



CHILD CARE PROVIDERS
COALITION OF KANSAS

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter for Members of CCPC

A message from your president

CCPC President - Angie Carnes

Wow...what a crazy few months we have had! April was a big month for CCPC! We put on a month long event of fantastic trainings with over 150 providers participating! Thank you to our own Laura Gunderson for all of her hard work! As we entered into May our board took a little time slow down, and focus back on the needs of providers across the state. It's important for all of us, including YOU to take time to slow down, take a vacation or even a just a few days off to reenergize. I know it's difficult to take time off...put you need to make yourself a priority! "You can't pour from an empty cup."

Here we are already in June! As we move into the summer months there are a lot of things happening in our state around child care. CCPC will be working and communicating with our collaborating partners to keep you up to date on all the new information. It is important to make sure you are included in the conversations and helping to make positive changes in child care across the state. We can't do that alone, this needs to be a team effort. That means providers from every corner of the state need to stay involved and speak up...Your Voice Matters!

What's Going on with the CCPC Board?

Advocacy Avenue

Committee Chair - Emily Barnes

Summer is in full swing and I hope everyone is having fun! The spring offered an interesting mix of events for us. We navigated our programs and experienced the roller coaster of the legislative process with HB 2344.

I found myself overwhelmed by the end of the legislative session this year and questioning my place in our workforce. Disappointed by our legislative leadership for the divisiveness they fostered, I began to question my place in child care advocacy. It led to weeks of doubt in myself and my abilities.

The reality is that our profession deserves comprehensive review and consideration. We deserve the ability to work and operate our businesses effectively and with respect. However we do not deserve what we experienced in March and April. The children we serve do not deserve for the debate about their care and education to veer in a direction away from their safety and well being.

As I spoke with people and listened to comments from the workforce I found that I walked away from the discussions with three questions.

- Do you want more children to care for during the day, or do you feel unable to increase the number of those doing this work?
- Do you feel that you are unable to make your operational budget work in our current system because parents can't pay more but prices are only going up?
- Do you feel the need to bridge the gap of care in your community?

All of these are important questions and I see the dedication each provider feels to their families. We are

overworked and many of us feel significant burnout, but we are passionate about what we do. However, each of these questions is currently open for discussion by different organizations and agencies in the state. But often the information is not relayed effectively to us.

It has been determined that our legislature will convene an interim committee on child care. The members of the committee are being determined now and it will begin to meet in the fall. KDHE will release their recommendations for regulation review. The Kansas Children's Cabinet's Early Childhood Recommendations Panel Tactic Workgroups presented their recommendations for focus on early care and education.

During the 2022-2023 Early Child Recommendations Panel, four tactic workgroups focused upon Family Friendly Workplaces, Early Childhood Education Compensation/Benefits, Early Childhood Recruitment and Retention, and Zoning Ordinance Barriers. I sincerely encourage you to watch the video recording of [Early Childhood Recommendations Panel Meeting](#) Each month on the 3rd Friday from 9:00-11:30am, the panel meets to discuss various topics. You are able to access the meetings afterward. When you wish to contribute thoughts or concerns, you may contribute them to [The Kansans' Open Forum Comment Form](#)

I am going to challenge each of you to become involved in the discussion as you are able. Systems level meetings are going to happen during the business day. Each agency and organization is aware of the conflict it presents us, and as a member of multiple boards, I assure you that the accommodations that can be made are offered. It's an imperfect system, but I encourage any member of our workforce to find a way to become a contributing part of it.

We will disagree. We will feel conflict between ourselves. When we are not united toward a positive result, please use that as a recognition that it is time to put on the brakes and expect leaders to STOP AND LISTEN TO US! The problem that we are facing is not new. It is decades old with multiple opportunities to have addressed it in the past that were ignored.

When someone urgently demands that you present a result right now, they are disrespecting the work that we have done thus far. We need timely results, but providers deserve to not be pitted against each other in the advancement of a legislator's agenda. We will come up with solutions. I will be a part of the continued discussion and I look forward to having them with you.

We are strong. We are valuable. We have always been essential.

2023-2024 CCPC Board Elections

In the next few weeks CCPC members will be receiving an email with the CCPC Annual Report and a ballot for our 2023-2024 CCPC Board. The board is made up of 4 Executive Board Members and 10 Board Members At Large.

We currently have 7 Board members up for re-election and we are looking to fill 3 open positions.

We are excited to introduce two wonderful providers who are running for our open positions on the board.

