



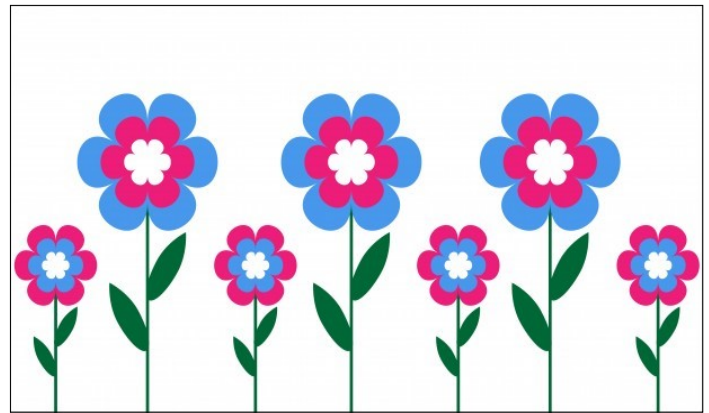
Kids Quarterly Press

A Newsletter of Choices Child Care Resource and Referral

April, May, and June 2022

10 'Spring Things' children will love!

1. Take a hike
2. Make mud pies
3. Plant sunflowers
4. Dance barefoot in the rain
5. Create a spring nature table
6. Search for 4 leaf clovers
7. Start a garden
8. Paint with spring colors
9. Build a bird feeder
10. Start a nature journal



In this issue:

Infant/Toddler Wellness Summit	2
Breastfeeding Friendly Childcare	3
Professional Development Calendar	4-5
Spring Brings	6
Employee Updates	7
Food and Fun	8

Choices CCR&R

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Choices CCR&R

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Infant Toddler Wellness Summit

May 6, 2022

Join the Infant/Toddler Specialists for an engaging day together talking about the health issues of children under the age of 36 months.



Location - Charleston, WV (conference venue TBD)

Time - 9:00am to 3:00pm

Morning coffee and lunch provided

Limited enrollment. Resources available.

Meets requirement for a conference for the Tiered Reimbursement Program.

Save the Date
May 6
Registration Opens
March 28





To apply for the Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Designation:

1. Go to WVIT.org
2. Click on BFCCD at the top of the page
3. Read through the initiative description, including the 10 steps to receive the designation
4. Follow the directions to submit your application

The advantages of having a Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Designation:

1. 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. Can positively affect staff recruitment and retention as well as productivity and morale



Call or email Alicia Hundley, Infant Toddler Specialist, with any questions at 866-622-6528 or Alicia.M.Hundley@wv.gov

Childcare Provider Appreciation Event!

Join Choices for a virtual event to show our appreciation for all you do for children and families in Region II.

This event is open to all childcare providers currently working in Wood, Harrison, Wirt, Ritchie, Doddridge, Gilmer, Calhoun, and Pleasants counties.

Email Meagann.E.Morris@wv.gov to register

Mark Your Calendars:

May 6, 2022

At 6:00 PM!

Virtual games and real prizes!

