



Kids Quarterly Press

A Newsletter of Choices Child Care Resource and Referral

April, May, and June 2024

What's new at Choices?



We have a few new things happening at Choices and across the state! TRAILS teams from all Resource and Referral agencies have transitioned to the Soutron inventory system. This system allows users to view inventory online and request items to borrow. If you have not requested your user account yet, contact our TRAILS team. The next big change happening in the R&Rs is the addition of 2 coaching positions to our Professional Development teams. Providers will have access to an Infant Toddler Coaching Specialist and a Child Care Coaching Specialist. These individuals will be available for in-depth coaching to improve quality in programs! In the world of professional development, the Division of ECE has also directed the delivery of 2 summits hosted by Behavioral Consultants and Quality Improvement Specialists. See the included flyers for information about these training opportunities!

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Recognitions

Choices would like to recognize **Katlyn Keys** and **Elyse Griswold** from Lasting Impressions CDC in Harrison County on their approval for the WV Child Care General Credential!

Congratulations to **Katlyn Keys** on her approval for the Director Credential and **Lisa Starkey** on her approval for the Preschool Credential!



For more information regarding the WV Child Care Credential contact Meagann.E.Morris@wv.gov Or scan the QR code!

Specialization Credentials Now Available!

The Division of Early Care and Education understands the importance of the work you do, and wants to help produce the best caregivers and child care programs possible for West Virginia families. The Division is pleased to announce West Virginia Child Care Credential Specializations! Once a provider has attained their West Virginia Child Care General Credential, they can continue their journey with a Specialization.:

- Director Specialization
- Infant Toddler Specialization
- Preschool Specialization
- Family Child Care Specialization

Once the Specialization Credential is achieved, a bonus of \$250.00 is available. For more information about this exciting new initiative, please contact Meagann Morris at Meagann.E.Morris@wv.gov or (304)485-2668

Thank you for all you do for West Virginia families and communities.
Your hard work is greatly appreciated!



Recognitions



West Virginia Tiered Reimbursement Program

Congratulations to **Tiffany Jones** and **Kaula McVey**, both family child care providers in Wood county on their approvals as Tier II quality programs.

The Child Care Reimbursement System is a quality initiative that offers higher subsidy payments to programs that demonstrate they meet higher standards of care. Programs may apply for Tier II if specific higher quality standards are met. These providers receive a higher childcare reimbursement rate and are eligible for additional bonus payments.

If you are interested in becoming a Tier II program, contact your Quality Improvement Specialist.

Marcy Mueller,
304-622-6528

Marcy.L.Mueller@wv.gov



For information regarding this initiative contact:

Alicia Hundley,
304-622-6528

Alicia.M.Hundley@wv.gov

The Advantages of having a Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Designation:

1. Designation shows the community your commitment to quality care.
2. Child and Adult Care Feeding Program (CACFP) meal reimbursements are available when mothers breastfeed at the center or provide breastmilk for feeding their infant.
3. Designation can positively affect staff recruitment and retention as well as productivity and morale.
4. Sites achieving designation receive a bonus stipend, certificate of designation and recognition, and materials for start up.

Scan the QR code to learn more about this designation and the 10-step process to becoming a breastfeeding friendly program.



Important Updates



Not sure where to begin with your new *Creative Curriculum for Preschool*? Don't worry! We've got you covered.

Training		Technical Assistance (TA)
<p>"Overview of Creative Curriculum for Preschool"</p> <p>This course provides an overview of <i>Creative Curriculum for Preschool</i> including framework, classroom environment, using kit components, & lesson planning in The Cloud.</p>	<p>"Lesson Planning Outside the Cloud: Paper & Pencil Planning with Creative Curriculum for Preschool"</p> <p>This course highlights the foundations of <i>Creative Curriculum for Preschool</i> and illustrates how to translate information from the Teaching Guides onto paper templates.</p>	<p>On-site, targeted support involving collaborative goal setting and guidance for classroom application</p>
		<p><u>To request, contact:</u> Shannon Valles After-School/EC Specialist Choices CCR&R Shannon.M.Valles@wv.gov 304-622-6528</p>

Who's New At Choices?



