



# 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

Hello All!

Here's hoping that this greeting finds you settling in after the start of the new school year with your enrollment looking good and your efforts toward quality paying off for your program and the children you serve!

On our end, in addition to the Step Up to Quality training and technical assistance we provide to child care providers, we have also been very engaged in providing services related to language and literacy development of young children within our service delivery area. I just wanted to take a moment to introduce these exciting projects.

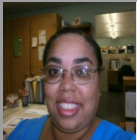
In Allen County, our *Dolly Parton Imagination Library* book and parent program, funded through the United Way of Greater Lima, continues to successfully grow! Also in Allen County, we initiated a very successful *Early Language and Literacy Project* on-site within

preschool classrooms, also funded by the United Way of Greater Lima.

In Lucas County, we are collaborating with Harbor and Read for Literacy, in a new grant funded through the United Way of Greater Toledo, to strengthen social-emotional and literacy skills in young children attending child care programs. Also through a grant from the United Way of Greater Toledo, we continue our growing *Outreach Parent Program*, serving new and expectant parents.

Through our varied programs for parents and providers, we strive toward our shared vision to "embrace the importance of a child's growth and development in an environment where children's individual needs come first. We empower child care providers and families to enjoy and nurture children, giving them the freedom to explore and play."

Yours in Service,  
Tami



### STAFF SPOTLIGHT

**MARLA GARNER**  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIST., TOLEDO

Marla Garner's enthusiasm for the field of early care and education began in junior high school, where she was a first grade teacher's assistant in a mentoring program.

Initially majoring in Early Childhood Education, she graduated from Owens Community College with an Associate's Degree in Applied Business. Marla also holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from The University of Toledo.

Marla has been an Administrative Assistant for the *YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral* for six years, and is responsible for data collection and reporting to state and local community agencies. She also provides administrative support to child care providers, parents, the community and the CCR&R staff and enjoys staying connected to the early care and education field.

Marla also enjoys practicing yoga, reading and spending time with family and friends in her spare time.

### STAFF SPOTLIGHT

**BECA SCHEIDLER**  
FAMILY SPECIALIST, LIMA



Beca Scheidler has been with the *YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral* since September of 2010 as a Family Specialist. She is responsible for the coordination of the *Dolly Parton Imagination Library* program in Allen County, an early literacy program that sends a free book each month to 1,500 children.

Each month Beca hosts two Family Fun Activity Groups where there is a family story time, music, and activities that are relevant to the book chosen for that event. She also works closely with WIC, LACCA, and many other community agencies.

Beca received her BA in Psychology from the Ohio State University in 2003. She worked for 10 years in the child care field, and spent 3 years in the mental health field. Beca enjoys spending time with the families in her program and hopes that she is making a difference in preparing children to enter kindergarten with the language and literacy skills to help them be successful.

In her spare time, she enjoys reading, bike riding, and spending time with her family and friends.

# Administrators

## Take the First Step



Step Up to Quality is Ohio's voluntary quality rating system for early care and education.

### Do you want a quality rating for your program?

Becoming star-rated with Step Up To Quality can often seem impossible to programs, but technical assistance is now available to **ALL** licensed programs seeking to become star rated in Ohio's Step Up to Quality system.

If you are interested in earning a star rating for your program, contact Katie Maccagnone at (419) 255-5519 or 1-800-632-3052

**Check out our Facebook page for a list of our currently rated programs.**

## Quality Achievement Awards (QAA)

The purpose of the award is to help programs maintain and improve the quality of early care and education and afterschool services at the program site. We are excited to announce that amidst other programming cuts in our state, the Quality Achievement Awards will continue for state fiscal year 2012 (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012).

## NEW NO SHOW POLICY

The Ohio Professional Development Network (OPDN) has added a new feature to track the training attendance of child care providers. After 3 no shows, providers will automatically be prevented from registering for future trainings across the state of Ohio. Providers will need to contact their local resource and referral agency to re-request registration allowance. To prevent being locked out of registering for trainings please make certain to un-register **before** the training start date.

## DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE AGES AND STAGES SCREENING?

### WE CAN HELP...

We are happy to announce that we are offering two new trainings that will help you understand the Ages and Stages Developmental Screenings.

**\*ASQ3:** This training defines and discusses the process, covers the importance of screening, and features the revised ASQ3 tool. Cost: **Free on October 27, 2011**

**ASQ Social-Emotional:** Included in this training is discussion around the importance of screening children's social and emotional development, the use of the social/emotional tool, and how to make referrals. Cost: **Free on October 27, 2011**

Register at [www.opdn.org](http://www.opdn.org)

## NURTURING BABIES WITH NATURE

SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER CALHOUN, INFANT & TODDLER SPECIALIST



In this issue of the *Provider Connection* we will discuss how urban spaces and exploring the earth can be used to nurture infants and toddlers.



Most toddlers love to muck about in mud and earth. So playground space needs to offer places where they can dig holes and fill pails. If you set aside an area for planting, toddlers will be very willing helpers - making holes, pouring water in each one, enjoying giving each baby plant a better chance to grow. And every day they help, children will be learning about responsibility. Watching how a young seedling grows into a big tomato plant, a flowering zinnia, or a colorful bed of pansies is a priceless learning experience.

Even a stroll to mail a letter can be an adventure! Lift up baby so he can drop your letter into the slot. And be sure to point out interesting events along the way: "See the doggy sniffing near that fire hydrant?" "See the light turn green at the corner? Now all the cars know they can go zoom, zoom along the street." "Hear the siren wailing as the fire truck rushes to put out a fire?" The sights and sounds of an urban landscape provide so many opportunities for using new words with little ones. You'll see sights together and speak the words, such as truck or car or green light or bus, that babies will have seen and pointed to in picture books.



