

Issue #66

April, May, June 2026



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Baymen Professional Building)

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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

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

The Resource Connection

Childcaring, Inc. Awards New Capacity Grant to Strengthen Child Care Access in Wood County

Childcaring, Inc. is pleased to announce the award of a \$100,000 Capacity Building Grant to Building Blocks Learning Center Inc., a licensed group child care center serving children and families in Wood County. This investment supports continued efforts to increase access to high-quality child care for working families across central Wisconsin.

The grant, funded by American Rescue Plan Act through Wood County, will allow Building Blocks Learning Center Inc. to expand classroom space, add child care slots, improve facilities, and enhance staffing supports. These improvements directly address local child care needs and support the workforce by helping families remain employed or pursue education.

"Access to reliable, high-quality child care is essential for families and for the strength of our local economy," said Kelly Borchardt, Executive Director of Childcaring, Inc. *"This award reflects our continued commitment to partnering with child care programs that are meeting community needs and working toward sustainable growth."*

Jennifer Hanzlik, Administrator of Building Blocks Learning Center Inc. in Wisconsin Rapids shared how the funding will make an impact. *"This investment allows us to better serve the families in our community. By expanding 3 of our existing classroom environments, enhancing current needs and additional spaces with equipment along with supporting our current teaching staff; we believe our mission of quality programming and safe and nurturing spaces for our little learners will be expanded for this upcoming spring of 2026 and beyond. We look forward to utilizing our wait lists and helping additional families as soon as possible."*

This award is part of Childcaring's broader strategy to strengthen the child care system by investing in capacity, quality, and long-term sustainability. By supporting providers across Wood County, Childcaring helps ensure families have access to care that meets their needs while supporting local employers and the regional workforce.

Additional funding opportunities may be available for child care providers and individuals interested in starting a regulated family child care program. Those interested are encouraged to contact Childcaring or visit <https://childcaring.org/dreamup/#wood> to learn more.

CONGRATULATIONS!

NEWLY REGULATED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS:

Annamaria Patterson, Lumen Early Learning

Licensed Family Child Care, Merrill

Kayla Ramos, Badger Cubs Home Daycare

Certified Family Child Care, Plover

Olivia Valesh, Forest Circle Sprouts LLC

Provisionally Certified Family Child Care, Stevens Point

Pacelli Catholic Elementary – St. Stephen

Licensed Group Center, Stevens Point

Pacelli Catholic Elementary – St. Bronislava

Licensed Group Center, Plover

LAUNCHING 2026 EMOTION REGULATION WORKSHOPS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS!

The University of Wisconsin–Madison Extension, in partnership with the CCR&R Network, is offering in-person continuing education workshops designed specifically for early childhood providers and directors. Emotion regulation is a foundational skill that supports children’s lifelong well-being—and these sessions are packed with practical, science-based strategies to help you foster emotional development both in classrooms and at home.

Workshop Dates & Locations

-Racine (Gateway Technical College): April 18, 2026

-Prairie du Chien (Crawford County): April 25, 2026

-Beaver Dam (Moraine Park): May 2, 2026

-Eau Claire (Chippewa Valley Tech): May 16, 2026

-Superior (Northwood Tech): May 16, 2026

-Waupaca (Fox Valley Tech): June 6, 2026

What You’ll Gain:

-A deeper understanding of emotion regulation and neurodevelopmental foundations

-Co-regulation techniques to support children’s emotional growth

-Strategies to engage families and support emotional development at home

-Collaboration with peers to tackle real classroom challenges

Visit the workshop details and register here:

<https://parenting.extension.wisc.edu/workshops>

Child Care Provider Appreciation Day - Friday, May 8, 2026



Provider Appreciation Day® is celebrated the Friday before Mother’s Day every year to recognize child care providers, teachers and other educators of young children everywhere. This day is celebrated nationally each year to amplify our nation’s collective gratitude for those who support the social, emotional and physical care of our youngest children.

We appreciate YOU!

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

naeyc®

Week of the Young Child®

#WOYC26

April 11 – April 17, 2026

A fun-filled week celebrating early learning, young children, their teachers, families, and communities.

- **Kick-off Saturday**, post a video, blog or social media post sharing why you celebrate Week of the Young Child and what you do to prepare.
- **Sunday**, don't forget to take some time for yourself, reorganize and re-energize so that you're ready for the week ahead.
- Create a dancing playlist for **Music Monday**.
- Search your kitchen for ingredients for your **Tasty Tuesday** activity.
- For **Work Together Wednesday**, work with other educators in your program/community to draft a letter(s) to your elected officials, emphasizing the need to invest in ECE.
- Gather your arts and crafts for **Artsy Thursday**.
- Draft an email to parents explaining what they should expect during #WOYC26 and how they can prepare for your **Family Friday** activities.

