Kids Quarterly Press

A Newsletter of Choices Child Care Resource and Referral

April, May, & June 2023

We Want to Hear From You

In an effort to create Professional Development opportunities that meet the needs of the providers in our community, we are asking that you take time to complete our Professional Development needs assessment. This will guide our Professional Development Team in creating trainings and webinars that are of interest to you. The survey also asks about additional resources available through our Resource and Referral. We would love to hear from you about the needs you are seeing in your program and community! Scan the QR code to the left to access the document. If you need assistance completing the needs assessment, please contact a Professional Development team member.

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Recognitions

West Virginia Tiered Reimbursement Program

Congratulations!

Choices would like to congratulate **Little Dogs Daycare** in Doddridge County for reaching Tier II Quality Status!

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

Well Done!

Choices would like to congratulate **Busy Hands Family Child Care (Jennifer Sims)** in Wood County for receiving the West Virginia Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care designation! If you are interested in receiving this designation for your program, contact your Infant Toddler Specialist.

Alicia Hundley,
304-622-6528
Alicia.M.Hundley@wv.gov

Alicia Mazariego,
304-485-2668
Alicia.W.Mazariego@wv.gov

Choices would like to recognize **Patty Bennett** for being the first in our region to be approved for the WV Child Care General Credential!

The Division of Early Care and Education understands the importance of the work you do, and it wants to help produce the best caregivers and child care programs possible for West Virginia families. With that in mind, the Division of Early Care and Education has created a voluntary program, the West Virginia Child Care Credential, that recognizes individual child care providers who go beyond the requirements of State licensing and registration regulations for training, education, and experience.

For more information contact Meagann.E.Morris@wv.gov

Important Updates

Who's New At Choices?

Hello everyone! My name is Jodi Fortney and I am so excited to be working at Choices CCR&R! I obtained my bachelor's degree in Biology from Fairmont State University and my master's degree in Early Childhood Education from Walden University. I have worked for Head Start for 8 years as both an assistant and then lead teacher, but first I was a parent. I found my passion in early childhood education! I loved volunteering and when I returned to the work force after being a stay-at-home Mom for 10 years, preschool felt natural. I cannot wait to help others as a Behavioral Consultant with Choices.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Week of the Young Child

APRIL 1 - 7

• *Monday*
• *Tuesday*
• *Wednesday*

Work Together Wednesday
Help children to build a creation together, be a support to teach these important friendship skills.

Music Monday
Children love to sing, dance, and make music! Take time to do this today!

Tasty Tuesday
Cooking and talking about food together helps teach lifelong healthy habits!

• *Friday*

Family Friday
Engaging and celebrating all families is at the heart of supporting young children.

• *Thursday*

Artsy Thursday
Art allows children to develop their creativity, social, & fine motor skills. Think and Create!

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

CHILD CARE PROVIDER APPRECIATION EVENT

MAY 12. 2023
6:00 PM

VIRTUAL EVENT

EMAIL MEAGANN.E.MORRIS@WV.GOV TO SIGN UP

A LINK TO THE EVENT WILL BE PROVIDED BY EMAIL

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
	Online Professional Development Calendar		
April 4, 2023	**Mind in the Making-R Introduction (for Administrators)**	**Meagan Bragg 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. *Center directors must attend before registering staff for Mind in the Making Series*	CGD/ PL	Online
April 5, 2023	**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 6, 2023	**Mind in the Making-R (Series)**	**Meagan Bragg Shannon Valles**	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This series investigates research on how children learn and how to encourage engaged learning in the classroom *(Sessions: Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25)*	Various	Online
April 11, 2023	**Quality Counts**	**Marcy Mueller**	
12:00pm – 1:00pm	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 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
April 25, 2023	**Professionalism in Family Childcare**	**Ashley Jobes**	
6:00pm – 7:30pm	Family childcare providers will learn the importance of professionalism in their program. This training will discuss what it means to be a professional in a family childcare setting and how you can use these skills to improve your program.	Various	Online
May 1, 2023	**WV Infant Toddler ELSFs**	**Alicia Hundley Alicia Mazariego**	
5:30pm – 7:30pm	This module series will cover how to use the Infant Toddler ELSFs and how to link them to lesson planning for your classroom. Sessions will be May 1, 8, & 15.	CGD	Online
May 31, 2023	**WV Early Learning Standards Framework Overview**	**Meagan Bragg**	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This course provides a basic overview of the Early Learning Standards and how they were created and used in West Virginia.	CGD/ COA	Online

