



Kids Quarterly Press

A Newsletter of Choices Child Care Resource and Referral

January, February, and March 2023

Ch, Ch, Ch, Changes at Choices!



As most of you know, there have been many changes in the faces you are seeing and voices you are hearing at Choices Childcare Resource and Referral. With the departure of Kristy Ritz for WVAYC, we were left with a vacancy for our Program Director. Fortunately, this space has been filled by Theresa Wascom, previously the Assistant Director. With Theresa's move to director, this prompted Meagann Morris to move into the Professional Development Supervisor position, opened a vacancy for Behavior Consultant in Parkersburg, and created the Assistant Director position that is posted in our Clarksburg office. For an agency with consistent longevity, this has been a bit different than usual for us! We are adjusting to shifts and eager to continue services to children, families, and providers in Region II. Thank you all for your continued support!

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Important Updates



West Virginia
Tiered
Reimbursement
Program

Congratulations!

Choices would like to congratulate two of our providers for reaching Tier II Quality Status!

Patty Bennett, family child care provider in Harrison County
Kidz World Learning Center in Wood County

A Tier II provider has demonstrated that they provide a higher quality of care within their program. These providers receive a higher childcare reimbursement rate and an increased stabilization grant amount.

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

Marcy Mueller,
304-622-6528

Marcy.L.Mueller@wv.gov

Who's New At Choices?



Hi everyone! My name is Chrissy Pownell and I am the new Behavioral Consultant for Choices in Clarksburg. I have worked with children and families throughout my entire career. I have been a Teacher in child care centers and with head start, a Licensed Social worker at a local foster care agency, an Infant Toddler Specialist (at a different R&R), and an Education Disabilities Program Specialist at Head Start. I received my bachelor's degree from WVU in Child Development and Family Studies. I recently received my master's degree from Walden University in Early Childhood Education in 2020. I am excited to be in this role and look forward to meeting everyone. Please reach out if I can be of assistance.

Hello, my name is Jennifer Stockdale. I am the Administrative Secretary in the Parkersburg office. Prior to this position, I was the Assistant Director of a child care center in New Albany, Ohio. I grew up in the Mid-Ohio Valley, but just moved back to the area a few months ago. In my free time, I like reading, spending time with my family, and learning new things. I enjoy helping others, and I am excited to be a part of the Choices CCR&R team!



Important Updates



ACDS

Apprenticeship for Child Development Specialist

- Program for child care workers working a minimum of 20 hours a week.
- Combines 4 semesters of coursework with on the job training.
- Participants include employees of child care, family child care, after school, head start, home visitation, and public pre-k and kindergarten.
- Classes held locally.
- High school diploma or WV equivalency required.
- Students who have WVIT 1 can begin in semester 2!



Semester 1 classes coming in January 2023!

Contact Us in Wood, Ritchie, Pleasants, or Wirt Counties

Gwen Crum
304-424-1969
gwen.crum@mail.wvu.edu
www.wvacds.org



Important Updates



Apprenticeship for Child Development

ACDS now offers both in-person and virtual classes. If participants live in a region that offers an in-person class, they are expected to attend that session. Priority for virtual classes will go to regions that do not have an in-person option due to circumstances such as not having an instructor, or not having enough students to hold a class. Please note that the registration process has recently changed. There is now a deadline to register each semester. The registration deadline date will vary each semester, but will be two weeks prior to classes beginning. For more information regarding classes, including the latest class schedule and registration deadline, please visit the ACDS website, wvacds.org and the ACDS Facebook page. Below are steps to follow when registering for ACDS classes.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR ACDS CLASSES

1. **All students** must complete an **online orientation** for the semester they want to attend. The orientations are available on the WV STARS website, www.wvstars.org. Students can be either on the WV STARS pathway or registry. The orientations can be found on the training calendar by searching self-paced courses. The registration form is now included within the orientations. There is no need to submit a separate paper registration form to ACDS. The orientation must be completed before the registration deadline.
2. All students must submit the **\$25.00 registration fee** directly to ACDS. ACDS accepts business, personal and bank drafted checks and money orders made payable to River Valley Child Development Services (RVCDS). ACDS now accepts debit and credit card payments. To pay using a card visit the ACDS website for a credit card submission form. We **CANNOT** accept payments over the telephone because the credit card submission form must be signed by the card holder. All forms of payments should be accompanied by the payment submission form also located on the ACDS website. Completing this form helps ensure that your payment will be credited accurately and timely. Payment must be received by the registration deadline.

