



The Provider Connection

ywca
greater toledo
child care resource
and referral

PUBLISHED BY:
YWCA CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL OF LIMA & TOLEDO, OH

TAMI TALKS...

A Word from Tami Matthews, Director of Child Care Resource and Referral

Greetings and Happy New Year:

“Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere”- Proverb

I hope this new year, after a busy holiday season, finds you feeling rejuvenated and inspired in your important role! This is an ideal time to reflect on how far you have come in your work with children and families; but, also how far you may have come with your own professional development over the past year.

Your continued learning and development is vital to the children you serve, as well as to your ongoing confidence and growth as an early childhood educator/administrator. Time spent learning is never wasted time!

Ideally, you are not only able to apply new and relevant ideas within your program after each training, but your *depth of knowledge* in early childhood education continues to deepen as you go forward in your career.

As many of you now know, as of January 1, 2011, we have had to begin charging fees for “specialized” training opportunities. However, please know that our intention is to apply these funds to the development of additional training options to fit your needs. Please watch for those continuing professional development opportunities yet to come. As always, we are still here to support you in your quest for quality and knowledge!

Yours in Service,
Tami



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

MANDY SMITH
INFANT TODDLER SPECIALIST, LIMA

Mandy Smith began her passion for working with children in high school while volunteering in elementary classrooms. She graduated from Wright State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Early Childhood Education Pre K-third grades. She began her career by substitute teaching in local school districts and eventually taught kindergarten and was also an Ohio Reads Coordinator.

Mandy is also a fully certified trainer for PITC, the Program for Infant Toddler Care. She also attends many of our county Early Childhood Coordinating Committee meetings, and serves as co-chair in Mercer County.

For the last 5 years Mandy has worked at the YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral as an Infant Toddler Specialist, providing technical assistance and training for infant and toddler teachers. Mandy not only hopes to improve quality in child care centers, but also to improve the quality of care the children receive from their child care providers.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

RUGENA MODISETT
AFTERSCHOOL SPECIALIST, TOLEDO

Rugena Modisett has been employed at YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral since 2003 as an After School Specialist. Rugena spends most of her work days presenting trainings and providing technical assistance for child care providers who work with school age children.

Ms. Modisett has presented workshops and trainings on topics such as School-Age Modules 1-6, School Age Summer Activities, Outdoor Games, and Hands on Activities. Rugena holds an Associate degree in Early Childhood Education and a Bachelors Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. She has 10 years experience in the early childhood field. She has worked as child care counselor, a Youth Opportunities Coordinator, and a mentor to teens.

Rugena’s years of experience and extensive training provides her with the knowledge to assist parents and providers and to support the many needs of the communities served by the YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral.

Parent Connections...tips for communicating with parents

Definition of *SLIDING SCALE* SUBMITTED BY JANET ASHTON, PARENT SPECIALIST

Also known as a flexible scale (as in fees or subsidies) adjusted to the needs or income of individuals.

Many families in our area struggle to make financial ends meet for themselves and their children.

The trend I have noticed for families lately is that they do not qualify for child care subsidy. One of the most common reasons is that the parent or caregiver is on medical disability. The adult must be working or going to school in order to receive child care assistance.

Another situation is that the parent works third shift and child care subsidy is not offered for 'sleep time' for the adult. Most of these families are made up of single parents and have no other family to turn to in helping care for the children while they sleep.

We are also receiving more calls from grandparents or great-grandparents (and other relatives) that are caring for children in 'kinship' care. This has increased due to more parents being incarcerated or going into drug rehab. Most of these adults, caring for their relative's children, are retired and on a fixed income.

And the least calls, but most encouraging during these difficult financial times, are calls from families who have had an increase in income. This increase disqualified them from receiving child care subsidy through Job and Family Services and they struggle with the full cost of child care.

All of these situations for families bring up the reason for the title of this article. A Sliding Scale or Flexible Scale is something families are in search of when facing these financial difficulties. Families call and request a child care search for providers willing to work with them on fees. If this is something you would like to include in your profile, please call 1-800-632-3052 in Toledo or 1-800-992-2916 in Lima to update your information.

WAY TO GO!!!

We would like to give a round of applause to those who have gone above and beyond licensing requirements to participate in Step Up To Quality! The following providers have recently received a star rating:

3 STAR RATING

WOOD COUNTY

WSOS PEMBERVILLE

WSOS JORDAN CENTER

FULTON COUNTY

NOCAC CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

LUCAS COUNTY

GAN YELADIM PRESCHOOL

2 STAR RATING

AUGLAIZE COUNTY

KIDS LEARNING PLACE

LUCAS COUNTY

A PROMISING TOMORROW

YMCA AT ANDERSON FAMILY ENRICHMENT CENTER

YMCA AT FAITH LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

1 STAR RATING

HANCOCK COUNTY

ALMOST HOME



CELEBRATE DIFFERENCES: ROLE MODEL RESPECT

SUBMITTED BY KATHI DIXON, SUTQ SPECIALIST

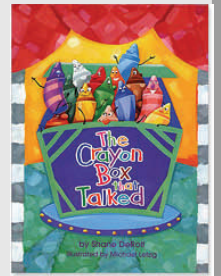
"To make beautiful music you have to play both the black and the white keys" - Richard M. Nixon

The most effective way children learn to respect themselves and each other is by watching the important adults in their lives act respectfully. Because the children in your care look up to you, you are in a position to influence their ability to respond gracefully and creatively to diversity, whether it is cultural, racial, religious, age or related to those with special needs. Our goal should not only be to tolerate people's differences, but to also rejoice in them.

