



Issue #53
January, February, March 2023



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www.childcaring.org
info@childcaring.org



Hours:
Monday-Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm
Limited Office Coverage M-Th
Additional office hours available
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

Thank you for your feedback!

2022 Community & Child Care Provider Stakeholder Surveys

Each year we request feedback on the services we offer from both child care providers and community members. This gives us an opportunity to assess needs in our area and gauge the satisfaction with our work. We also use the information collected to guide us in our future planning. Data collected from the 2022 Stakeholder surveys included:

Greatest concerns about early care & education from Provider and Community Stakeholders

- Availability of child care slots
- Shortage and turnover of qualified staff
- Social Emotional Behaviors
- Low wages/availability of benefits for child care staff
- Cost of Care

While these results were similar to 2021, child care providers indicated social emotional behaviors as one of the greatest concerns in the 2022 survey.

Major strengths from Childcaring in the past year according to survey results:

- Knowledgeable staff with a passion for high quality early experiences
- Training and professional development
- Strong Advocates
- Strong Support System

What motivates child care providers in their work with young children:

- Watching them grow and learn. To be an important part of their learning for the future
- Helping families and building them up
- I love being a positive role model in children's lives
- Amount of learning and growing that happens each day.
- The future for us all and importance of this foundational time in life

Services child care providers indicated as most helpful or supportive:

- "Childcare grants were extremely helpful to help pay for new equipment and toys inside the daycare and for the outside."*
- "The help in finding the right answers and resources in order to keep my daycare running smoothly."*
- "Without a resource agency we would have nowhere to turn to get the help we need to ensure the continued operation of our facility."*
- "Provider Support-always there for questions."*

Powerful child care provider quote:

"Making sure that children have quality care is of vital importance to their growing minds. If I can be just one more person who truly cares for children's health/safety and well-being then I know I am helping parents who have to work. We want to be that provider that families can trust day in and day out to make sound decisions regarding what is right for other's children."

A sincere THANK YOU from Childcaring Staff and Board Members: We appreciate you and admire your dedication and commitment to serving children and families in Central WI. We look forward to serving you in 2023 and beyond!

YOUNGSTAR CORNER

YOUNGSTAR TRANSITION

Shine Early Learning, SFTA/CCR&Rs, and DCF all continue to work on the YoungStar Transition details.

After seven years of leading the YoungStar program, Erin Gernetzke has left DCF on December 2 to serve as Shine Early Learning's New Project Director. As Shine's Project Director, Erin will oversee the implementation and operational aspects of YoungStar.

Please visit the DCF website for Frequently Asked Questions: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar/program/administration>

Should you have any further questions in the meantime, please contact youngstar@wisconsin.gov

NEWLY REGULATED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS:

Nancy Cattanach
Family Child Care Provider, Wisconsin Rapids

Amanda Larson, Amanda's Daycare
Family Child Care Provider, Medford

Achieve Center Treatment Focused Childcare
Group Child Care Center, Wausau

Brittany Schulz, Little Pumpkins Childcare
Family Child Care Provider, Merrill

Samantha Northup, Happy Hearts Childcare
Family Child Care Provider, Kronenwetter

Traci Polansky
Family Child Care Provider, Wisconsin Rapids

Michelle Sutton,
Country Care for Little Learners
Family Child Care Provider, Granton

Emily Burroughs, Pine Tree Daycare
Family Child Care Provider, Nekoosa



Childcaring Staff

Kelly Borchardt ~ Executive Director

Micki Krueger ~ Assistant Director

John Jacobs ~ Financial Manager

Kristine Joyce ~ Early Childhood Consultant/Trainer

Andrea Mueller ~ Early Childhood Consultant/Trainer

Lori Shafranski ~ 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

Tara Biebl ~ Resource & Referral Specialist

Sarah Agena ~ Business and Community Outreach 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
Becky Helf 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
Deb Decker 715-898-2220

WI Family Child Care Providers - "Teacher's Lounge" Facebook Page

"Reaching, connecting, and growing leaders in Family Child Care. A place for Family Child Care providers to connect, collaborate, and support each other and to share the joys and challenges of this amazing profession! This group is intended to provide a 'teacher's lounge' for providers, a diverse, non-judgmental environment for great conversation!"