Date and Time	Title and Description	Core Competency	Location
Harrison County Professional Development Calendar			
May 2, 2022	WV Elements of Family Child Care Series (EFCCS)	Jennifer Powell	
4:00pm – 8:00pm	FOR FAMILY CHILD CARE AND FACILITIES: This 7-week course focuses on best practice, child development, organizing your home and day as well as developing individual goals for providers. Sessions are May 2, 9, 16, 23, 31 & June 6, 13	Various	Choices Clarksburg
June 8, 2022	Infant Toddler Positive Behavior Intervention & Support Series	Meagann Morris	
4:00pm -8:00pm	The Infant and Toddler Positive Behavior Intervention and Support Series focuses on social and emotional supports in all childcare settings. This is based on the Pyramid Model, which follows the public health design or prevention, promotion, and intervention. <i>Sessions will be June 8, 15, and 22. All must be attended to get credit.</i>	Various	Choices Clarksburg
June 11, 2022	Ditching Dittos: Open-Ended Art in Preschool	Shannon Valles	
9:00am – 11:00am	This course will explain how art promotes development and learning, and how caregivers of preschool-age children can create an environment that values individual expression.	CGD/EC	Choices Clarksburg
Wood County Professional Development Calendar			
May 9, 2022	Morsels of Care	Meagann Morris	
5:00pm – 7:00pm	This course will discuss Kernels of Practice and how you can implement them in your setting. Some simple strategies from frameworks, including Conscious Discipline and ECPBIS, will be discussed. Tools will be created for participants to take back to their settings.	EC	Choices Parkersburg
June 30, 2022	Helping Hands with Messy Fun!	Jennifer Powell	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Providers will learn to foster child development by including children in the messy activities so learning can take place. Exploring hands on activities where children can participate.	CGD	Choices Parkersburg
Online Professional Development Calendar			
April 5, 2022	WVIT-R Administrator's Course	Alicia Hundley	
10:00am – 12:30pm	This course is an overview of the West Virginia Infant Toddler-Revised Course. It is intended for Center/Facility directors to help support staff learning and implementation. This class is made up of two live, online sessions and 4 self-paced online sessions. Participants must complete each session. (<i>Live sessions Apr. 5th & 7th.</i>)	PL	Online
April 11, 2022	WVIT-R	Alicia Hundley	
5:00pm -8:30pm	WVIT-R is the new, updated infant toddler course. It contains 12 live, online sessions, 2 TACIT visits, and 4 self-paced online sessions. This class will meet virtually once a week until July 11, 2022.	Various	Online
April 12, 2022	Cultural Competence in Family Child Care	Jennifer Powell	
6:00pm – 7:30pm	FOR FAMILY CHILDCARE & FACILITIES. This course provides an understanding of what cultural competence is and how family childcare providers can implement a culturally diverse environment while encouraging relationships with peers and families.	Various	Online
April 12, 2022	Planting Seeds for Healthy Eating	Renee Stonebraker	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Benefits of gardening, different types of gardens, how to grow food in a container, and garden food safety.	HSN/CGD	Online
April 20, 2022	Understanding ECERS	Kayla Lewis	
1:00pm – 3:00pm	This training will provide an overview of the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale including its purpose and how to use the scale to improve the quality of preschool environments.	EC/PL	Online

Date and Time	Title and Description	Core Competency	Location
Online Professional Development Calendar, cont.			
April 21, 2022	WV Pre-K Early Learning Standards Framework	Shannon Valles	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This session provides an overview of the purpose, content and benefits of early learning standards and an introduction to the WV Early Learning Standards Framework (WV ELSF).	EC	Online
April 23, 2022	Family Engagement	Jennifer Powell	
9:00am – 12:00pm	Family child care providers will develop individual relationships to foster learning by including families into their program. Creating and implementing events that encourage relationship building with families. Follow-up visits with the provider offering guidance on family engagement.	FCR	Online
May 4, 2022	Tick! Tock! It's Transition o'clock	Shannon Valles	
1:00pm – 2:00pm	This course focuses on the importance of transitions during daily activities, behaviors that may occur during transitions, and transition strategies. <i>Training is 2 sessions (May 4th & 5th). Must attend both sessions to receive credit.</i>	EC	Online
May 11, 2022	Growing Positive Relationships: A Guide to Building a Warm Environment	Jennifer Negie	
1:00pm – 2:00pm	This training will focus on building positive relationships within the classroom and childcare environment. Topics will include how to cultivate a positive environment between staff, children, and families.	EC	Online
May 17, 2022	Indoor and Outdoor Safety	Renee Stonebraker	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Review common injuries for children, including falls and poisonings, preventive measures to reduce the risk of injuries, and playground safety.	HSN/EC	Online
May 23, 2022	LGBTQIA+ Inclusion in Childcare Setting - First Steps	Meagann Morris	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This training will begin discussions about creating an inclusive space for LGBTQIA individuals in your childcare setting.	FC	Online
May 25, 2022	WV Pre-K Early Learning Standards Framework	Kayla Lewis	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This session provides an overview of the purpose, content, and benefits of early learning standards and an introduction to the WV Early Learning Standards Framework (WV ELSF)	EC	Online
June 1, 2022	Infant Toddler PBIS Director Overview Online	Meagann Morris	
5:00pm – 6:00pm	This is an overview of the Pyramid Model and summary of the ITPBIS, intended for directors and others in leadership roles, who have staff enrolled in the ITPBIS Modules.	CGD	Online
June 13, 2022	Understanding the SACERS	Kayla Lewis	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This course provides an overview of the School-Age Environment Rating Scales (SACERS) including purpose, content, scoring, and tips for observing.	PL/EC	Online
June 14, 2022	Understanding Special Dietary Needs	Renee Stonebraker	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Types of special dietary needs, including food allergies and celiac disease, symptoms, menu adjustments, and menu activity.	HSN	Online

