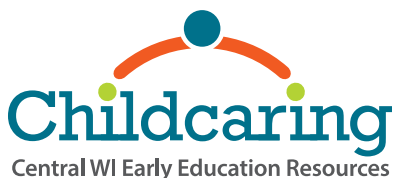




Issue #38
April, May, June 2019



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 Childcaring locations
accommodate office hours by
appointment

1.800.628.8534

www.childcaring.org
info@childcaring.org



The Resource Connection

LET'S LEARN BY PLAYING!

Play is so important in the lives of children. Play teaches confidence, trust, sharing, problem solving and more. Providing a developmentally appropriate environment promotes play that makes children feel more confident, independent, and expressive.

What are some examples of what you would see in a classroom with Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP)?

- Children offered choices
- Small group activities, based on interest
- Successful participation at any skill level
- Teachers facilitating play by asking open-ended questions and providing materials to extend the play

According to the 2019/20 YoungStar Evaluation Criteria, "Developmentally appropriate practice requires teachers to meet children where they are and help them to reach goals that are both challenging and achievable." DAP is based on the philosophy that children are competent and trustworthy, and can make good decisions if given the opportunity and practice.

Learn more about developmentally appropriate activities and practices at this upcoming training: Learning Environments and Curriculum Through the Lens of DAP. This training will provide participants with an in-depth review of the requirements for the developmentally appropriate environments as required by the YoungStar evaluation criteria. Join us: Wednesday, May 8, Wisconsin Rapids; or Tuesday, May 21, Merrill; or Thursday, August 1, Stevens Point.

Let's help create environments for children that allow for individual creativity, positive interactions, and each child's interests, abilities, and developmental progress!

What does it mean to have toys and materials accessible for children?

Developmentally appropriate toys and materials should be available and reachable; use age appropriate shelving, or place in locations where children can easily and safely get to the toys and materials they want to play with.

"Show me and I forget; Teach me and I remember; Involve me and I learn."
- Benjamin Franklin

YOUNGSTAR CORNER

YoungStar Technical Consultants Partner With Child Care Providers

TC Lori Shafranski Shares Her Experience



Pictured left to right: Little Sprouts Learning Garden Director Caitlyn Nielsen and Childcaring Technical Consultant Lori Shafranski work together during a recent YoungStar visit.

Each YoungStar Technical Consultant (TC) visit is an opportunity to partner with child care providers on issues that are important to them. These visits focus on the needs of the child care program. "On a first visit, I might ask child care providers, 'How do you see us spending our time together?'" says YoungStar Technical Consultant, Lori Shafranski.

Regulated child care providers can choose to receive Technical Assistance when they apply to the YoungStar program. The Technical Consultant (TC) guides the program through the process of getting training and technical assistance and then the program will complete a YoungStar rating. Programs can choose to have their Technical Assistance before or after being rated. Before a program is rated, a TC can work with a child care provider to help them decide what areas to focus on for Technical Assistance.

During a YoungStar visit, child care providers are able to talk about challenges that they are having. A TC can offer guidance on a variety of issues like: snow day policies, responding to children who bite, upcoming training opportunities, applying developmentally appropriate practice strategies, and more.

Child Care Owner/Operator Brook Seevers says, "Our time with our technical consultant has been nothing short of invaluable. She answers questions concerning anything regarding our center from policies and procedures to what types of materials and/or furniture are age appropriate for our classrooms. Lori has helped us decide what is best practice for our program and has given us piece of mind knowing she is helping to make us the best that we can be for the little ones we serve along with their families."

YoungStar consultation is individual to each program. YoungStar consultants build relationships and offer support to assist child care providers. Lori believes, "Listening is such an important part of my work with child care providers. I hope during our time together the child care providers feel heard and know that I want to learn about them and help them accomplish the goals they have each year."

Contact Childcaring if you would like to learn more about these services (www.childcaring.org). There is no cost for YoungStar participation, including YoungStar Technical Assistance, consultation, or rating services. YoungStar helps programs by providing training, technical assistance, targeted micro-grants to help programs get the things they need to improve and help children learn.

Childcaring Staff

Kelly Borchardt ~ Executive Director

Micki Krueger ~ Assistant Director

Linda Francis ~ Office & 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

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

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

Attend a FREE Child Care Start-Up Session

Do you know someone who might consider the child care profession?
Do they...