Tips for Modeling Respect:

- Focus on reinforcing social skills. *"I love to see everyone cooperating!"*
- Focus on feelings. Help children understand how their behavior affects others. Focus on how behaviors can either help or hurt a friendship. *"It does not look like calling John names is getting him to share with you. What's another way to get John to share the blocks?"*
- Think ahead about how to handle situations you might encounter with children. Remember, there is never only one right way to respond to a child's question or statements!

A wonderful book to use for celebrating diversity is *The Crayon Box That Talked* by Shane DeRolf, illustrated by Michael Letzig.



HOW TO TALK ABOUT DISABILITIES

SUBMITTED BY LISA VENDETTA, PARENT SPECIALIST

The youngest preschoolers, 2- and 3-year-olds, may not even notice a person's disability unless it's plainly obvious or it's pointed out to them. However, by age 4, children will definitely notice that someone doesn't talk, walk or eat like everyone else, and they often start blurting out questions. They might even wonder if a disability can happen to them. How you respond to those first innocent and curious observations will affect the way children think about disabilities and treat others.

How to begin talking about disabilities with your preschoolers (For more tips visit babycenter.com)

Answer questions directly. As always with young kids, don't go into a long-winded response — just answer the question asked.

Watch your words. Take care in how you describe people with disabilities — your child is listening. Avoid outdated, derogatory terms like "crippled," "retarded," and "handicapped." Put the emphasis on the person and not the disability.

Teach respect. If you hear your preschooler referring to someone with a disability as "stupid" or saying that he walks or talks "funny," take a moment to discourage such teasing. Explain just how much those words can hurt and point out that looking or behaving differently doesn't make someone stupid.

Taken from an article on www.babycenter.com by Ziba Kashef, 2008

Preschool

WALLS THAT WORK

SUBMITTED BY SARAH TARRY, SUTQ SPECIALIST

Displays on the walls send messages to the children who work and play in your classroom every day, to the families who drop them off and pick them up, and to visitors in the classroom. Apply the same energy and consideration to classroom displays as you do to planning the rest of your program. Make sure that what you post on the walls reflects the creativity, learning, and joy found in your classroom.

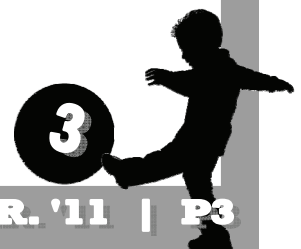


What should go on the walls?

- First and foremost, children's art and creations
- Charts related to children's daily experiences
- Curriculum related items (planning webs, documentation panels, etc.)
- Photographs (children & families, teachers, field trips, etc.)
- Commercial items (use sparingly)
- Required materials (safety notices, information for families)

*Look for more "Walls That Work" in the next issue of The Provider Connection.

Laura J. Colker. "Walls That Work." *Teaching Young Children* Volume 1. Issue 4 (2008): Pages 14-17.

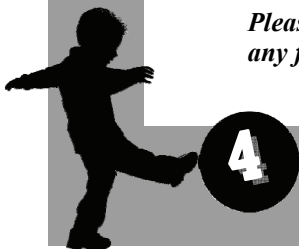


New Training Fee Information!

YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral Registration and Payment Policies for Trainings Requiring a Fee Effective January 1, 2011

- All training fees and registrations **must be received** no later than 3 business days prior to the workshop date. You must register through OPDN.org before submitting your payment. **Walk-in registrations and payments for trainings will not be accepted at the time of the training.** CEU payments may be accepted at the time of training.
- If payment has not been received 3 business days prior to the workshop date, **your registration will be cancelled and you will not be admitted to the workshop.** You will receive an email notification that you have been cancelled.
- **All receipts for training fees will be emailed to the CURRENT email address listed in your profile on OPDN.org.**
- We accept payment by check, money order, Visa, MasterCard, and Discover. Credit card payments are accepted by phone at 1-800-632-3052 in Toledo or 1-800-992-2916 in Lima. You may pay in person with cash (3 business days in advance, exact amount only). Please make checks or money orders payable to YWCA CCR&R and mail to: YWCA Child Care Resource & Referral Attn: Professional Development Fees 1018 Jefferson Ave. Toledo, OH 43604.
- To ensure your payment is processed quickly, please enclose the PDF training confirmation page from OPDN with your payment. If you are unable to print your confirmation page enclose your name, OPIN number, phone number, email address, and the title and date of the workshop you wish to attend. **Your registration will be cancelled and you will not be admitted to the workshop if we are unable to match your payment to your registration.**
- You may cancel your registration through OPDN.org before the registration deadline but **no refunds will be issued and fees may not be transferred to another training or date.** However, your training enrollment may be transferred to another person with 2 business days advance notice by phone.
- In the event that YWCA CCR&R must cancel a workshop, you will be offered either a reschedule date or a refund. Refunds will be issued within 30 days from the date of cancellation.
- There is a \$5 charge to replace each ODJFS Inservice form. Payment is nonrefundable.
- There is a \$10 nonrefundable fee for CEUs. CEUs must be requested prior to or at the workshop. Payment is due either prior to or at the workshop by check or money order only. CEU credit will not be granted retroactively. **CEU payments may be accepted at the time of training.**
- There is a \$25 fee for returned checks due to insufficient funds. **Attendees must pay all fees, including the original workshop fee, for returned checks with either cash or credit card only before registering for future fee based classes.**

