee for Childcaring curbside pick-up
- Please pay with a check or money order

Please don't delay, the order is due: July 15. Orders will be placed after July 15 and t-shirts will be available for delivery (pick up or shipping) approximately 2 weeks after that. Do not hesitate to call Childcaring with any order questions you may have. *See order form enclosed.*

We are excited to see this message of support for providers and quality child care throughout our community!

Preschool Development Grant

WISCONSIN'S OPPORTUNITY TO TRANSFORM EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION



Updates on Wisconsin's PDG Activity

Listening Sessions

Over the past two months, the department paused some of the PDG work due to the COVID-19 public health crisis. All scheduled face-to-face PDG listening sessions are postponed. Thank you to all who attended or planned to participate in the listening sessions. We remain committed to finding ways to gather your feedback, so stay tuned for more information.

Please check the PDG webpage often for updates and to join the PDG email list. Contact WIPDG@wisconsin.gov if you have questions.



Help Us Get to 800 Likes!

Have you liked our Facebook page yet (@ChildcaringInc)? Be sure to do so to stay up-to-date on what's going on. We also post fun give-a-ways so keep checking back.

Help your community get the funding it needs for programs and services like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, Medicaid, health clinics, education, and much more.

Complete the 2020 Census online, by phone, or by mail. It's easy, safe, and important.

For more information, visit: **2020CENSUS.GOV**



Childcaring is supported in part by:



Xav tau kev pab pes/txhais daim ntawv xovxwm
no thov hu tuaj rau
Kao Lai Xiong 715-841-9490
Hnub Monday-Friday 8:30 txog 4:30.

Vision

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

2020 Childcaring Board of Directors

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Childcaring Staff Spotlight

Hello! I'm Carrie Steinke, and I work as an Early Childhood Consultant and Trainer for Childcaring. I've been with Childcaring for almost 15 years, and I truly value all that I've learned and the important work that our agency does. I have a B.A. in General Studies with a concentration in Child and Adolescent Psychology and have just a few courses left to earn a B.S. in Business Management and Leadership. I am also proud to hold Infant Mental Health Endorsement through the Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health (WI-AIMH).

I am originally from Wisconsin Rapids, but we recently moved to Menasha. My husband and I have been married for 27 years, and we have one (all grown up!) daughter who lives in Appleton with her husband and their dogs. We have a dog of our own named Lillie who always keeps us on our toes! Our family enjoys playing board games, getting our dogs together to hang out, and going to Brewers games. We've made several trips out of state to see the Brewers play at other stadiums, which has been a fun way to travel.

During my time with Childcaring, I've found that while early childhood does not always get the recognition that is deserved of this field, early childhood educators continue to amaze me with their strength, dedication, and enduring love for children.

What did you enjoy playing most as a child?

As a child, I loved playing with my two younger sisters-and I still really love getting together with them and their families! A fun (and somewhat embarrassing) fact-when my husband picked me up for our first date, my sisters, my mom, and I were playing Barbies (I was in my early 20s and my sisters were both teenagers). My dad was sitting on the couch watching us and laughing—not knowing that his future son-in-law would tell this story many times over the years. 😊