Online Training Policies:

- You must register for each training in WV STARS *and* in GoToWebinar
- 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 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 will not receive credit for attending.
- All participants are expected to remain active in each session by participating in polls, discussions, post-tests, etc.
- Any technical issues that occur during the session should be communicated with the trainer as soon as possible so they can be resolved.

Spring Brings...



- Music Monday
- Tasty Tuesday
- Work Together Wednesday
- Artsy Thursday
- Family Friday

Check our Facebook page for more!



NAEYC's Week of the Young Child

Join Choices, April 2-8, 2022 on our facebook page in celebrating NAEYC's Week of the Young Child. Check our page each day for book readings, activities, photos, and GIVEAWAYS!

Mark Your Calendars: April 2-8, 2022



Celebrating Connections 2022
April 5-7, 2022
Virtual: Eventsquid and Zoom

Join Us in Celebrating National Poetry Month!

Poetry helps raise children's awareness of words, increases a child's vocabulary, and makes children better learners.

Watch our Facebook page to learn why poetry is important for young children and what you can do to help expand their learning!



Choices Employee Updates

Meet Marcy Mueller Quality Improvement Specialist



My name is Marcy Mueller. My greatest accomplishments in life is being a “Mom” to four adult children, a “Mimmie” to eleven growing grandchildren, and a “Wife” to my loving husband. I am a retired Pre-K Teacher with twenty-seven years of service. My education background is a BA in Early Childhood Education, as well as ACDS Certificate, and an AAS in Occupational Development. My husband and I currently reside in Harrison County where we are active volunteers within the community through various organizations. My hobbies include traveling, volunteering, hiking, kayaking, and reading. I am really excited to be your Quality Improvement Specialist and I am looking forward to working with you.



Meet Crystal Kyle Case Manager

Hello. My name is Crystal Kyle and my educational background is in psychology. Early on, my primary focus was helping those who were homeless. However, I took a break from my career to stay home and raise my children. I have been married for 18 years. We have two boys, Jack and Jace, who are 14 years old and 9 years old. We reside in Lewis County. Our family loves being outdoors, whether it be playing in our woods, having campfires, fishing, kayaking, etc. My family is also musically talented. My husband sings and plays the guitar, Jack is a piano prodigy, and Jace loves joining in by singing and whistling. When I first started applying for employment, I was unsure if I was ready to join back to full-time employment, but after my interview with Choices, I knew this job was right for me. Thank you to everyone for welcoming me into the company.

Food and Fun

Apple Fruit “Donuts”

Materials:

- Apples
- Knife
- Yogurt (various fruit-flavored ones like blueberry and strawberry as well as vanilla)
- Diced fruit of your choice
- Granola

Instructions:

- Step 1. Cut your apples in slices, then use a corer or knife to make a circle cut in the center.
- Step 2. Spread a layer of yogurt as your “frosting.”
- Step 3. Add some fresh diced fruit on top of the yogurt.
- Step 4. Add Granola or any toppings of your choice and enjoy your treat!



Rainbow Scavenger Hunt

Instructions:

Make a board with the colors of your choice. This project is great for Earth Day and going outside to get some fresh air. Talk about the season and what things you might see outside in your environment. Try to find as many items as possible to match the colors on your board. This project can be for toddlers all the way up to school age children. There are many expansive ideas for further play and learning with this activity.

Bubble Foam Sensory Play

Materials:

- Tear free bubble bath
- Water
- Food coloring
- Hand mixer

Instructions:

In a large bowl combine 1/2 cup water + 1/4 cup bubble bath. For color add a little food coloring then whip it with a hand mixer on med-high for one minute. Pour from large bowl into a large sensory bin or tub. Repeat until you have a few colors in the sensory bin then you’re ready for play. You can add cars or any other items to enhance play.

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



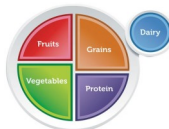
Child Care Food Program

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, post-partum 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.wvinroads.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.