CHILD CARE LICENSING - RULE REVISIONS:

DCF has revised child care licensing rules affecting chapters DCF 250, 251, and 252. The primary purpose of the rule revisions was to accurately reflect the nature of school-age child care in DCF 251. However, while making those revisions, they also proposed revisions for DCF 250, 252, and other 251 rules.

DCF 250 – Rule Book for Licensed Family Child Care Centers
DCF 251 – Rule Book for Licensed Group Child Care Centers
DCF 252 – Rule Book for Licensed Day Camps

In December 2021 through January 2022, DCF solicited comments on the proposed rules affecting licensed family child care, group child care, and day camps for children. DCF held a hearing on January 5, 2022. The department reviewed all comments submitted on the proposed rule revisions and made many revisions to the rules in response to the comments.

Due to additional time needed for DCF system changes, the expected effective date of the proposed rules is March 1, 2023.

The summary below only includes Rule Additions and Revisions from the Hearing Summary document (<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/ccadminrule>). Please review the Hearing Summary document for more details, including participant comments and DCF response. If you have any questions about the information below, please contact your licensing specialist for further clarification.

- DCF 251.094 (2) and (3) Staff in school-age programs; school-age administrator and school-age director
- DCF 251.094 (4) (b) 3. and (c) 4. Staff in school-age programs; school-age program leader
- DCF 251.094 (6) Staff in school-age programs; school-age program aide
- DCF 251.095 (2m) (b) Additional requirements, modifications, and exceptions for school-age programs; supervision; sight or sound
- DCF 251.095 (5m) (a) 1. and (b) 3. Additional requirements, modifications, and exceptions for school-age programs; exceptions and modifications for school-age programs in school buildings; immunization records; personnel records to site within 2 hours
- DCF 250.04 (3) (Lm), 251.04 (3) (dm), and 252.41 (2) (q), Operational requirements; reports; notice of closure
- DCF 250.06 (6) Physical plant and equipment; water testing; adding lead test to DCF 250.06 (6) for private well water; clarifying DCF 250.06 (6), 251.06 (6), and 252.43 (4)
- DCF 250.07 (2) (b), 251.07 (2) (a) 1. and (c), and 252.44 (2) (b) Program; child guidance; time-out period
- DCF 250.05 (3) (gm) and 251.05 (3) (gm) Staff; qualifications of staff; program aide
- DCF 250.06 (2) (n) and 251.06 (2) (p) Physical plant and equipment; protective measures; radon testing and mitigation
- DCF 250.06 (4) (a) and 251.06 (4) (j) Physical plant and equipment; fire protection; smoke detectors
- DCF 250.06 (12) (a) (intro.) and 4. and 251.06 (12) (a) 2. and 6. Physical plant and equipment; swimming pools; 5-foot fence
- DCF 250.07 (6) (h) 4m. and 251.07 (6) (g) 8. Program; health precautions; dressed appropriately for outdoors; maintain selection of outdoor garments
- DCF 250.09 (1) (c) 4g. and 251.09 (1) (m) Additional requirements for infant and toddler care; [electronic] audio monitoring device when child under one year of age placed to sleep
- DCF 251.05 (4) (c) 2m. Staff development; continuing education; ratio for staff who work fewer than 8 months

myfree
taxes

For more information, visit:
MyFreeTaxes.com

File your taxes for free.

Get the assistance you need. Seriously.

MyFreeTaxes is the only free, national, online tax filing program offered by a nonprofit, because United Way fights for the financial stability of every person in every community. United Way is committed to ensuring that people can easily and accurately file their taxes for free and receive the refunds they deserve.

- MyFreeTaxes is mobile optimized so anyone can access MyFreeTaxes from their computer, tablet or smart phone.
- Most filers complete their taxes in less than an hour.
- MyFreeTaxes is completely free for federal and state returns.

Over 1.3 million people nationwide have used MyFreeTaxes, bringing over \$1.9 billion in refunds back to our local communities.

File your returns for free.

Your federal and unlimited state returns are all free.

Get assistance when you need it.

The MyFreeTaxes Helpline is staffed by IRS-certified 211 call specialists who are available to answer questions and help filers complete their return accurately.

Receive your maximum refund.

Our tax filing software guarantees 100% accurate returns, maximum refund, and top of the line security.



Child Care Providers

Please keep your vacancy and business information updated.