Hello, my name is Abigail Carter and I am the new Early Childhood Specialist at Choices in Parkersburg. I have a Bachelor's in Education from Brazil where I grew up. I have a Masters in Special Education from Ohio University and am presently working on completing my PhD in both Art and Education. I was a teacher for many years in Brazil and after moving to the US in 2017, I was a teacher at Head Start and at the Ohio University Child Development Center. I'm excited to work with all of you at Choices CCR&R!

Hello, my name is Jacklin Moats and I am the Provider Case Manager at Choices in Clarksburg. I received my degree in Psychology and Business through Davis & Elkins College in 2015. After completing a practicum with Women's Aid in Crisis, I fell in love with social work. Prior to this position, I have worked with IDD Waiver as both a Positive Behavior Support Professional and Service Coordinator at two different agencies, as a Children's Case Manager and Admission Specialist and as a Child Welfare Case Manager. In my free time, I enjoy playing video games, fishing, painting, and exploring what the world has to offer!



Important Updates



RIVER VALLEY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES



ACDS REGISTRATION

ABOUT ACDS

ACDS is a four semester apprenticeship program for individuals working directly with children birth to age 12 for a minimum of 20 hours a week. Classes are one evening a week for 15 weeks a semester. Virtual classes are available for counties that do not offer an in-person option.

PARTICIPATION

Registration for the fall term starts June 1 and for the spring term November 1 each year. Interested participants should follow the outlined steps to register for class each term.

REGISTRATION



STEP ONE

Visit the WV STARS training calendar and search self-paced courses for all ACDS orientations.



STEP TWO

Complete registration that is linked at the end of each orientation.



STEP THREE

Submit \$25.00 registration fee to ACDS program. Checks and cards are accepted. Credit card form is on ACDS website.



304-523-0433



www.wvacds.org



wvacds@rvcds.com

Important Updates



JOIN OUR LOCAL COUNCILS



Meetings

Small groups meet twice a year to discuss the implementation of ACDS in their counties.

Members

Members include directors, child care resource & referral, BOE, head start, instructors journeypersons, and family child care providers.



**JOIN US
NOW!**

To find out more information about the local council in your area, visit the ACDS website and go to the local council page under resources.

www.wvacds.org

Date and Time	Title and Presenter/Description	Core Competency	Location
Wood County Professional Development Calendar			
April 24, 2024	Creating a Quality Environment Using DAP & FCCERS-3	Ashley Jobs	
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Family childcare providers will learn about developmentally appropriate practice and how they can use FCCERS-3 to create a quality environment for children.	Various	Choices
May 1, 2024	Understanding ACES 101 	Chrissy Pownell	
6:30pm – 7:30pm	This training will provide a brief overview of Adverse Childhood Experiences through awareness and education.	CGD	Choices
May 16, 2024	Building Better Lesson Plans	Jennifer Powell	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Providers will learn how to create individualized lesson plans for children 0-36 months, plan activities for mixed ages, modify activities, and align the standards with each activity to meet the needs of all children.	EC	Choices
June 11, 2024	Identifying Environmental Hazards 2	Renee Stonebraker	
6:30pm – 8:30pm	This training discusses how to eliminate environmental hazards found in or around buildings, including plastics, arsenic, and asbestos.	HSN	Choices
June 18, 2024	Time Out vs. Self- Regulation	Ashley Jobs Jennifer Powell	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Attendees will learn about the impacts of time out, the benefits of self regulation, how to set up their environment and use curriculum to support self-regulation. This training includes a follow-up site visit.	Various	Choices

In-Person Professional Development Policies

- Anyone with symptoms of any illness will not be permitted to attend training.
- You must register at www.wvstars.org at least 24 hours in advance.
- Children are not permitted to attend training sessions.
- Participants who arrive more than 15 minutes late will not receive WV STARS credit.
- Training sessions may be cancelled due to low enrollment or weather.

WV STARS Core Knowledge

CGD: Child Growth and Development
 FC: Family and Community Relationships
 COA: Child Observation and Assessment;
 EC: Environment and Curriculum

HSN: Health, Safety and Nutrition
 PL: Professionalism and Leadership
 AM: Administration and Management
 Various: Multiple Core Knowledge areas covered

This image indicates that this training meets the requirements for the WV Child Care Credential.