*** Failure to complete the full registration process will result in the applicant not being enrolled.**

Contact Information

611 7th Avenue Huntington, WV 25701



Phone: 304-523-0433

Fax: 304-697-6613

Email: wvacds@rvcds.org



www.wvacds.org

Date and Time	Title and Presenter/Description	Core Competency	Location
Online Professional Development Calendar			
January 5, 2023	WVIT II Administrator's Course	Alicia Hundley	
10:00am – 12:00pm	The Administrator's 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
January 12, 2023	WV Early Learning Standards Framework Overview- Online 	Shannon Valles	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This course provides a basic overview of standards and how the Early Learning Standards were created and are used in West Virginia.	CGD/ COA	Online
January 12, 2023	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. The class meets for 10 weekly evening sessions.	Various	Online
January 30, 2023	RR Spreading Hope 	Shannon Valles Meagann Morris	
6:00pm – 7:30pm	This course is based on Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences (HOPE). We will discuss the importance of positive childhood experiences and research of the mitigating effect on ACEs.	CGD/ FCR	Online
February 2, 2023	Child Care Emergency Preparedness- Online	Shannon Valles	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This course will cover types of emergencies that can occur and how to prepare in child care settings. A one-hour, on-site Technical Assistance visit will be scheduled as a part of this training.	HSN/PL	Online
February 7, 2023	ITPBIS Director's Overview	Chrissy Pownell Meagann Morris	
6:00pm – 7:00pm	This is an overview of the Pyramid Model and ITPBIS, intended for directors and others in leadership roles, who have staff enrolled in the ITPBIS Series.	CGD	Online
February 8, 2023	Infant and Toddler Positive Behavior Intervention Support Series	Chrissy Pownell Meagann Morris	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	The ITPBIS Series focuses on social and emotional supports in child-care settings. This is based on the Pyramid Model. Sessions will be Feb. 8, 15, 22, Mar. 1, and 8. All must be attended to get credit.	Various	Online
February 15, 2023	Utilizing the Environment Rating Scale to Achieve High Program 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 utilize the self-assessment to improve program quality through goal setting and the creation of action plans and professional development plans. This training will be applicable to staff and administrators of childcare centers, facilities, and family childcare home programs.	PL/AM	Online

Date and Time	Title and Presenter/Description	Core Competency	Location
March 14, 2023	WVIT-R Administrator's Course	Alicia Mazariego	
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>(Session dates March 14 & 16)</i>	PL	Online
March 15, 2023	Utilizing the Environment Rating Scale to Achieve High Program 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 utilize the self-assessment to improve program quality through goal setting and the creation of action plans and professional development plans. This training will be applicable to staff and administrators of childcare centers, facilities, and family childcare home programs.	PL/AM	Online
March 23, 2023	Cultural Competence in Family Child Care	Jennifer Powell	
5:30pm – 7:00pm	FOR FAMILY CHILDCARE & FACILITIES ONLY: 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
March 27, 2023	WVIT-R	Alicia Mazariego	
5:00pm – 8:30pm	WVIT-R is the new, updated infant toddler course. It contains 12 live sessions, 2 TACIT visits, and 4 self-paced online sessions. This class will meet online once a week until July 17, 2023.	Various	Online
Harrison County Professional Development Calendar			
January 20, 2023	Identifying Environmental Hazards 1	Renee Stonebraker	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This training discusses how to eliminate environmental hazards found in or around buildings, including air quality, water quality, and lead.	HSN	Choices Clarksburg
March 2, 2023	ECERS-3	Shannon Valles	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This training will provide an overview of the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale including its purpose and how to use the scale to improve the quality of preschool environments.	EC/ PL	Choices Clarksburg
March 21, 2023	Diapering, Handwashing, and Sanitizing, Oh My!	Alicia Hundley	
6:00pm – 7:30pm	FOR FAMILY CHILDCARE & FACILITIES ONLY: This course will cover the proper diapering, sanitizing, gloving, and handwashing procedure. This training is designed for FCC providers and facilities who provide care for infants and toddlers in diapers.	HSN	Choices Clarksburg