The Business Information Form (BIF) is sent to you from Childcaring, at least annually as well as a Vacancy Update Form monthly. Even if your vacancies haven't changed, it is especially helpful to update the form for the "last updated date" to be the most current. This information is live and available to the public, so if the date is not recent they may reach out to you to see if anything has changed. It may also be helpful to update your voicemail greeting with your vacancy information to reduce the amount of your time returning calls. Remember, the link you have to your BIF or Vacancy Update Form is always active and you can make changes anytime, as needed. If you don't have the link we emailed, please contact Childcaring and we'd be happy to get that to you. **Thank you!**



Training Opportunities

Scan this QR code or visit our website to view our online training calendar for the most up-to-date training opportunities.

Register Online for Childcaring Trainings

To register for individual trainings, visit wregistry.org, click Search for Trainings and search by Course Title. Training information is sent to the email address listed in the Registry. You need to have a current and unique email address in your Registry profile. If you do not receive the information, check your spam/junk mail or contact Childcaring.

Exploring the Third Edition of the Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale, Supporting Program's Participating in YoungStar - Presented Online

This five hour, online course will provide you with a comprehensive look at the Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale-Third Edition, referred to as ITERS-3. ITERS-3 is designed to assess center-based child care programs for children birth to 3 years.

- January 5 – 18, 2023 (Self-paced)
- Register by January 1 / \$20 (includes ITERS-3 book)

Safe and Healthy Environments – Presented Online

The Safe and Healthy Environments Online Training will explore health practices related to the early childhood environment. If you have previously taken the course Germs, Worms, Mud and Crud, you will find some familiar information. However, this course has been expanded and information added around best practice, licensing requirements, and the Environment Rating Scales has been incorporated.

- January 12 – 18, 2023 (Self-paced)
- Register by January 8 / \$20

STEAM'N: Winter Edition ~ Presented Virtually

Let's have some winter wonderland fun with activities that spark curiosity, imagination, and discovery! This session will offer a variety of activities you can do with children around science, technology, engineering, the arts, math and nature ~ all around winter theme.

- January 17, 2023 ~ 6:15pm – 8:15pm
- Register by January 10 / \$15

Strengthening Families through Early Care and Education with Mandated Reporter – Presented Online

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.

- February 2 – 8, 2023 (Self-paced)
- Register by January 29 / \$20

CPR with AED ~ In-Person

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

All trainings are held at Childcaring, Mosinee from 6:00pm-9:00pm
Register at least one week prior to start date by calling 715-841-9490
Class: \$45 Book: \$5

- 01/23/23
- 02/27/23
- 03/27/23

Abusive Head Trauma (AHT) Prevention Training for Child Care Providers – Presented Virtually

Gain awareness of AHT, its adverse consequences and how it is preventable.

- February 16, 2023 ~ 12:00pm-2:00pm
- Register by February 9 / \$15

Tools & Strategies to support Challenging Behaviors, beyond the basics: Part 1 ~ Presented Virtually

The first two tiers of the Pyramid Model refer to nurturing & responsive relationships and high-quality supportive environments. These two are critical to helping children who have challenging behaviors. We'll explore what the latest brain research has found regarding neuroplasticity and epigenetics to help us understand WHY some of this behavior is occurring. We'll begin looking at tier three of the Pyramid Model, which focuses on prevention using targeted social supports. Come with your challenges and questions.

- February 21, 2023 ~ 6:15pm-8:15pm
- Register by February 14 / \$15

Tools & Strategies to support Challenging Behaviors, beyond the basics: Part 2 ~ Presented Virtually

Once we understand WHY some children have challenging behavior, we can determine which tools, ideas, and strategies are best suited to help individual children who need some targeted supports. At the end you will be familiar with a variety of new ideas including templates. We'll also save time for questions regarding challenging behavior. (While its not required, it is highly recommended that you attend both part 1 & 2 to fully understand how to support children who have behaviors that adults find challenging.)

- March 21, 2023 ~ 6:15pm-8:15pm
- Register by March 14 / \$15



WCCAA Annual Conference

Thursday, January 26 – Friday, January 27, 2023

The Ingleside Hotel – Pewaukee, WI

Fellow administrators, directors, owners and champions of the child care industry mark your calendars for the Annual WCCAA Conference. This event will feature essential workshops, important updates and Key Note presentations in two great days dedicated to Administrators, Directors, Teachers and Partners in Early Care & Education!