For more info, visit: www.naeyc.org/events/woyc; and follow *Childcaring* Facebook Page for more details!



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](https://www.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.

Ooey Goey Lady - WHAT IF TODAY WAS THEIR ONLY DAY Reconnecting With Your Professional "Why?"

Get ready as Lisa Murphy, The Ooey Goey Lady®, shares the powerful and impactful story of her first day of school. In this free virtual presentation, Lisa will share how at age three, while attending Mary's Nursery School, she decided to become a teacher.

- Tuesday, April 14, 2026 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- FREE Virtual Presentation

Registration Required • Course #: 679

This course is eligible to receive 1.5 hours of continuing education units through the Wisconsin Registry.

Questions: continuinged@mstc.edu • 715-422-5488

Wisconsin Child Care Administrators Association (WCCAA) Annual Conference: Oshkosh, WI

- Thursday, April 30th, 2026- 8am-5:30pm
- Friday, May 1st, 2026- 8am-3:00pm

<https://wccaa.wildapricot.org/event-6492959>

Wisconsin Family Child Care Association (WFCCA): 2026 Annual Conference: Hyatt Regency, GreenBay, WI "The Balancing Act"

Navigating the Needs of Children, Families, & Ourselves

- Thursday-Saturday, April 30 - May 2, 2026

<https://www.wisconsinfamilychildcare.org/conference.shtml>

AHA CPR w/ AED – In person

Childcaring (850 State Hwy 153, Ste F, Mosinee)

The American Heart Association (AHA) 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. One Heartsaver CPR AED Student Workbook (2020) is needed per program and can be purchased through Childcaring for \$5. **All classes are 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM.**

- Monday, August 13th
- Wednesday, May 20th
- Thursday, June 18th

Cost: \$45 / Register a week prior to class date - 715-841-9490

Caring With Confidence: Heartsaver First Aid / CPR / AED – In person

In partnership with Northcentral Technical College, this training includes adult, child, and infant. 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](https://bit.ly/ntc-heartsaver-cpr). Each course is \$61. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/ntc-heartsaver-cpr>

- Saturday, April 11 ~ 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM - Antigo Campus
- Saturday, April 16 ~ 4:30 PM – 9:30 PM - Wausau Campus
- Saturday, May 2 ~ 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM - Wausau Campus

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

This facilitated huddle helps family child care providers improve quality by sharing updates, ideas, and experiences. Sessions include information on Wisconsin regulations, YoungStar, and program changes, plus tools and strategies to support children and families, followed by a Q&A.

Each Teachers Lounge is free and held from 1:30-3:00pm on the following Tuesdays: • April 28 or • May 26



Follow the Teacher's Lounge Facebook [page](#) to stay up-to-date on all things Family Child Care!

Supporting Children's Emotional Growth - Virtual

This training aims to equip educators with the knowledge and skills to better understand and support children in their social and emotional growth. Participants will learn about the historical context of disruptive behaviors, the medical basis of brain regulation, and how sensory sensitivities may contribute to challenging behaviors. You'll gain practical tools and techniques to help children who struggle with self-regulation, fostering a classroom environment that promotes emotional well-being and positive behavior.

- Monday, May 4 ~ 6:00 – 9:00 PM
- Cost: \$25
- Register by April 27 [here](#).

Fundamentals of Family Child Care (revised 2024) - Blended

This 30 hour training provides foundational knowledge and skills training for individuals as they begin, or consider, a career in caring for children in a home setting and fulfills introductory noncredit course requirements as specified in the DCF Chapters 202 and 250 for Family Child Care.

- April 20th – May 25th, 2026: Required Face to Face sessions will be Virtual, 12:30 - 2:30 PM on April 20, 27, May 4, 11, & 18
- Cost: \$110
- Register by 4/13 [here](#)

Skills and Strategies for the Child Care Teacher (revised 2024) - Blended

This 50-hour training prepares individuals to be successful in the role of a lead child care teacher in a child care setting and fulfills one of the introductory noncredit course requirements as specified in DCF 251 Licensing Rules for Group Child Centers.

- May 4 – June 8, 2026: Required Face to Face sessions will be Virtual, 5:00 - 8:00 PM on: May 4, 11, 18, 26, June 1
- Cost: \$150
- Register by April 25 [here](#).

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, 2025
- Cost: \$15
- You must [register](#) and complete this course within the allotted timeframe.

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



2026 Childcaring Board of Directors

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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

How Can We Support You?

Are you facing challenges in your child care program or worried about staying open? Please reach out to us—we're here to help.

We can:

- connect you with local and statewide resources that may support your program,
- share items you have for sale,
- post open staff positions,
- and more.

Whatever you're navigating, you don't have to do it alone. We're here for you and ready to help in any way we can.