Paula Hlcks **Lil Feet Daycare - Harper Kansas**

Working with children has been what surrounded my life since I was very young. Starting at age 13 as a live-in nanny for 4 children every summer for 4 years, then while during the school year was spent babysitting, teachers and other community members children. My senior year of school I got a chance to intern at the local preschool and my passion grew even stronger. Straight out of high school at age 19 I bought my home so I could begin my first childcare program. It did not get running very well, so I became a para in special education at both the local Elementaries over the next 7 years. After having my second child in 2008 I opened my first and current childcare, running full capacity with a steady waiting list. In 2018 my husband and I opened a second home and then in 2020 we opened our third.



Completing my CDA this past December has welcomed so many more great challenges for myself, always pushing me to be better. I crave knowledge and am passionate about what else we can do to make our programs and ourselves better advocates for children.



Christina Randall Toddler Time Daycare - Frontenac Kansas

Hi, my name is Christina Randall (Christy). I own and operate Toddler Time Daycare, a state licensed, childcare program located in Frontenac, Kansas. I started my licensed childcare business in January 2000. Over the years, I have been involved in many early child development projects and a current member of several National Childcare Organizations. In 2010, I received my Child Development Associate Credential (CDA) certificate from the Council for Professional Recognition that stands current. In 2018, I was part of a 2-year pilot program, called Links to Quality and is still an active member today. Additionally, in 2019, I was awarded Provider of the Year, from Child Care Providers Coalition of Kansas. I graduated from Allen Community College in May 2022, with an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Early Childhood Education. Today, I am a senior at Fort Hays State University finishing up my bachelor's degree.

I believe in the value of each child. My program experience is designed to promote each child's own individual social, emotional, physical, creative, and cognitive development. This is done by creating a safe, healthy, affordable service for children. I provide information through role modeling, group activities, live experiences, and hands-on learning activities. I believe that all children should have the opportunity to learn from their family members, peers, and educators. My program supports and encourages the development of creative and social skills through opportunities for sensory play using a wide variety of materials. Also, children should feel safe and secure, treated with care and respect, and to have opportunities to learn through play, decision making, and social interaction with peers.

CACFP

Committee Chair - Beth Kirk & Desiree Streight

THE KEEP KIDS FED ACT IS SADLY EXPIRING June 30th, 2023.
IT HAS BEEN A TRUE GIFT FOR ALL PROVIDERS TO HAVE BEEN RECEIVING
HIGHER REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS.
THE USDA IS ADVOCATING FOR PROVIDERS IN LOTS OF WAYS!

MANY POSITIVES STILL REMAIN!!

- BEING A **CACFP** PROVIDER INDICATES QUALITY CARE
- CONTINUE TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT TO HELP COVER FOOD COSTS
- YOU ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF DCC WHERE YOU HAVE SUPPORT, TRAINING, AND RESOURCES!

**NEW REIMBURSEMENT RATES ARE NOT POSTED YET BUT WE WILL LET YOU
KNOW AS SOON AS WE GET THEM!**

MIGHT YOU POSSIBLY STILL QUALIFY FOR TIER 1 REIMBURSEMENT?

HAS YOUR OWN FAMILY SITUATION CHANGED...WHERE YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO
CLAIM YOUR OWN CHILDREN?

DO YOU HAVE FAMILIES THAT MIGHT QUALIFY FOR TIER 1 REIMBURSEMENT?

UPDATED INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES WILL BE AVAILABLE MID JULY.

Provider Of the Year

Committee Chair - Stacy Hook

Congratulations to our 2023 CCPC Provider of the Year!

April has been a provider for 30 years and lives in Wichita. She has a wonderful support team made up of her husband Keith, and her adult children as well as previous child care families. April has been a military provider for the Air Force and Army for the last 2.5 years doing Guard and Deployment Care on top of her Monday-Friday families. She runs a play based, outdoor nature-based program and is always looking for ways to improve the childcare. She is currently working towards her NAFCC accreditation and attends many continuing education classes. April enjoys helping other providers establish child cares and being a support person for them.



April Shuman
Wichita Kansas

When asked for a statement about the care April provides, many people offered glowing praise for her work:

April's program shows her drive for quality and her desire to engage professionally in the field.

April elicits professionalism in all she does, and it is evident she strives for quality.

While working towards accreditation April has explored new ways of engaging children in learning, changed her environment to support all ages in her childcare and added to her program. Most recently attaining certification for her outdoor classroom.

April will be presented with a CCPC Provider of the Year gift basket and plaque. She will also receive a one-year membership and complimentary event registration. We recognized April during the first night of our CCPC PLAY Academy with a short presentation

CCPC 35 Year Service Award

CCPC would like to recognize these amazing providers for their dedication and commitment to family child care. You are valued members of our organization and we want to thank you for the thousands of little things you do everyday to make a difference in a child's life.