Date and Time	Title and Presenter/Description	Core Competency	Location
Harrison County Professional Development Calendar			
April 9, 2024	The Growing Brain 	Shannon Valles	
5:30pm – 8:30pm	This 7-session series delves into research in brain development and strategies for child care providers to support the growing brains of children, birth to 5 years old. <i>Series is every Tuesday through 5/21/24.</i>	Various	Choices
April 15, 2024	Identifying Environmental Hazards 2	Renee Stonebraker	
6:30pm – 8:30pm	This training discusses how to eliminate environmental hazards found in or around buildings, including plastics, arsenic, and asbestos.	HSN	Choices
May 9, 2024	ITPBIS Caregiver Module Training 	Chrissy Pownell	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This module training is intended for those that work with infants and toddlers. We will be reviewing the Pyramid Model and discussing ways to help prevent and manage challenging behaviors. <i>Series is every Thursday through 6/6/24.</i>	Various	Choices
June 25, 2024	Time Out vs. Self- Regulation	Ashley Jobes Jennifer Pownell	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Attendees will learn about the impacts of time out, the benefits of self regulation, how to set up their environment and the use of curriculum to support self-regulation. This training includes a follow-up site visit.	Various	Choices
Online Professional Development Calendar			
April 1, 2024	Quality Counts 	Marcy Mueller	
6:00pm – 7:00pm	This training takes an in depth look at program supports that are necessary to achieve and maintain quality childcare and the important role early childhood educators play within the process.	PL/AM	Online
April 3, 2024	Utilizing the Environment Rating Scale to Improve Quality 	Marcy Mueller	
5:00pm – 7:00pm	This session will include an overview of the most recent versions of the Environment Rating Scales, as well as information on how to use the self-assessment to improve program quality.	PL/AM	Online
April 4, 2024	Director’s Toolbox Series 	Marcy Mueller	
9:00am – 11:00am	The Director’s Toolbox Series offers 7 engaging and interactive online professional learning experiences that focuses on the core leadership and management competencies childcare directors need. <i>Series is every Thursday through 5/16/24.</i>	PL/AM	Online
April 6, 2024	Emergency Preparedness 	Shannon Valles	
9:00am – 11:00am	This course provides information on developing and implementing an emergency plan in a childcare setting. Participants will be required to complete a Technical Assistance visit (to be scheduled with the specialist).	HSN	Online

Date and Time	Title and Presenter/Description	Core Competency	Location
Online Professional Development Calendar Continued			
April 8, 2024	WVIT II Administrator's Course	Alicia Hundley	
10:00am – 12:00pm	The Administrators Modules are designed to provide administrators with the information and guidance needed to support their staff to successfully complete WVIT II and to implement new knowledge into their work with infants and toddlers.	PL	Online
April 10, 2024	ITPBIS Director's Overview	Chrissy Pownell	
1:00pm – 2:00pm	This training is required for any Director that has an employee signed up for the ITPBIS Caregiver Module training. The training will be a brief overview of topics discussed in the ITPBIS Caregiver Module Training.	Various	Online
April 22, 2024	WVIT II Relationship Based Care	Alicia Hundley	
6:00pm – 9:30pm	This course is the continuation of WVIT. This course focuses more deeply on attachment, primary caregiving, observation and assessment and the uniqueness of each child. <i>Series is every Monday through 6/24/24.</i>	Various	Online
June 11, 2024	Family Engagement	Jennifer Powell Ashley Jobs	
5:30pm – 8:30pm	Family Childcare Providers will develop individual relationships to foster learning by including families in their program. Creating and implementing events that encourage relationship building with families.	FCR	Online
June 24, 2024	Mind in the Making-R Introduction (for Administrators)	Shannon Valles	
12:00pm – 2:00pm	Directors Only. This session will provide an overview of Mind in the Making, a series of modules about the science of early learning. <i>Center directors must attend before registering staff for Mind in the Making Series</i>	CGD/ PL	Online

Online Professional Development Policies

- You must register for each training in WV STARS and on the registration links provided.
- Each participant must individually register and log in to the training to receive credit. Device/screen sharing is not permitted for WV STARS credit.
- Participants who call in to the training by phone without also logging in to a computer, smartphone, or tablet will not receive credit, as this type of attendance cannot be tracked.
- Participants who miss more than 15 minutes of a session or do not meet minimum proof of learning/participation requirements will not receive credit for attending.
- All participants are expected to remain active in each session by participating in polls, discussions, post-tests, etc and not navigating away from the webinar on their screen.
- Technical issues should be brought to the trainers attention as soon as possible so they can be resolved.