Please note: after one returned check occurrence, only cash, credit cards or money orders will be accepted for any future fee based classes.



New and Improved “Learning Links” Coming Soon!

It's a weekday afternoon, and a small group of preschool teachers are keenly involved in an intense discussion related to handling challenging behaviors. This day, teachers are sharing results of strategies they have applied in their classrooms. While one teacher recounts a riveting example, the other teachers feverishly take notes. To the observer, it appears this is going to be a very beneficial session for those attending this “Linked Learning Community”.

As many of you know, peer to peer “Learning Link” sessions were developed last year in an effort to enable providers to come together as peers to share and brainstorm on a variety of topics. In-service credit was not given, as these were not trainings; however, they were golden opportunities for peers in the early childhood community to share ideas and deepen their knowledge. Upon reviewing these sessions, we have decided to slightly change and enhance this peer to peer “Learning Link” concept by merging it with a “Learning Community” model.

Beginning in January, we will be offering “**Linked Learning Communities**”. There will be an ongoing “Linked Learning Community” for administrators; infant/toddler teachers; preschool teachers; afterschool teachers; and family child care providers. These sessions, which will allow for flexible attendance, will enable teachers and/or administrators to collaboratively pinpoint and discuss common issues over a period of time. According to Ingleton and Lambert, (Supporting Early Childhood Teachers through the use of Professional Learning Communities, 2007, p. 21), “*When teachers work together to improve student learning by engaging in joint-study of research-based and recommended practices, the result is improved educational services and better outcomes for young children and their families.*”

We are confident you will find these sessions to be valuable and rewarding as we go forward. Upcoming dates for these enhanced learning opportunities are as follows:

Community	Date	Time	Location	Call to register
Administrators	1/12/11	1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	Lima	419-225-5465 or 1-800-992-2916
Administrators	1/19/11	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Lucas	419-255-5519 or 1-800-632-3052
Infant & Toddler	1/27/11	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Lima	419-225-5465 or 1-800-992-2916
Infant & Toddler	1/10/11	12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.	Lucas	419-255-5519 or 1-800-632-3052
Preschool	1/19/11	1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	Findlay	419-225-5465 or 1-800-992-2916
Preschool	1/12/11	9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Fulton	419-255-5519 or 1-800-632-3052
Preschool	2/3/11	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Lucas	419-255-5519 or 1-800-632-3052
Afterschool	1/26/11	12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.	Lima	419-225-5465 or 1-800-992-2916
Family Child Care	1/25/11	12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.	Lima	419-225-5465 or 1-800-992-2916

More dates and times are available. Seating is limited, call to register today!

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROFILES!!!

SUBMITTED BY DIANE GRAY, SUTQ ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

As professionals, it is part of your responsibility to keep your profiles updated with your latest contact information. However, we are finding that several of your Professional Development Profiles are no longer up-to-date. Please be sure that all information is current. If you have changed your name, email, employer, or phone number, please go into your profile and update the information. Also, if you did not originally list phone numbers, employer information, or the county where you work, please complete this information.

This is very important because we must be able to contact you if a training has been cancelled or changed. If you are new to the Ohio Professional Development Registry, after you receive your User ID and Password, please review and complete all information. If you need further assistance contact YWCA Child Care Resource & Referral: 1-800-992-2916 in Lima and 1-800-632-3052 in Toledo.



**YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral
TOLEDO LOCATION**
1018 Jefferson Ave.
Toledo, OH 43604
(419)255-5519 | (800)632-3052

YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral
LIMA LOCATION
(419)225-5465 | (800)992-2916

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT



**The Provider
Connection**

THE PROVIDER CONNECTION NEWSLETTER FOR CHILD CARE PROFESSIONALS

THE PROVIDER HIGH SPEED CONNECTION Quick Reference to Online Resources

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Resource and Referral
www.ywcatoledo.org

Ohio Professional
Development Network
www.opdn.org

Step Up To Quality
www.stepuptoquality.org

OCCRRA
www.occrra.org

United Way
www.unitedwaytoledo.org
www.unitedwaylima.org

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