Stacy Schulte - Hays - 38 years
Karen Clemens - Wichita - 36 years
Glenda Uhlrich - Washington - 39 years

Professional Development Event

Committee Chair - Laura Gunderson

SAVE THE DATE! CCPC Fall Professional Development Event

September 16th, 2023
In Person Event
Location - Emporia Kansas

This will be an amazing event to come together, learn, network and celebrate!

More Information Coming Soon!

Collaborating Partners

Share Services Network

Kansas child care providers - did you miss the webinar last night that explained the Shared Services Network and how it can benefit your program?

No problem!

Watch the recorded webinar [HERE](#)

A graphic for the Shared Services Network. At the top, it says "NEW PROGRAM FOR KANSAS CHILD CARE PROVIDERS" in white text on an orange background. Below this, the title "Shared Services Network" is in blue. A short paragraph states: "Helping child care providers strengthen their business practices while focusing on what is most important - the children." The website "ks.childcareaware.org/ss" is listed. At the bottom left are the logos for "ChildCare Aware OF KANSAS" and the "Kansas Department for Children and Families Program Funding Partner". On the right is a black and white photo of an adult and a child playing with blocks.

**NEW PROGRAM
FOR KANSAS CHILD CARE PROVIDERS**

Shared Services Network

Helping child care providers
strengthen their business practices
while focusing on what is most
important - the children.

ks.childcareaware.org/ss

**ChildCare
Aware
OF KANSAS**

Kansas
Department for Children
and Families
Program Funding Partner

Are you looking for a way to streamline your operations, enhance communication, and simplify administrative tasks?

Child Care Aware has partnered with [Brightwheel](#) and [Playground](#), two child care management software companies, to offer this service to **child providers in Kansas at no cost.**

The best part? They will be there to help you every step of the way.

As we launch our Shared Services Network, your input is vital in creating specified services for you and your program. Please take a few minutes to complete the [provider survey](#). Your answers will be used to cater the specific services for your area.

Don't forget to join the Kansas Early Childhood Transition Task Force at one of their Community Engagement sessions! Take note of the date in the city closest to you and share your opinions!

For more detail:

Gov. Kelly's Early Childhood Transition Task Force Statewide Tour



Kansas Early Childhood Transition Task Force
Community Engagement Tour

Map of Kansas showing tour locations.

Tuesday, June 27th	Wednesday, June 28th	Thursday, June 29th	Friday, June 30th
9AM: Chanute 2PM: Wichita	9AM: Garden City 2PM: Hays 5PM: Salina	9AM: Manhattan 1PM: Topeka	10AM: Overland Park 1PM: Kansas City

Child Care Licensing Regulation Review Process



Child Care Licensing Regulation Review Process
Listening & Feedback Session

Saturday, June 24
9:00 a.m. – Noon

Registration is required.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Calling all Kansas child care providers, directors, and staff: Child Care Licensing is hosting a listening and feedback session regarding the child care licensing regulation review process. The event will take place virtually on Saturday, June 24 from 9:00 a.m. - Noon. Registration is required.

All providers are welcome to attend the entire session, but each hour will be dedicated to specific licensed facilities as follows:

9:00-10:00 - Licensed Day Care Homes and Group Day Care Homes
10:00-11:00 - Child Care Centers and Preschools
11-Noon - School age and Drop-in Programs

Register [HERE!](#)

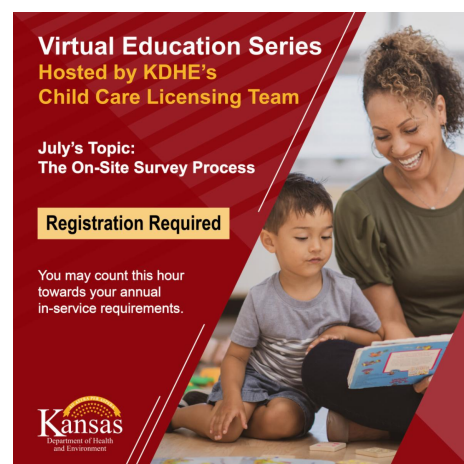
VIRTUAL EDUCATION SERIES

Join our Child Care Licensing Team for July's Virtual Education Series: The On-Site Survey Process.

There are three opportunities to attend:

- Monday, July 24 from 6:30-7:30PM
- Thursday, July 27 from 6:30-7:30PM
- Saturday, July 29 from 10:00-11:00AM

REGISTER [HERE](#)



Virtual Education Series
Hosted by KDHE's Child Care Licensing Team

July's Topic:
The On-Site Survey Process

Registration Required

You may count this hour towards your annual in-service requirements.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Family Child Care Providers

Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your credibility as a child care provider, small business and set a benchmark for quality!