- Seem interested in a career caring for children
- Love to engage with children in play
- Have a desire to make a difference in the lives of children and their families?

IF so, they should come to a FREE info session to learn about providing regulated child care. The sessions will include information about the benefits of becoming a regulated provider as well as information about the classes and training needed to get started. We can help answer questions regarding start-up and offer technical assistance. Also, individuals who attend one of these sessions may be eligible for a start-up grant:

Wednesday, May 1st-

Marathon County Public Library Conference Room

(12:30-2:30pm) 300 North First Street, Wausau, WI 54403

Register by: Wednesday, April 24

This meeting is not sponsored by the Marathon County Public Library.

Thursday, July 25th - Aspirus Langlade Hospital (Demulling A Conference Room)

(6:00-8:00pm) 112 E. Fifth Ave., Antigo, WI 54409

Register by: Thursday, July 18



Thursday, August 1st -

Central Wisconsin Children's Museum

(5:30-7:30pm) 1100 Main St, Stevens Point, WI 54481

Register by: Thursday, July 25

Thursday, October 17th - Location TBD

(6:00-8:00pm) Marathon County

Register by: Thursday, October 10

If you, or someone you know,
is interested in providing child
care contact Childcaring to
learn more.

NEWLY REGULATED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS:

PUDDLE JUMPERS
LEARNING CENTER, MONTELLO

LITTLE BEANS,
AMHERST

NELLY'S DAYCARE,
STETSONVILLE



Celebrate



April 8–12, 2019

The Week of the Young Child™ (WOYC) is an annual celebration hosted by NAEYC to spotlight early learning, young children, their teachers, families, and communities. Join us for five fun-filled, themed days to celebrate our youngest learners:

MUSIC MONDAY:

When children sing, dance, and listen to music, they develop their language and early literacy skills while being active and encouraging movement. Make up and record your own unique version of a song or write your own.

TASTY TUESDAY:

Focus on healthy eating and fitness at home and school with Tasty Tuesday!

WORK TOGETHER WEDNESDAY:

When children build together they explore math and science concepts and develop their social and early literacy skills. Build and share pictures of children's creations.

ARTSY THURSDAY:

Celebrate the joy and learning children experience when engaged in creative art making.

FAMILY FRIDAY:

Share pictures and stories about your family.

Check out the Childcaring FB page for WOYC posts!

To learn more visit:

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

Stay Connected ~ Sign Up for Childcaring LISTSERVs

We invite you to join our list serves to receive important news and information regarding the organization and opportunities for your participation. The three options are:

• **Training:** Don't miss a training opportunity offered by Childcaring! This email will contain direct links to training flyers and registration information about upcoming trainings.

• **Newsletter/Annual Report:** Our newsletter, *The Resource Connection*, will be emailed quarterly, along with the annual report.

• **Weekly Email - Early Care Resources & Information:** Typically sent on Thursdays, this weekly email will have information for families, community events, provider trainings, employment, for sale, healthy choices and more!

Visit: <http://www.childcaring.org/newsletter.html> to sign up today!

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.

Please note, some trainings are not eligible for online registration and will be noted. Contact Childcaring to register.

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Presents:

ACE Interface Training

The Wisconsin ACE Interface curriculum provides an introduction to the relationship between adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), brain development, and health across the lifespan.

■ **Wednesday, April 10 (6:00- 8:00pm)**

Loyal City Hall

Register for this FREE event by: Wednesday, April 3

Learning Environments and Curriculum Through the Lens of DAP

This training will provide participants with an in-depth review of the requirements for developmentally appropriate environments as required by the YoungStar evaluation criteria.

■ **Wednesday, May 8 (5:45-8:45pm)**

Childcaring, Wisconsin Rapids

\$20/Register by Wednesday, May 1

■ **Tuesday, May 21 (6:00-9:00pm)**

Lincoln County Service Center, Merrill

\$20/Register by Tuesday, May 14

■ **Thursday, August 1 (6:00-9:00pm)**

Trinity Learning Center & Preschool, Stevens Point

\$20/Register by Thursday, July 25

CPR with AED*

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

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

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

* **Contact Childcaring to register**

■ **Wednesday, May 1 (6:00-9:00pm)**

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.

■ **Offered Online – Thursday, June 20-Wednesday, June 26**
\$20/Register by Thursday, June 13

This online course is self-paced for participants to complete within a seven-day period.

