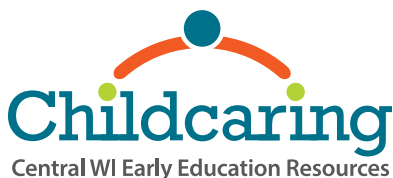


Issue #65

January, February, March 2026



850 State Hwy. 153, Ste F
Mosinee | WI 54455

(Across from Central WI Airport,
Baymen Professional Building)

715.841.9490
1.800.628.8534



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

Childcaring supports quality early
childhood education and care
by empowering a community of
individuals who care for and
nurture children.

The Resource Connection

Get Kids Ready: Supporting child care providers serving 4-year-olds

2025 Wisconsin Act 15 provides an annual \$66 million investment to DCF to fund "Get Kids Ready," a new community-based elementary school readiness initiative to support licensed or certified child care providers serving four-year-olds. The Get Kids Ready program will begin during the 2026-27 school year.

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) will be working in the weeks and months ahead to implement the law as required. Additional information will be shared through the DCF Child Care Provider Listserv, Tuesday Talks, and this webpage:
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/getkidsready>

Child care providers participating in Get Kids Ready will:

- Use a curriculum that meets the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards
- Offer 437 hours of elementary school readiness instruction per year
- Have teachers with an associate or bachelor's degree
- Meet state expectations for child health, safety, and well-being

What is the process to participate in Get Kids Ready?

Here are the steps to participate in Get Kids Ready. Each is described in more detail on the DCF website.

- **Intent to Participate** – Child care providers must submit an Intent to Participate in Get Kids Ready by **February 1, 2026**. The Intent to Participate signifies interest in participating in the Get Kids Ready program along with understanding of the Get Kids Ready program requirements. This will be available in the Child Care Portal on January 6, 2026.
- **Program Eligibility Verification Application** – After submitting an Intent to Participate, child care providers must then submit materials to verify they meet the Get Kids Ready program eligibility requirements by **May 15, 2026**.
- **Eligibility Notification** – DCF will notify all providers who submitted verification of their eligibility determination no later than **June 2, 2026**.

Where can questions about Get Kids Ready be directed?

For more information including Frequently Asked Questions visit <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/getkidsready/providers>. All questions can be sent to dcfgetkidsready@wisconsin.gov. Staff will review your question and respond as soon as possible.

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

CONGRATULATIONS!

NEWLY REGULATED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS:

Kyla Degler, Dairyland Daycare

Licensed Family Child Care, Rudolph

Angelina Sherman, Sunshine Home Learning Center

Licensed Family Child Care, Weston

Jacob Theron, Revive Now Academy

Licensed Group Child Care, Tomahawk

Cathlynn Wojtalewicz, Curiosity Cove Child Care LLC

Licensed Group Child Care, Plover

Brandi Marshall, Brandi Marshall Child Care

Certified Family Child Care, Stevens Point

Tessa Buchowski, Honeycomb Home Daycare

Licensed Family Child Care, Plover



Big Emotions, Brave Educators: Learning, Growing, Thriving

Saturday, February 28, 2026 | 8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Northcentral Technical College, 1000 W Campus Dr, Wausau, WI 54401

Keynote: Making Deposits- Supporting Little People Who Have Big Emotions,

Delechia Johnson, MS., IMH-E®, Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health

Confidence in the Classroom: Addressing Challenges with Compassion and Skill,

Martha Stolp and Julie Betchkal, Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health

Stress and Resilience: Strengthening Well-Being for

Early Childhood Professionals,

Nicole Cusimano and Anna Barthen, YoungStar Connect

Celebrating YOU and Your Why, Shawn Sullivan, Northcentral Technical College

Early Bird Registration

(Until February 13, 2026) - \$30; Regular Registration - \$40

*Includes lunch, all conference materials, and certificate for 5.5 CEUs

Scholarships Available!

Distributed as a partial reimbursement of \$15/person
and mailed after completion of the conference.

Provider Support / Advocate Groups

**Adams, Clark, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon,
Marquette & Waushara County:**

Contact *Childcaring* at 800-628-8534 if you're
interested in developing an advocate group.

Portage County:

Mary Olson at 715-344-1985 or molson65@live.net

Portage County Leaders:

Becky Helf at 715-346-4370 or bhelf@uwsp.edu

Taylor County: Meet the 3rd Monday of month

Kelly Emmerich at 715-465-0993 or kcemmerich03@gmail.com

Wood County:

Marshfield Area Child Care Association

Deb Decker 715-898-2220 or marshfieldshiningstars@gmail.com

Lead-Safe Wisconsin: The Lead-in-Water Testing and Remediation Initiative

The Wisconsin Lead-in-Water Testing and Remediation (WTR) Initiative works to reduce drinking water hazards in licensed group child care centers and Head Start programs across the state. Interested family child care centers may also contact DHS regarding their pilot program.

This FREE program tests for lead in water at these centers and helps impacted facilities to take action by offering FREE plumbing replacement for fixtures, such as water fountains, kitchen faucets, and classroom faucets.

Your facility can choose whether or not to participate in this voluntary program. You can also decide to participate at a later time if that is more convenient for your facility. To get started, fill out the interest survey at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lead/water.htm>, or contact your local public health department if you are interested in participating.

This conference is hosted in partnership with



Contact the Continuing Education team for questions
ce@ntc.edu 715.803.1243

**For more information and registration
details, visit:**

<https://www.ntc.edu/calendar/2026/02/28/2026-early-childhood-educators-conference>



SCAN ME



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 **wiregistry.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.