Date and Time	Title and Presenter/Description	Core Competency	Location
Wood County Professional Development Calendar			
January 5, 2023	West Virginia Elements of Family Child Care Module Series	Jennifer Powell	
4:30pm – 8:30pm	WV Elements of Family Child Care Module Series is for family childcare providers . This 7-week course (EVERY THURSDAY through Feb. 16) will focus on best practice, child development, organizing your day and home, and individual goals for providers.	Various	Choices Parkersburg
January 24, 2023	Tick Tock! It’s Transition o’clock!	Meagan Bragg	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	The purpose of this training is to learn the importance of transitions during daily activities, behaviors that can occur during transitions, and appropriate transition strategies.	CGD/EC	Choices Parkersburg
February 21, 2023	Understanding ECERS-3	Meagan Bragg	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	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	Choices Parkersburg
February 23, 2023	Adapting Your Gross Motor Play	Ashley Jobes	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This training will cover basic gross motor development. It also will discuss how to adapt this type of play for indoor and outdoor play, and the impacts gross motor play has on other areas of learning.	Various	Choices Parkersburg
March 8, 2023	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 .	CGD/EC	Choices Parkersburg
March 16, 2023	Improving DAP in Preschool Classrooms	Meagan Bragg	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This training will provide participants with information on how to create a Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP) environment for preschoolers. We will discuss what DAP looks like, resources to use, effective strategies, and how to plan appropriate activities.	CGD/EC	Choices Parkersburg
March 21, 2023	Diapering, Handwashing, and Sanitizing, Oh My!	Alicia Mazariego	
6:00pm – 7:30pm	FOR FAMILY CHILDCARE & FACILITIES ONLY: This course will cover the proper diapering, sanitizing, gloving, and handwashing procedure. This training is designed for FCC providers and facilities who provide care for infants and toddlers in diapers.	HSN	Choices Parkersburg

Online Training Policies:

- Each participant must individually register and log in to the training to receive credit. Device/screen sharing is not permitted .
- 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.

In-Person Professional Development Policies

- Participants must follow applicable COVID safety precautions and CDC guidance.
- 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.
- Sessions may be cancelled due to illness, inclement weather, or insufficient enrollment.

Online Health and Safety Training

Online Trainings Offered by Child Care Nurse Health Consultants and Child Care Health Educators

January 2023- March 2023

1/10	6:00-8:00 pm	Communicable Diseases
1/16	1:00-2:00 pm	Childhood Obesity Lunchtime Learning
1/17	5:00-8:00 pm	Medication Administration
1/18	6:30-8:30 pm	New Recipe Ideas 1
1/19	6:30-7:30 pm	Infection Control
1/23	1:00-2:00 pm	Respiratory Infections in Children Lunchtime Learning
1/24	6:30-8:30 pm	Safe Sleep Practices
1/26	6:00-7:30 pm	Medical Action Plans
2/4	8:00-11:00 am	Medication Administration Saturday Morning
2/7	6:30-8:30 pm	Communicable Diseases
2/8	6:30-8:30 pm	Oral Health
2/9	6:00-7:00 pm	Ear Infections
2/13	6:30-8:30 pm	Stress Management
2/16	6:30-7:30 pm	Morning Health Checks
2/21	6:30-8:30 pm	Breastfeeding Basics
2/22	1:00-2:00 pm	Oral Health Lunchtime Learning
3/1	6:00-8:00 pm	All About Allergies
3/2	5:00-8:00 pm	Medication Administration
3/7	6:30-8:30 pm	Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
3/13	6:00-8:00 pm	Creepy Crawly Creatures
3/15	6:30-8:30 pm	New Recipe Ideas 2
3/20	6:30-8:30 pm	Indoor and Outdoor Safety
3/21	6:30-7:30 pm	Infection Control
3/22	5:00-8:00 pm	Medication Administration
3/29	1:00-2:00 pm	What Child Care Nurse Health Consultants and Child Care Health Educators Do for You? Lunchtime Learning