Family Engagement: Partnering with Families for Children's Success

This training explores best practices, 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.

■ **Offered Online – Thursday, July 11-Wednesday, July 17**
\$20/Register online by Thursday, July 4

This online course is self-paced for participants to complete within a seven-day period.



Caring Hands Brings You:

Taking Care of You

Presented by: Jackie L. Carattini, Family Living Educator, Wood County UW- Extension

Taking Care of You is a research-based program that offers practical strategies and experiences to help people deal with the stress in their lives. By staying healthy, child care providers can provide care to his/her full potential.

NO COST TO ATTEND

Tuesday, May 14

McMillian Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids (6:30pm-8:30pm)

Register by: Tuesday, May 7

-OR-

Tuesday, May 21

Streitel Conference Center, Marshfield (6:30pm-8:30pm)

Register by: Tuesday, May 14



Intended audience: Child care providers, teachers, caregivers, and parents

PARTICIPATE IN CHILDCARE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND NUTRITION PROGRAM



Childcaring would like to recognize these child care providers for completing CPAN:

- Newman Catholic Early Childhood Center - St. Therese
- Newman Catholic Early Childhood Center - St. Michael
- Brittenham Day Care



The Childcare Physical Activity and Nutrition (CPAN) program asks child care programs to make some changes and serve as role models by eating healthy and showing children that physical activity can be fun! Work with Health Consultant, Sarah Agena, to integrate more physical activity and healthier foods into the lives of children. The program is FREE and it is proven to be user friendly, time and resource efficient, and easily integrated into your busy day.

Some healthy eating ideas that will be discussed include:

- Encouraging child care staff to talk to children about what they are eating and how they enjoy non-fried foods.
- Instead of frozen pizza, have children make mini pizzas on whole wheat English muffins. Have a topping bar that includes cheese, different vegetables, beans, cooked chicken, and turkey pepperoni.
- Children eat with their eyes. Serve foods that have different colors and textures.

Child care providers enjoy participating in this exclusive program that works to give children a healthy start. A child care provider who recently completed CPAN shared these top three things they liked about the program:

1. Sarah helped us revisit health components of our center
2. Weekly email tips
3. Goal setting

What goals do you have for your program? Contact Sarah today to learn more about how to get started: Sarah Agena, MS, RD, Health Consultant
Phone: (715) 423-4114 or (800) 628-8534
Email: sarah@childcaring.org

Funding for this program is provided in part by the Aspirus Health Foundation

Participate in Go NAPSACC

(Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care)

Go NAPSACC is an online tool that is helping child care programs support children's healthy eating and physical activity habits. You can access the entire 5-step process to set and reach goals. Participating programs will receive unlimited access to go NAPSACC's online planning tools and high-quality educational materials, as well as support from a Go NAPSACC/YoungStar Consultant. This tool can help you meet the YoungStar Child Health and Wellness minimum requirement.



Marquette County Parent Café Sessions Held in April

What happens at a Parent Café? Families will gather to enjoy dinner together. After dinner, the children will transition to a separate area and enjoy developmentally appropriate activities. Parents then meet to begin the Parent Café. Parents discuss various questions in small groups facilitated by a Parent Host.

One parent who attended a past Parent Café shared,

"Don't be so hard on yourself. Everyone is going through something similar."

FREE Dinner and Child Care Provided!

Save the dates:

- April 15th in Montello
- April 22nd in Westfield
- April 29th in Endeavor

Please like the Marquette County Parent Café FB page for more details:
<https://www.facebook.com/MarquetteCountyParentCafes2015.2016/>

Registration is appreciated so we can plan appropriately for meals and child care. To register or for questions, contact Childcaring at 1-800-628- 8534 or info@childcaring.org

PURCHASE YOUR PLATE



It's so much more than a license plate.

By purchasing the Celebrate Children license plate, you can strengthen Wisconsin families and help make sure all our kids grow up safe and nurtured. Each plate purchase and renewal includes a \$25 tax-deductible contribution to the Celebrate Children Foundation. The Foundation supports the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board work to increase access to education, programs and services for families and children in communities across the state.

Questions: Call the WisDOT Special Plates Unit at (608) 266-3041.

Worthy Wage Day – May 1

Worthy Wage Day is a national day of action held annually. The event is part of an ongoing effort in communities across the country to raise public awareness of:

- The low wages earned by early childhood educators;
- The impact the teacher retention crisis has on young children;
- The chronic public underfunding for early education.