Online Health and Safety Training

Child Care Nurse Health Consultants Online Training Schedule April-June 2024		
Date and Time	Title and Description	Trainer
4/2/24 5:30-8:30 PM	Medication Administration	Karen Gilbert
4/3/24 6:00-8:00 PM	Communicable Diseases in Child Care	Candace Morgan
4/8/24 5:30-8:30 PM	Medication Administration	Lisa Galford
4/11/24 12:00-1:00 PM Lunchtime Learning	Infection Control	Candace Morgan
4/16/24 6:00-7:00 PM	Rashes & Scratches	Lisa Galford
4/22/24 5:30-8:30PM	Medication Administration	Brittany Parsons
5/4/24 8:00-11:00 AM Saturday Morning	Medication Administration	Candace Morgan
5/8/24 6:00-7:00 PM	Seizures	Karen Gilbert
5/14/24 6:00-8:00 PM	Summertime Safety	Lisa Galford
5/21/24 6:30-8:30 PM	Communicable Diseases in Child Care	Candace Morgan
5/23/24 5:30-8:30 PM	Medication Administration	Karen Gilbert
6/5/24 5:30-8:30 PM	Medication Administration	Candace Morgan
6/11/24 6:00-8:00 PM	Summertime Safety	Lisa Galford
6/18/24 6:00-7:00 PM	Seizures	Karen Gilbert
6/20/24 5:30-8:30 PM	Medication Administration	Lisa Galford
6/25/24 6:00-8:00 PM	Communicable Diseases	Candy Morgan

Training Topic	Summary
Communicable Diseases	Tips for minimizing the spread of infection in programs as well as information about common communicable diseases.
Summertime Safety	This presentation includes information about recognizing and preventing various heat related conditions along with first aid for each condition. Water and Bug Safety is included.
Seizures	This training provides information about recognizing types of seizures, basic first aid for seizures, recognizing medical emergencies and medication administration for seizures.
Rashes & Scratches	Information about various skin conditions that young children experience.
Medication Administration	Participants will be introduced to safe medication handling and administration practices. This training is required for providers to administer medication to children in the childcare setting.
Infection Control	Basic information about infection control concerns in the childcare setting. Information provided includes hand washing, sanitation and disinfection principles, and universal/standard precautions.

Online Health, Safety, and Nutrition Training



CCHHE ONLINE TRAININGS

APRIL

4

Bed Bugs and Beyond

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Renee Stonebraker

APRIL

18

Understanding Special Dietary Needs

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Renee Stonebraker

APRIL

29

All that Sugar and Fat

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Harmony Vance-Tissnbaum

MAY

7

Planting Seeds for Healthy Eating

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Renee Stonebraker

MAY

16

Oral Health

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Harmony Vance-Tissnbaum

MAY

22

Fun and Healthy Snacks

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

Harmony Vance-Tissnbaum

JUNE

4

Let's Move

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Renee Stonebraker

JUNE

13

Picky Eaters

6:30 PM-8:30 PM

Renee Stonebraker

JUNE

24

Beans...More Than Just Cute Songs

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Harmony Vance-Tissebaum

Save The Date

SAVE THE DATE BEHAVIORAL CONSULTANT SUMMIT



**PRESENTED BY:
CHRISSE POWNELL
JODI FORTNEY**



JUNE 1, 2024

9:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Choices Parkersburg

Join Behavioral Consultants for a professional development summit discussing expulsion prevention, trauma informed care, and positive behavior management.

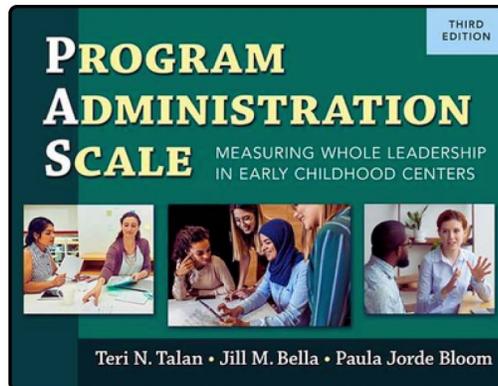
MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON

Save the Date

Save the Date Leadership Summit:

Program Administration Tools for Higher Quality

- Approved for Tier II applications and renewals.
- This summit is for child care center administrators only.
- Registration information coming this spring.