Alice Sterling Honig, Ph.D. *Secure Relationships: Nurturing Infant-Toddler Attachments in Early Care Settings.*

## DRAMA QUEENS: WHERE DO YOUR GIRLS PLAY?

SUBMITTED BY KATHI DIXON, SUTQ SPECIALIST

# Preschool

Learning centers are important places where all children can develop social, cognitive and emotional skills as they play and work together. Here are some ideas to help encourage girls to try out other centers they do not visit often.

### To make the block area more appealing to girls:

- Display photos of women working as mechanics, construction workers or architects
- Ask a women to play in the area – a mother, grandmother, friend
- Include a basket of adornments for block structures like silk flowers, strings of beads, small pieces of fabric or provide lengths of various fabric textures and colors
- Provide dolls, stuffed animals, puppets and other elements of dramatic play to the block area
- Cover unit blocks with photos of each child in the classroom, sealing them with clear packing tape. The children can then put themselves and their friends into their construction
- Offer books such as, Arches to Zigzags by Michael Crosbie, Raise the Roof by Anastasia Suen, This Is Our House by Michael Rosen and Tools by Ann Morris.

Photos courtesy of <http://progressiveearlychildhoodeducation.blogspot.com/2010/02/10-ways-to-attract-girls-to-block.html>



# School Agers

## FEELING STRESSED??

SUBMITTED BY MARTHA BOHNENKAMP, CCRR COORDINATOR

Your school-agers might be feeling the same way! School related stress isn't just for teenagers anymore.

Younger students, even lower elementary grade students, are feeling the pressure of succeeding at school. Here are some tips:

1. Watch for signs like frequent headaches, stomach aches, crying, or reluctance to go to school
2. Try to provide quiet places for homework, free from distractions.
3. Encourage exercise and physical activity. It's a great stress reliever!
4. Provide nutritious meals and snacks.
5. Be supportive! Acknowledging a child's feelings can go a long way.

## Announcing New Psycho-Educational Services for Children

New psycho-educational services are available for children in the Toledo area through The University of Toledo Medical Center Kobacker Center. They are also available to come on-site to child care programs.

Please call Denise Kidder, MA, PCC-S at 419-383-3521, for more details.



# Family Child Care

## A New Training For Family Child Care Providers!!

SUBMITTED BY PEG LOEHRKE, CCRR SPECIALIST

- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2800 children, ages one through 14 years of age die from unintentional injuries!
- More than 1.2 million poisonings among children age 5 were reported to U.S. poison control centers!
- Nearly 40,000 children under age 14 are injured by fires every year!
- Falls are the leading cause of unintentional injury for children! Children ages 14 and under account for one-third of all fall-related visits to hospital emergency rooms.

If you would like to find out how to prevent these injuries and keep the children in your family child care program safe, please attend the "Making Home Safety Your Priority as a Family Child Care Provider" training on Thursday, November 17, 2011 from 6-8 p.m. at the YWCA of Greater Toledo. Peg Loehrke, Resource and Referral Specialist, will be your trainer.

# New Training!

## SOCIAL STUDIES: MY TOWN!! Ohio's Pre-K Content Standards Training

The long wait for social studies content standards training is over! This 10 hour training focuses on the experience of geography, government, history, and economics in the context of the everyday world for the preschool child.

Our trainers will explain how to plan developmentally appropriate activities for social studies learning as well as incorporating project work and completing portfolio documentation.

Check [www.opdn.org](http://www.opdn.org) for training dates. **Cost: Free!!** We hope to see you!



## How To MAKE...

SUBMITTED BY SARAH TARRY, SUTQ SPECIALIST

### Gingerbread Play Dough



2 cups flour  
1 cup salt  
1 tbsp. ground ginger  
1 tbsp. ground cinnamon  
2 tbsp. vegetable oil  
1 cup water  
Mix together and knead until smooth.

<http://prekinders.com/play-dough-recipes/>



### Learning About The World

SUBMITTED BY KATHI DIXON, SUTQ SPECIALIST

Outdoor play enables young children to learn many things about the world. How does ice feel and sound? Can sticks stand up in sand? How do plants grow? How does mud feel? Why do we slide down instead of up? How do I make my tricycle go faster? How does the overhang of the building create cool shade from the sun? What does a tomato smell and taste like? What does a chrysalis change into?

Much of what a child learns outside can be learned in a variety of other ways, but learning it outside is particularly effective—and certainly more fun! Outdoor play is one of the things that characterize childhood. Some of our favorite childhood memories are outdoor activities.

Outside, children can learn math, science, ecology, gardening, construction, farming, vocabulary, the seasons, local weather and the various times of the day. Not only do children learn lots about how the world works but they are more likely to remember what they learned because it has a personal connection.

The weather is changing and so should we. So grab your gloves and hat and go outside and discover the sense of wonder. How does ice feel and sound?



### Children, Safety, and the Holidays

SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER CALHOUN, INFANT & TODDLER SPECIALIST

#### Did You Know...?

- To keep your live trees looking fresh, green and the needles from falling, you should be watering your tree everyday!
- When purchasing an artificial tree you want to make sure it is marked fire resistant!
- That old tinsel and garland may contain lead! Well it's true! Make sure when you are shopping for new tinsel and garland for your tree it is marked "Lead Free."
- Candles during the holiday season are very popular, but always remember to keep open flames away from children.
- Wrapping paper also burns very quickly! Keep it away from open flames and never throw it in a fire-place.
- Infants and Toddlers naturally put things in their mouth as they explore!! Keep this in mind when decorating with bright, eye catching lights. Also, remember to place ornaments up high to keep little people safe.

Regardless of the holiday that you celebrate we want it to be a safe and happy one!