Join an info session to learn how KCCTO can help you work towards your National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) Accreditation for FREE (\$1000 Value).

Live Info Sessions:

- June 26 - 6:30 PM
- June 28 - 1:00 PM
- June 29 - 7:00 PM



[LEARN MORE](#)

WWW.KCCTO.ORG/NAFCC-COHORT



Family Child Care Providers, don't miss this opportunity to enhance your credibility as a child care provider, small business and set a benchmark for quality!

KCCTO wants to help you work towards your National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) Accreditation. Not only will you have great support, but you're also going to be able to earn this Accreditation, valued at \$1,000, for FREE!

Join us for one of the three live zoom sessions to learn more about the benefits to you and how KCCTO can help.

Live Info Sessions (Zoom):

June 26 - 6:30 PM

June 28 - 1:00 PM

June 29 - 7:00 PM

[Learn More HERE!](#)

FIND OUT WHY KIDS DO WHAT THEY DO...



Kids These Days Podcast

with Ruddy Benavides, Sarah Holmes & Stephanie Haney

Over 75 Episodes Available

New Episodes Air Every Wednesday!

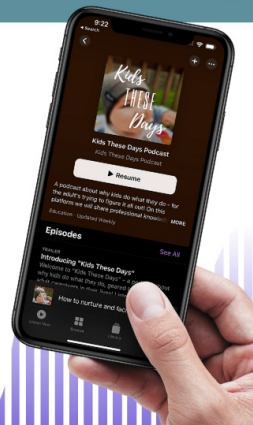


www.KidsTheseDaysPod.buzzsprout.com

Listen on Apple Podcasts

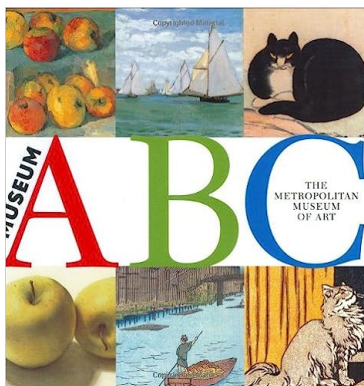
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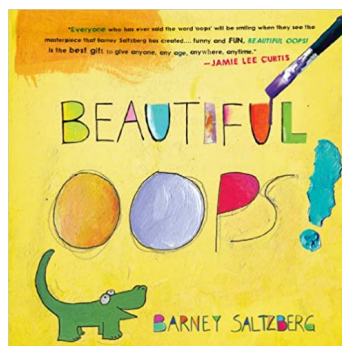


Providers Corner

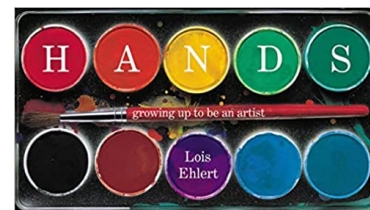
Art Book Recommendations



This unique alphabet book



"Hooray for mistakes!" This interactive book



A child watches her mother and father as they work with their hands, and she knows she wants to build and sew and garden and paint just like them. When they give her a special place to work,

features four works of art from different cultures and periods for each letter of the alphabet. Simple words matched with intriguing illustrations provide an opportunity for endless exploration. Children will be fascinated to discover that a boat, a rose, a tree, and even a window can be so different from one another -- and from the objects they see every day. Adults will love the visual and cultural richness of this alphabetical tour through the Metropolitan Museum's collection.

demonstrates how every mistake is an opportunity to make something beautiful. Unique in every respect, this book is full of pop-ups, lift-the-flaps, tears, holes, overlays, bends, smudges, and more, each demonstrating how blunders can become wonders. Celebrate all life's Beautiful Oops! and teach kids that it's perfectly fine, and sometimes fortuitous, to make a mistake.

lots of good materials, and plenty of encouragement, she makes the most wonderful things! "It's a work that looks simple, but encompasses at least as many grand notions as Ehlert's first book, *Growing Vegetable Soup*."--*Kirkus Reviews*

Recipe Roundup

Berry Blast Smoothie

Ingredients

- 100% whole wheat flour tortilla, small
- 1 large banana
- 2 tablespoons peanut butter

Directions

1. Have a pair of children work together to make this snack.
2. Give each pair a tortilla with the peanut butter, and let them spread it using the back of a spoon.
3. Place peeled banana at one end and roll it up.
4. Slice into eight pieces.



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



Child Care Providers Coalition of Kansas | P.O. Box 121 | Emporia, KS 66801 US

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