For more information about Conference Schedule, Vendors, Presenters or Scholarships, please visit: <https://www.wccaa.org/conference>

Training list serve page on website –

Don't miss a training opportunity!

Join the Training List Serve (by scanning the QR code) or visit Childcaring's training calendar for our most up-to-date professional development options.



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO ENJOYS HELPING YOUNG CHILDREN?



If yes, please share this information with them to join us virtually and learn how we can assist them.

Bring Questions like:

What are the benefits of being regulated?

What classes or training do I need to get started?

How much would I charge families?

FREE Virtual Information Session

on Child Care Start Up

- Wednesday, January 25 (12:30-2:30 p.m.)

Register by: Friday, January 20

- Tuesday, March 7 ~ 6:30pm-8:30pm

Register by: Friday, March 3

To register, call Childcaring at 1-800-628-8534 or scan the above QR code.

You may be eligible for a Start Up Grant!



TAKE ADVANTAGE TODAY!

Coupon for FREE Registry Membership

A coupon for FREE Registry membership and renewal is now available through funding provided by the Department of Children and Families through the Preschool Development Grant (PDG). When completing your membership application use the **coupon code PDG2022**

All individuals, who are currently employed at a regulated child care program in Wisconsin AND have their current employer listed on their Registry Profile, are eligible to use the coupon.

The coupon will be available only as funding allows.

Visit this website to see if funding is still available: https://wiregistry.org/free-membership/#Using_the_Coupon_Code



Free Child Care Foundational Trainings ~ Now Available!

DCF and training instructor partners are pleased to announce that free Child Care Foundational Training is now available.

The Child Care Foundational Training courses covers the following noncredit trainings delivered in person or in an interactive online or interactive correspondence format:

Introduction to the Child Care Profession

Fundamentals of Infant and Toddler Care

Fundamentals of Family Child Care

Skills and Strategies for the Child Care Teacher

Please visit www.wiregistry.org and watch for more information.



Provider Assistance for Licensing Program (PAL)

OVERALL GOALS

- Increase the number of licensed child care providers in the Northern and Western licensing regions
- Support prospective or newly licensed child care providers' start-up and long-term sustainability and connect them to available services
- Increase public awareness about the benefits of licensed child care among providers, families, and community members

LOCATION

Northern Region

Counties: Ashland, Bayfield, Florence, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Price, Sawyer, Taylor, Vilas, Wood

Tribes: Bad River, Forest County Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk Nation, Lac Courte Oreille, Lac du Flambeau, Red Cliff, Sokaogon

Western Region

Counties: Barron, Buffalo, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, Rusk, St. Croix, Trempealeau, Vernon, Washburn

Tribes: Ho-Chunk Nation, St. Croix

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Unregulated programs (family, group, and day camps)
 - Certified family programs
- Providers who are in the pre-licensing process
- Entrepreneurs interested in starting a child care business

TIMELINE

This program will start accepting applications in January 2023.

CONTACT:

Kelly Matthews kmatthews@wisconsinearlychildhood.org or
Paula Drew pdrew@wisconsinearlychildhood.org

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

Every Child Is Prepared To Thrive



2023 Childcaring Board of Directors

Barry West, President
Tina Smith, Vice President
Michelle Rantala, Treasurer
Joan Krohn, Secretary
Annett Mooney
Jackie Carattini
Brittany Mews
Joseph Greget

Childcaring is dedicated to providing quality child care information, and partnering with parents, care providers, business leaders, and community organizations to make quality care available to Central Wisconsin families.

- Serving as a resource to potential and existing, regulated child care providers
- Helping families locate child care to meet their needs
- Working cooperatively with community partners to increase the supply of quality, affordable care

Good Start Grants (GSG)

Helping eligible families pay for child care!

(up to 65% of child care tuition)

Families must reside in one of the following areas:

- Marathon or Portage Counties
- Marshfield area, including: Arpin, Auburndale, Chili, Granton, Greenwood, Loyal, Neillsville, Pittsville, Spencer, or Stratford
- Wisconsin Rapids area, including: Babcock, Nekoosa, Port Edwards, Rudolph, or Vesper.

To learn more about GSG, scan the QR code!