Date and Time	Title and Presenter/Description	Core Competency	Location
May 22, 2023	**Understanding ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences): ACES 101**	**Meagann Morris**	
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	This training will introduce the concept of Adverse Childhood Experiences through awareness and education.	CGD	Online
June 15, 2023	**WV Early Learning Standards Framework for Pre-K Modules**	**Shannon Valles**	
12:00pm – 2:00pm	This 3-part module series provides an in-depth look at the WV Early Learning Standards Framework. Participants will also become more intentional by creating a lesson plan using the framework. *Attendance is mandatory for all sessions. Sessions: Jun. 15, 22, 29*	Various	Online
June 27, 2023	**Positive and Appropriate Behavior Management**	**Chrissy Pownell**	
6:00pm – 7:00pm	During this on-line course, participants will explore a variety of different strategies to help with behavior management.	HSN	Online
	Wood County Professional Development Calendar		
April 4, 2023	**The Elements of a Literacy Rich Environment**	**Jennifer Powell**	
6:00pm – 7:30pm	Family Child Care providers will learn to implement literacy into their environment that is supportive and engaging for all children. We will discuss room arrangement, a print-rich environment, and embedding language and literacy into all developmental areas.	EC	Choices
May 1, 2023	**Get the Scoop With TRAILS**	**Jennifer Powell**	
5:30pm – 6:30pm	Providers will learn more about the Traveling Resource And Information Library Service, the TRAILS inventory, professional development, technical assistance, and why it should be utilized in your program.	PL	Choices
May 9, 2023	**Implementing Baby Doll Circle Time**	**Alicia Mazariego**	
5:00pm – 7:00pm	This training will discuss Becky Bailey's Baby Doll Circle Time and how to include it in your care environment.	EC	Choices
May 25, 2023	**Planning Your Professional Growth**	**Marcy Mueller**	
5:30pm – 7:30pm	This training focuses on professional growth of early education providers and how to identify goals for the future.	PL/AM	Choices
June 28, 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

Date and Time	Title and Presenter/Description	Core Competency	Location
Harrison County Professional Development Calendar			
May 8, 2023	**How To's with Social Stories**		**Chrissy Pownell**
6:00pm – 7:30pm	During this in-person course participants will examine the benefits of social stories, explore how social stories can be used, and be given the opportunity to create a social story.	EC	Choices
May 24, 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/HSN	Choices
June 1, 2023	**The Elements of a Literacy Rich Environment**		**Jennifer Powell**
6:00pm – 7:30pm	Family Child Care providers will learn to implement literacy into their environment that is supportive and engaging for all children. We will discuss room arrangement, a print-rich environment, and embedding language and literacy into all developmental areas.	EC	Choices
June 17, 2023	**Understanding the School-Age Environment Rating Scale (SACERS-U)**		**Shannon Valles**
9:00am – 11:00am	This course provides an overview of the School-Age Environment Rating Scale (SACERS-U) including purpose, content, scoring, and tips for observing.	EC/PL	Choices
June 22, 2023	**Planning Your Professional Growth**		**Marcy Mueller**
5:30pm – 7:30pm	This training focuses on professional growth of early education providers and how to identify goals for the future.	PL/AM	Choices

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.
- Any technical issues that occur during the session should be communicated with the trainer as soon as possible so they can be resolved.