April is National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month

Wear **BLUE** on April 5, 2019 to show your support.

Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment. Show your support by promoting and strengthening prevention efforts in Wisconsin.

Take a picture of yourself and your colleagues wearing blue and share it on your favorite social media platform using the **#pinwheelsforpreventionwi** hashtag.



Look for the Childcarinc Booth at these upcoming events:

Wausau Children's Festival

April 6th 2019 • 9 am – 3 pm
East Gate Hall,
Marathon Park, Wausau

Blue Ribbon Kids Day

Wausau County
April 6th 2019 • 8:30 am – 12:30 pm
Parkside School, Wautoma

Marshfield Children's Festival

April 13th 2019 • 9:30 am – 1:30 pm
Marshfield High School

Marquette County Family Adventure Day

April 27th 2019 • 10 am – 1 pm
Montello High School

Wisconsin Rapids Children's Festival

April 27th 2019 • 10 am – 3 pm
Lincoln High School

Adams County Kids Day

April 27th 2019 • 10 am – 2 pm
Adams Friendship
High School

All Things Baby Expo

April 27th 2019 • 11 am – 3 pm
Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center,
Rothschild

Stand for Children Day

May 18th 2019 • 10 am – 2 pm
Antigo

CommunityFEST

September 21st 2019 • 9 am – 2 pm
East Gate Hall, Marathon Park, Wausau

Clark County Children's Festival

September 21st 2019
Greenwood High School

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

WMELS B.EL.1 Creativity and Imagination: Engages in imaginative play and inventive thinking through interactions with people, materials and environment. We can give children specific materials to help them retell a story exactly as it is told – which is a great skill but here we are talking more about them using their imagination and creativity. Collect cardboard pieces from boxes that appliances or other fragile things come in (see photo) and add to the sand table or the block corner. Add a few animals, people, props and encourage creating a story. These pieces can also be painted since they are cardboard. You could also consider as a group looking at one of the pieces and imagine what you could pretend it is....with minimal guidance if needed (a bridge, a house, a pond, a hat...)

Submitted by: Beth Tepper, CESA 9



Healthy Choices



Family Meals: Small Investment, Big Payoff

If you're concerned about what your child does (and doesn't) eat, the solution could be as close as your kitchen table. Gathering around the table to eat as a family has all kinds of benefits. Family meals allow parents to be role models who create a supportive environment that promotes healthy eating. Family meals don't just mean better nutrition. Children of families who regularly eat together also are more likely to have higher intakes of fruits and vegetables and have a healthy weight, and are less likely to have behavior problems or use drugs, cigarettes or alcohol when they get older. Plus, they're closer to their parents. No wonder family meals are on the upswing.

Reference:

<https://www.eatright.org/food/nutrition/eating-as-a-family/family-meals--small-investment--big-payoff>



Child Care Provider Appreciation Day

May 10, 2019

*Thank You For All You Do
In Shaping the Future of Children!*

Active Early and Healthy Bites Toolkits Available

Check out an Active Early or Healthy Bites Toolkit from the Childcaring lending library. The kits are available to support child care providers in promoting physical activity and healthy eating with the children and families in your program. These kits contain a variety of materials, resources and information to support physical activity and good nutrition such as: child-sized cooking implements and nutritional recipes, soft Frisbees and yoga cards. Aside from resources for use in a child care program, the kits include Home Activity Backpacks that children can wear home to continue to learn about nutrition and physical activity. This provides an important opportunity to support children's health and well-being and to encourage families to become more involved in your program. Contact Childcaring to learn more!

Funding provided by: Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant



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 Monday-Friday 9:00 txog 5:00.

Vision

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

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Childcaring Staff Spotlight

Hello! My name is **Andrea Mueller** and I am an Early Childhood Consultant/Trainer, Youngstar Technical Consultant in the Wisconsin Rapids office. I have been working with children of various ages in the child care field for over 10 years, spending the last 5 years in a 2-year old classroom. I earned a Bachelor's Degree

in Psychology and Sociology, where I interned at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Wisconsin. I also earned an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education. My husband and I live in Stevens Point, WI and we are anxiously awaiting the arrival of our first baby in July! Outside of work, I enjoy downhill skiing, golfing, watching the Green Bay Packers, reading and spending time with family and friends. I look forward to meeting and working with the directors and owners of child care centers to provide quality care to all children.

