



CHILD CARE PROVIDERS
COALITION OF KANSAS

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter for Members of CCPC

A message from your president

CCPC President - Angie Carnes

As I sit here writing this, I keep thinking how are we already at the end of September? I know for myself this has been one of my busiest months and I'm not sure if it's going to slow down. I get asked often by other child care providers how do I keep up my pace. To be honest it's not always easy and many days I can get overwhelmed by my never-ending to do list. I know I'm not alone so many of us are juggling balls worried which one is going to get dropped. I know you have all heard it before...but YOU need to take time for yourself. I'm not talking about a 5-minute break in a hot shower. You need to plan a time that you can turn off your business brain and relax with family, friends, or even by yourself. I just got back from a week-long vacation from Yellowstone and it was truly amazing to just turn off my phone and enjoy the drive. Maybe for you it's a day off, a week-long vacation or just a night away but your mental health is important. I know many providers will say you can't take time off, but you can, and you should! All providers should have paid time off for vacations or mental health days. It doesn't have to be a fancy vacation, just time to take a breath, recalibrate, and reenergize. Your families need you to be your best self and you cannot do that if you are pouring from an empty cup!

As we head into Fall, take time to take care of YOU! You deserve it!

What's Going on with the CCPC Board?

Advocacy

Committee Member - Annell Harmon

Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is finishing up their review of the regulations for Licensed Child Care Homes/Group Homes and Centers. KDHE will be making changes to the outdated regulations. KDHE will soon be sharing the regulation changes with providers/early childhood educators. Once the changes to regulations are finalized, KDHE will offer training to educate providers/early childhood educators. These training sessions will be both in-person and Zoom meetings.

After the 2023 Kansas Legislature session did not pass S Sub HB 2344, a special committee was formed to investigate the child care needs in Kansas and solutions. (S Sub HB 2344 was a bill that would have changed license capacity and staff-to-child ratio, among other child care regulations.) The committee that was formed is the Special Committee on Child Care Centers and Child Care Homes. They will be meeting on 9/26/2023 and 10/18/2023. You can watch the meetings live or stream at a later time on KS Legislature - YouTube.

Regional Professional Development

Committee Chair - Desiree Streight

So many times we find ourselves sitting on an island working day in, day out, with children and minimal contact with adults. I know personally that when I can connect with others in our profession it can be a form of self-care. I can learn and gain new ideas from other providers. On bad days it can be helpful to have someone within our field to vent to, who understands the issues we face, and won't judge our frustrations but instead help us through those tough times.

CCPC is trying to provide a place for you to come together especially since we are spread all across the state. On Facebook we offer 7 regional groups that you can join. In these groups we try to share upcoming trainings and educational information and resources to support providers and the families we serve. We want this to also be a place for you to come and ask each other questions, celebrate exciting news, and get to know one another forming a network of colleagues.

This past year many things such as conferences, trainings, and more have been able to move back into in person again. I know that many of our regional reps would love to put together some in-person social gatherings. We would love to get your input of what types of gatherings you'd like to see and participate in. Please reach out to your regional rep and help them do some planning.



CACFP

Committee Chair - Beth Kirk

NCA Endorses the Child Nutrition Enhancement Act

The Child Nutrition Enhancement Act was introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Greg Landsman and Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici to *permanently*:

- Provide an additional 10 cent reimbursement for each meal and snack served in the CACFP.
- Eliminate the tiering of family day care homes.
- Allow family day care home providers to claim their own children's meals for reimbursement.

NCA, along with 42 other national organizations, is happy to endorse this historic bill! Take action now - urge your representative to cosponsor the bill to ensure that CACFP operators can continue to provide nutritious meals and snacks to those in

Collaborating Partners

CACFP serving size for breast milk

DID YOU KNOW? Most breastfed infants need approximately 1oz/hour of breast milk when at childcare? Breast milk adjusts nutrition as baby grows so the amount of breast milk needed at 6 weeks is approximately the same amount at 6+ months. In contrast, infant formula only has so much nutrition per scoop so as the child grows, more volume is needed to meet their nutritional needs. If a breastfed baby regularly drinks less than the 4 oz. minimum amount of breast milk required by the CACFP meal pattern, providers may offer less than the minimum amount of breast milk at each feeding as long as more breast milk is offered later when the baby is hungry.