In-Person Professional Development Policies

- Anyone with symptoms of any illness will not be permitted to attend training.
- Participants must follow applicable COVID safety precautions, including wearing masks and social distancing when recommended by 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
April 2023- June 2023

4/1   8:00-11:00 am   Medication Administration **Saturday morning**

4/4   6:30-7:30 pm   Oral Health in Childcare

4/5   6:30-8:30 pm   Understanding Special Dietary Needs

4/11   6:30-8:30 pm   All That Sugar and Fat

4/13   6:30-7:30 pm   Dealing with Lice

4/24   6:30-8:30 pm   Bed Bugs and Beyond

4/25   6:30-8:00 pm   Medical Action Plans

4/27   6:30-8:30 pm   All About Allergies

5/2   12:00-2:00 pm   Planting Seeds for Healthy Eating   **Lunchtime Learning**

5/3   5:30-8:30 pm   Medication Administration

5/9   12:00-1:00 pm   Infection Control   **Lunchtime Learning**

5/11   6:30-7:30 pm   Respiratory Infections in Children

5/17   6:30-8:30 pm   Picky Eaters

5/18   6:30-8:30 pm   Sun Safety and Heat Related Illnesses

5/23   6:30-8:30 pm   Beans…More Than Just Cute Songs

5/25   6:30-8:30 pm   Creepy, Crawly Creatures

5/31   5:30-8:30 pm   Medication Administration

6/6   6:30-7:30 pm   Morning Health Checks

6/7   12:30-1:30 pm   Nutrition Basics   **Lunchtime Learning**

6/13   6:30-8:30 pm   Identifying Environmental Hazards 1

6/15   6:30-8:30 pm   Communicable Diseases

6/20   12:30-1:30 pm   Ear Infections in Children   **Lunchtime Learning**

6/21   6:30-8:30 pm   Let's Move

6/22   6:30-7:30 pm   Rashes & Scratches

6/27   6:30-8:30 pm   Identifying Environmental Hazards 2

6/28   5:30-8:30 pm   Medication Administration

Save the Date: Networking Sessions

CHOICES
CHILD CARE RESOURCE & REFERRAL

Virtual Directors' Meeting

Bring your lunch and have conversations with your QIS and other program directors!

May 16th
12:00-1:00

One Hour of WV STARS Credit will be Received Per Session

HomeGrown WV

TRAINING TOPIC: SAFE SLEEP
PRESENTED BY ALICIA HUNDLEY

APRIL 18, 2023 6-8 PM

CONTACT JENNIFER POWELL AT
304.485.2668 FOR MORE
INFORMATION.

Save the Date: TRAILS Open House

Get the Scoop with TRAILS

Join us for a night of how TRAILS can benefit your program!

What to look forward to:

- Meet N Greet your TRAILS team.
- Presentation about TRAILS.
- A tour of TRAILS area.
- Showcase of inventory and van.
- Information on how to sign up.

Enjoy a scoop of ice cream!

You're Invited!
May 1, 2023
5:30-7:30 pm

Choices CCR&R
4421 Emerson Ave
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26104

More information :
Jennifer.S.Powell@wv.gov
Ashley.N.Jobes@wv.gov

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

Food and Fun

Paper Bag Kite

Materials: Paper bag, yarn/twine/string, popsicle sticks, scissors, streamers, colored tape, variety of decorating materials: stickers, paint, markers, stamps, glue, paper, etc.

Directions: Begin by having children decorate their paper bag. Give them a variety of materials to choose from. If children use paint or glue, be sure it is dry before the next step. Cut a small hole in the bottom of the bag for the kite string. Cut a piece of string about 18 inches long and tie one end to the middle of a popsicle stick. Feed the other end through the hole in the bag. Attach streamers to the open end of the bag using tape. Let children fly their creations!

Flower Painting

Materials: Flowers with stems attached, paint, paper

Directions: Allow children to pick flowers from around your program or let them bring one from home. Prompt children to use the flower like a paintbrush. Children can make flower prints or brush the paper with the flower to create their own texture. Provide many different colors for them to use. Use this time to talk about what they think the texture will be like and how different flowers create different prints.

Caterpillar Banana Snack

Ingredients: A banana, various sprinkles (including two black sprinkles for the eyes), pretzel sticks

Directions: Carefully slice the banana and arrange slices into the caterpillar shape. Decorate the body with sprinkles and use two black sprinkles to make the eyes. Break the pretzel sticks in half and stick them in the head to make the antennae. If you like, use additional pretzel sticks to make legs!

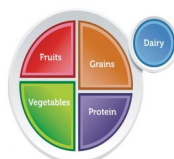For more Food & Fun ideas, contact Ashley Jobes, TRAILS Early Childhood Specialist, at Ashley.N.Jobes@wv.gov.

Choices Child Care Resource and Referral

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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.