Save the Date: Celebrating Connections

*Early Childhood in an
Everchanging World*

2023 Celebrating Connections



April 18-20, 2023

Charleston Coliseum & Convention Center
Charleston, WV

Sponsored by:

WV Department of Education/Offices of Teaching and Learning, PK-12 Academic Support, and Office of Federal Programs & Support, Special Education
WV Department of Health and Human Resources
Bureau for Public Health/Office of Maternal, Child, and Family Health/WV Birth to Three System/WV Home Visitation Program
Bureau for Children and Families
Early Care and Education Division
WV Head Start Collaborative Office

Support and coordination provided through the Collaborative Training Project:
West Virginia Early Childhood Training Connections and Resources

Returning to live and in person!

Join us for a three-day event with over 60 sessions and many exhibitors. This year's conference has been designed to provide relevant information about practices, policies, planning, and research that enhances community partnerships and quality in early care and education.

Follow us on Facebook for updates
Print registration available by request only



Registration opens January 1, 2023. Find registration and program information at:

https://www.eventsquid.com/event.cfm?event_id=16990

Save the Date: ITPBIS Series



**FEBRUARY 8, 15, 22, MARCH
1 & 8, 2023 | 6:00-8:00 PM**
**INFANT TODDLER
POSITIVE BEHAVIOR
INTERVENTION AND
SUPPORT SERIES**

What to Expect:

This is a five-part module online training that will introduce participants to Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports for Infants and Toddlers. Strategies and tools will be discussed, as well as the research supporting this model.

Initial and Follow up visits will be utilized as Proof of Learning.

Ten hours of WV STARS credit and resources provided

Limited spots available

Directors must take Overview webinar for staff to attend

February 7 at 6 pm

Register online at www.wvstars.org

Trainer:

Chrissy Pownell,
Behavioral Consultant

Training will be held
Virtually

(304)622-6528

Chrissy.R.Pownell@wv.gov

Register by January 27

(This provides time for face-to-face initial observation.)

Save the Date: FCC Network

HOME GROWN WV

FAMILY CHILD CARE NETWORK

JANUARY 17, 2023

6 - 8 P M

Training Topic: Lesson Plan Ideas

Family Child Care Providers will receive 1 hour of WV STARS credit.

VIRTUAL ON GOOGLE MEET

PLEASE CONTACT JENNIFER POWELL FOR MORE INFORMATION AT 304.485.2668



Food and Fun

Marshmallow Snowflakes

Ingredients: Small pretzel sticks, 1 bag of jumbo marshmallows, 1 bag of mini marshmallows

Directions: Press pretzel sticks all around the large marshmallow. Add the mini marshmallows to the ends of all the pretzel sticks. Finally, you have an edible snowflake! (Marshmallows are a choking hazard for children under 3)



Pom-Pom Snowman Activity

Materials: White pom-poms, tweezers or tongs, empty bottle, googly eyes, buttons, and strips of fabric.

Directions: Make the empty bottle look like a snowman by adding googly eyes, buttons, and fabric for a scarf. Children can help with this preparation. Place white pom-poms in a bin or on a tray so that children can use the tweezers /tongs to move them into the bottle. As the bottle fills to the top the snowman will appear! Children can shake out the pom-poms and try again and again.



Ice Painting

Materials: Shallow plastic bin, paintbrushes, watercolor paint or finger paint, ice cubes or a bag of ice.

Directions: Dump ice cubes or a bag of ice into a bin. Give children different paint brushes or textured paint tools. Allow children to paint the ice. As the ice seems to get covered in paint, move the ice from the bottom to the top of the bin to continue painting.



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

Child Care Food Program

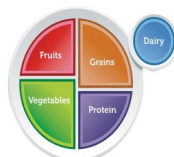
Wood County: 304-485-9238 ext 18

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.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.