And childcare providers participating in CACFP can receive reimbursement for meals and snacks when provided pumped breast milk for child or if baby is breast on site *even* after the child's first birthday. A win-win for providers and families!



Kansas
Breastfeeding
Coalition, Inc.

Jam Fest

Join Child Start for the 3rd annual Family Jam Fest.

This is a mini music festival for children and families. There will be clowns, vendors, and food trucks. Koo Koo Kanga Roo will be headlining with catchy tunes that are sure to have everyone moving and grooving.

Join us October 7th from 3pm-7pm at the Capitol Federal Amphitheater in Andover. Come join the party!



The McCormick Center Early Childhood Leadership announces our return to an in-person conference in 2024! Our event will feature inspirational leadership development, networking opportunities, and a unique feature for family childcare providers.
More details to come soon!

Their annual conference is going back to in-person with a special Family Child Care track!!!! The general conference is Feb 7-9, and the dedicated FCC track will be Fri/Sat 9th & 10th.

[McCormick Center Webpage](#)

There is also an RFP open until the end of Sept for anyone who might be interested in [submitting to present](#) at the conference.

Child Care Aware of Kansas Shared Services Opportunities

The Kansas Department for Children and Families, Child Care Aware of Kansas, and five community-based organizations are partnering to streamline administrative costs for providers and free up time for programs to focus on providing high-quality child care.

“For many Kansas kids, quality child care is essential for them to have a solid start to their developmental growth,” said Kansas Governor Laura Kelly. “This network will provide child care professionals the resources they need so they can focus on young Kansans in their care.”

By participating in the Network Hubs, child care providers benefit from services that cost less and are often more efficient than what the programs could do on their own. A wide range of services are available to reshape child care, including:

- ☐ Group purchasing plans.
- ☐ Advanced business software to manage enrollment and billing.
- ☐ Shared administrative staff.
- ☐ Support for hiring staff and finding substitutes; and
- ☐ Personalized professional development.

The five community-based organizations that have been selected as Network Hubs will have the responsibility for delivering services to participating child care programs that result in cost savings.

“Shared Services represent an innovative approach to making the business side of child care work,” said Kelly Davydov, executive director of Child Care Aware of Kansas.

“We have a unique opportunity to realize cost savings for participating child care programs so that they can earn more or reinvest in other aspects of their business, like high-quality curriculum for the young children in their care.”

Network Hubs services will be provided by the following organizations:

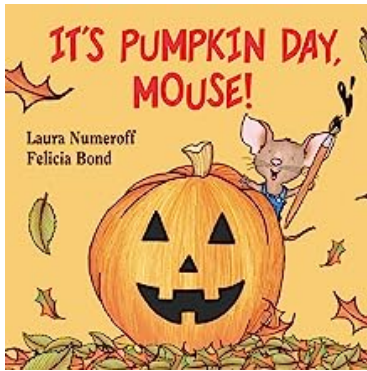
- ☐ Northwest Kansas Innovation Center: Serving 29 counties in the Northwest and North Central areas of Kansas.
- ☐ Child Care Aware of Kansas: Serving 39 counties in the Southwest and South-Central areas of Kansas.
- ☐ Community Children’s Center: Serving 16 counties in the Northeast area of Kansas.
- ☐ Child Care Aware of Eastern Kansas: Serving 17 counties in the Southeast area of Kansas.
- ☐ The Family Conservancy: Serving five counties in the Kansas City area.

Also available to KDHE licensed providers is access to a free 14-month subscription to a Child Care Management Software from either Brightwheel or Playground.

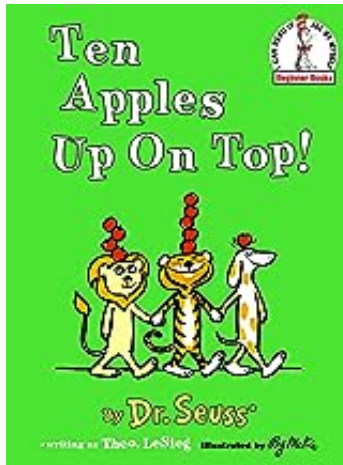
The foundation of most Shared Service Networks is child care management software, which can help providers communicate with families and staff; set up reminders; handle scheduling and calendars; manage billing, reporting, and enrollment; and much more. The software also helps providers determine where additional support is needed, such as janitorial, maintenance, or administrative services.