Presented by the Quality Improvement Specialist Network



One day summit, your choice in date. Space will be limited for each date.

June | 27 or 28th | 2024

Bridgeport Conference Center
300 Conference Center Way
Bridgeport, WV 26330

Save the Dates

2024



PROVIDER



APPRECIATION

Stop by the Choices offices May 1-10 to pick up an appreciation gift and enter to win larger door prizes.



[CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR MORE GIVEAWAYS!](#)



4421 Emerson Ave., Suite 102, Parkersburg, WV 26142
315 North Ohio Ave., Clarksburg, WV 26301



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Week of the Young Child

APRIL 6 - 12

- Monday**
Music Monday
Children love to sing, dance, and make music! Take time to do this today!
- Tuesday**
Tasty Tuesday
Cooking and talking about food together helps teach lifelong healthy habits!
- Wednesday**
Work Together Wednesday
Help children to build a creation together, be a support to teach these important friendship skills.
- Thursday**
Artsy Thursday
Art allows children to develop their creativity, social, & fine motor skills. Think and Create!
- Friday**
Family Friday
Engaging and celebrating all families is at the heart of supporting young children.

See our Facebook page each day:
Choices Child Care Resource and Referral

Food and Fun

Fruit Pizza

Materials: Baking sheet, refrigerated cookie dough (16.5 oz), softened cream cheese (8 oz), marshmallow cream (7 oz), 2-3 cups of preferred fruit.

Instructions: Preheat oven to package directions. Using your hands, spread the dough evenly on a cookie sheet. Pierce the dough with a fork to prevent air bubbles. Bake until lightly browned. While the cookie is baking, allow children to cut up several different kinds of fruit. Remove the cookie from the oven and cool completely. Mix the marshmallow cream and cream cheese until smooth and creamy. Frost the cookie "crust" with the marshmallow cream mixture. Cover the pizza with fruit. Refrigerate until serving.



Bird Feeder

Materials: Ice cream sugar cones, peanut butter, plain cheerios, bird seed, and pipe cleaners. Be mindful of allergies in your program and substitute as needed.

Instructions: Cut the tip off the end of the ice cream cone and thread a pipe cleaner with a knot on one end through the opening. Make a loop on the other end to hang the feeder once completed. Spread peanut butter over the entire cone and place cheerios around each side. Roll each cone in a bowl of bird seed, pressing lightly to make it stick. When the cone is finished, help children hang it outside on a tree or fence. Watch for birds to enjoy their treat!



Nature Crown

Materials: Flexible cardboard or cardstock, tape, glue, nature items such as pinecones, acorns, leaves, bark, twigs, pine needles etc.

Instructions: Go outside and encourage children to gather nature supplies. Consider asking families to bring in nature items from different locations to get more variety! Cut strips of cardboard to fit around each child's head and tape them into crowns. Prompt children to glue their nature findings to their cardboard crown. Engage children in conversation about the different nature items you can find during each season.



For more Food & Fun ideas, contact Ashley Jobes, TRAILS Early Childhood Specialist, at Ashley.N.Jobes@wv.gov.

Child Care Food Program

Wood County: 304-485-9238 ext 18

Harrison County: 304-905-9867

www.frac.org

Benefits to child care providers include:

- Reimbursement for food costs
- Nutrition education & support
- Meal and snack planning
- Workshops & newsletters



West Virginia WIC provides nutrition & health education as well as other services free of charge to pregnant women, postpartum women, infants, and children up to the age of five.

www.wvdhhr.org/ons

West Virginia Children's Health Insurance Program

www.wvchip.org



Health care for children & expectant moms

Apply online at www.wwinroads.org

Choices Child Care Resource and Referral

4421 Emerson Ave, Ste 102

Parkersburg, WV 26104

304-485-2668 or 1-866-966-2668

www.wvdhhr.org/choices



**Choices Child Care Resource and Referral
Child Care Providers' Newsletter and Professional Development Information**

Choices Child Care Resource and Referral is a program of River Valley Child Development Services. This program is being presented with financial assistance as a grant from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.

Visit us on the Web: www.wvdhhr.org/choices.