Introduction to the Child Care Profession (revised 2024) - Blended

This 50-hour training provides foundational knowledge and skills for individuals as they begin a career in caring for children and fulfills introductory noncredit course requirements as specified in DCF Chapters 202, 250, and 251 for Family and Group Child Care.

• January 8 – February 12, 2026 (required face to face sessions will be virtual from 12:00 - 3:00 PM on the following Thursdays:

January 8, 15, 22, 29 and February 5)

• Cost: \$150

Register by Jan 4:

<https://go.wiregistry.org/v7/trainings/992242/register>

Caring With Confidence: HeartSaver CPR w/ AED and First Aid - In person

In partnership with Northcentral Technical College, this training includes adult, child, and infant modules along with First Aid. Successful completion includes American Heart Association certificate and WI Registry credit. Textbooks are required, and can be purchased at NTC's Campus store or online. Each course is \$61. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/ntc-heartsaver-cpr>

• Saturday, January 10 / 8:00am-1:00 PM / Wausau Campus

• Thursday, February 5 / 4:30-9:30 PM / Spencer Campus

• Thursday, February 12 / 4:3-9:30 PM / Wausau Campus

• Saturday, March 14 / 8:00am-1:00 PM / Wausau Campus

AHA CPR w/ AED – In person

Childcaring - 850 State Hwy 153, Ste F, Mosinee

The American Heart Association Heartsaver CPR w/ AED course trains participants to give CPR, and use an automated external defibrillator (AED) in a safe, timely, and effective manner for Infant, Child, and Adult. Heartsaver® CPR AED Student Workbook is optional and can be purchased through Childcaring for \$5.

• Saturday, January 17, 9:00am-12:00pm

Register by Jan 14: <https://go.wiregistry.org/v7/trainings/998902/register>

• Tuesday, January 27, 6:00-9:00pm

Register by Jan 25: <https://go.wiregistry.org/v7/trainings/996988/register>

• Wednesday, February 25, 6:00-9:00pm

Register by Feb 22: <https://go.wiregistry.org/v7/trainings/997118/register>

• Wednesday, March 25, 6:00-9:00pm

Register by Mar 22: <https://go.wiregistry.org/v7/trainings/997122/register>

WI Family Child Care Provider's "Teacher's Lounge" - Virtual

Each facilitated huddle will share information, news, knowledge, ideas, and offer support through shared experiences on a topic of interest that will directly benefit children and families by providing the family child care providers tools and strategies to support their work as they interact and provide quality care and developmentally appropriate learning experiences.



Each Teachers Lounge is free and held from 1:30-3:00pm on the following Tuesdays:

• January 27 - Register here:

<https://go.wiregistry.org/v7/trainings/998188/register>

• February 24 - Register here:

<https://go.wiregistry.org/v7/trainings/998189/register>

• March 24 - Register here:

<https://go.wiregistry.org/v7/trainings/998190/register>

Fulfilling the Promise Conference: The Power of Joy

• March 16-18, 2026

• Wilderness Resort, WI Dells

• Registration closes on 3/6/26. <https://whova.com/portal/registration/16anHAXrVJV1BO4ryduN/>

• Questions? Email: ftpconference@uwm.edu

Keeping Kids Safe - AHT Prevention, SIDS Risk Reduction, and Mandated Reporter – Self Paced, E-Learning

During this training you will gain awareness of AHT, its adverse consequences and how it is preventable; the ABC's of safe sleep and why it is important to prevent SIDS; types of abuse, the reporting requirements, and how to make a report as a mandated reporter. Each module meets the requirements for child care providers to work in a regulated program.

• April 1 – June 30, 2026

• Cost: \$15

• You must register and complete this course within the allotted timeframe: <https://go.wiregistry.org/v7/trainings/998216/register>

Fundamentals of Infant & Toddler Care (revised 2024) - Blended

This training provides foundational knowledge and skills training for individuals as they begin, or consider, a career in caring for children in the infant and toddler age groups and fulfills introductory noncredit course requirements as specified in DCF Chapters 250 and 251 for Family and Group Child Care.

• February 12 - March 19, 2026 (required face to face sessions will be virtual from 12:00-3:00pm on the following Thursdays: February 12, 19, 26, March 5 and 12).

• Cost: \$150

Register by Feb 8: <https://go.wiregistry.org/v7/trainings/992244/register>

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



2026 Childcaring Board of Directors

Barry West, President

Tara Guelzow, Vice President

John Kaprelian, Treasurer

Brittany Mews, Secretary

Annett Eckes

Lynda Fernholz

Angie Close

Sarah Sturm

Suzanne Stanfley

Rick Anderson

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

Early Childhood: Child Find

What Is Child Find?

Child Find is a continuous process of public awareness activities, screening and evaluation designed to locate, identify, and refer as early as possible all young children with disabilities and their families who need an Early Intervention Program (Part C) or Early Childhood Special Education (Part B) services of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

School districts are required to locate, identify and evaluate children with disabilities within their attendance area. To assist in this child find process, districts have developed "Informed Referral Networks." An Informed Referral Network is comprised of community partners, including Childcaring, that work together to serve young children and their families. Relationships with community partners have proven to be the most effective practice in identifying children with disabilities. These partnerships provide an opportunity to learn more about screening young children and providing information about community resources. This community network refers children who may have a disability and a need for special education. For more information about Child Find visit the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction website: <https://dpi.wi.gov/sped/early-childhood/child-find> or contact Childcaring.