Want more information about taking advantage of these opportunities? Please email sharedservices@ks.childcareaware.org or visit Shared Services Network - Child CareAware.

Book Recommendations

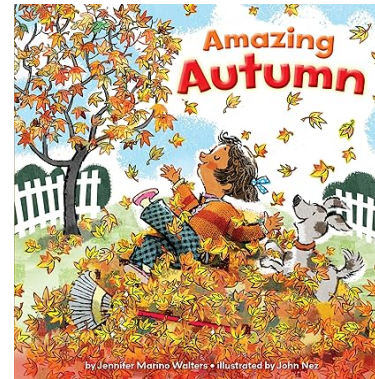


Join Mouse from *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* as he decorates all the pumpkins in the patch in this sweet board book from Laura Numeroff and Felicia Bond. Mouse is excited for fall because that means it is time to decorate pumpkins! But one is missing. Where could it have gone? This is the perfect Halloween book for the very youngest reader, and is just the right book to get kids and budding artists inspired to work on their own Halloween crafts.

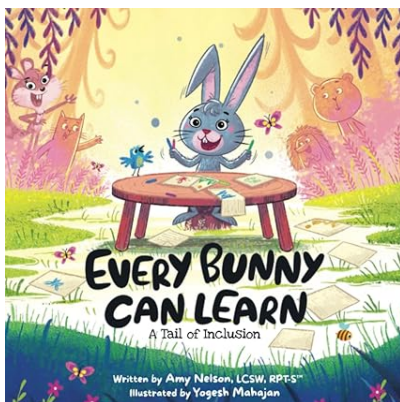


Count your way through this silly stacking adventure with Dr. Seuss!

Don't let the apples drop! Three animal friends practice balancing apples on their heads in this hilarious introduction to counting, illustrated by Roy McKie. The sturdy board book teaches all about numbers, with a dose of signature Seuss charm. Kids will learn to count to ten--and want to start all over again!



The fall season can be truly amazing with colorful leaves in big soft piles, Halloween pumpkins and pumpkin pie. Oh my, what an *Amazing Autumn*.



Kansas's Own Amy Nelson

Join Mimi, an adorable bunny bursting with personality and curiosity, as she sets off on an exciting new journey—the first day of school! ...But will everything go as planned?

Rhyming its way into the hearts of young readers, Mimi finds an unexpected ally in Ms. McNutt, who teaches her the power of embracing her differences and unleashing her true potential.

Together, they demonstrate the magic of inclusion and show how classroom accommodations can empower every bunny.

With its vibrant illustrations and clever storytelling, this enchanting picture book, authored by Play Therapist Amy Nelson, inspires young children to believe in themselves, embrace their unique talents, and embark on a beautiful voyage of self-discovery.

Perfect for young children, their parents, therapists, and teachers alike, this heartwarming tale is a celebration of neurodiversity and inclusion.

Pumpkin Applesauce

Ingredients

- 6 1/4 cups unsweetened applesauce
- 1 (15 oz) can pumpkin puree
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon or more to taste
- 1 tsp ground pumpkin spice
- 12 graham crackers (14 grams each cracker)



Directions

1. Place applesauce, pumpkin, vanilla, pumpkin spice and cinnamon in a large bowl.
2. Mix until all is well combined.
3. Scoop 2/3 cup of mixture into a bowl and serve with 1 graham cracker for a complete snack.

Child Care Resources

It is a goal of CCPC to share quality resources with Kansas Family Child Care Providers. In this section you will find links to sites that offer current information and qualified training in a variety of areas including: health and safety, safe sleep, SIDS and nutrition.

Click Links below to take you directly to their websites

KDHE

Child Care Aware of Kansas

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Inc.

McCormick Center

Kansas Action for Children

KCCTO-KITS

Kansas Quality Network

2020 Kansas Needs Assessment

Tom Copeland

[Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition](#)

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