



# Kids Quarterly Press

A Newsletter of Choices Child Care Resource and Referral

July, August, and September 2024

## *We're Moving!*



The rumors are true! Our Harrison County office will be moving to a new location! As you may have noticed, we have outgrown our current space and continue growing each year. We are so excited to introduce our new space as we continue to serve children, families, and providers in our region. Please be patient with us during this transition as there are always hurdles and twists on the way to improvement! If you encounter difficulties contacting our staff during this time please call our Parkersburg office at (304)485-2668 or via email at [rrchoices@wv.gov](mailto:rrchoices@wv.gov). Information regarding an open house will be shared when construction and the move are complete!

Choices Child Care Resource & Referral  
11 Chenoweth Dr., Ste. 201  
Bridgeport, WV 26330  
Toll Free: (866)622-6528

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### Choices CCR&R

4421 Emerson Ave,  
Suite 102  
Parkersburg, WV 26104  
(304) 485-2668  
(304) 485-7024 (fax)

### Choices CCR&R

11 Chenoweth Dr,  
Suite 201  
Bridgeport, WV  
(866) 622-6528  
(304) 622-6092 (fax)

## Recognitions

Choices would like to recognize **Tracy Swick** from Cubby's Child Care Center and **Libby Hunter** from Lasting Impressions CDC on their approval for the WV Child Care General Credential!

Congratulations to **Patty Bennett** on her approval for the Family Child Care Specialization Credential!



*For more information regarding the WV Child Care Credential contact [Meagann.E.Morris@wv.gov](mailto:Meagann.E.Morris@wv.gov)  
Or click the link below.*

[https://www.wvdhhr.org/choices/child\\_care\\_providers.html](https://www.wvdhhr.org/choices/child_care_providers.html)

### *Specialization Credentials Now Available!*

The Division of Early Care and Education understands the importance of the work you do, and wants to help produce the best caregivers and child care programs possible for West Virginia families. The Division is pleased to announce West Virginia Child Care Credential Specializations! Once a provider has attained their West Virginia Child Care General Credential, they can continue their journey with a Specialization.:

- Director Specialization
- Infant Toddler Specialization
- Preschool Specialization
- Family Child Care Specialization

Once the Specialization Credential is achieved, a bonus of \$250.00 is available.

For more information about this exciting new initiative, please contact Meagann Morris at [Meagann.E.Morris@wv.gov](mailto:Meagann.E.Morris@wv.gov) or (304)485-2668

Thank you for all you do for West Virginia families and communities.  
Your hard work is greatly appreciated!



## Recognitions



### West Virginia Tiered Reimbursement Program

Congratulations to **Lisa's Family Day Care** on her NAEYC Accreditation and Tier III approval!

Congratulations to **Kingdom Kids** and **Pierpont Lab School** on their approvals as Tier II quality programs.

The Child Care Reimbursement System is a quality initiative that offers higher subsidy payments to programs that demonstrate they meet higher standards of care. Programs may apply for Tier II if specific higher quality standards are met. These providers receive a higher childcare reimbursement rate and are eligible for additional bonus payments.

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



For information  
regarding this  
initiative contact:  
Alicia Hundley,  
304-622-6528  
[Alicia.M.Hundley@wv.gov](mailto:Alicia.M.Hundley@wv.gov)

### The Advantages of having a Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Designation:

1. Designation 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. Designation can positively affect staff recruitment and retention as well as productivity and morale.
4. Sites achieving designation receive a bonus stipend, certificate of designation and recognition, and materials for start up.

Click the link below to learn more about this designation and the 10-step process to becoming a breastfeeding friendly program.

<https://www.wvit.org/breastfeeding-friendly-child-care-designation/>

## Important Updates

# Complete our Professional Development Needs Assessment

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!

Providers who complete the needs assessment by July 31, 2024 will be entered to win program resources!

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO  
ACCESS THE FORM**



If you are viewing this on a computer or mobile device, click the following link to complete the assessment: <https://forms.gle/vV5cmYXGRet7W3KN6>

## Who's New At Choices?



Moving from Orlando, Florida to Marietta, Ohio, in 2020 with my husband and two sons, Liam and Levi, I was thrilled to finally settle into my role as Infant/Toddler Specialist with Choices CCR&R in Parkersburg, WV. While I enjoyed this role immensely, I was approached with another opportunity to work as a Developmental Specialist, focusing on infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities. Over the last 5 months, I discovered the importance of supportive and positive work environments. Recognizing the value of nurturing and collaborative spaces, I made the decision to return to Choices, where I am eager to continue making a meaningful impact in the early childhood field.

## Important Updates

Have you visited the  
new TRAILS website?



- View the schedule
- Find useful documents
- Discover upcoming events
- Search our inventory
- Request items
- See check out history

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Visit Today!



### About TRAILS

TRAILS (Traveling Resource and Information Library Service) is a mobile resource program designed to improve the quality and availability of child care services in West Virginia. TRAILS offers developmentally appropriate toys, games, and books for the use of children in family child care homes, centers, and facilities.

Contact Jennifer or Ashley  
for login information

**304-485-2668**

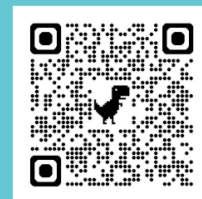
jennifer.s.powell@wv.gov  
ashley.n.jobes@wv.gov

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Click the link or scan QR  
code to visit our website!

<https://choicetrails.soutrnglobal.net/Portal/>





## Important Updates



RIVER VALLEY CHILD  
DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICES



# ACDS REGISTRATION

### ABOUT ACDS

ACDS is a four semester apprenticeship program for individuals working directly with children birth to age 12 for a minimum of 20 hours a week. Classes are one evening a week for 15 weeks a semester. Virtual classes are available for counties that do not offer an in-person option.

### PARTICIPATION

Registration for the fall term starts June 1 and for the spring term November 1 each year. Interested participants should follow the outlined steps to register for class each term.

### REGISTRATION



#### STEP ONE

Visit the WV STARS training calendar and search self-paced courses for all ACDS orientations.



#### STEP TWO

Complete registration that is linked at the end of each orientation.



#### STEP THREE

Submit \$25.00 registration fee to ACDS program. Checks and cards are accepted. Credit card form is on ACDS website.








304-523-0433






[www.wvacds.org](http://www.wvacds.org)



[wwacds@rvcds.com](mailto:wwacds@rvcds.com)

Date and Time	Title and Presenter/Description	Core Competency	Location
<b>Online Professional Development Calendar</b>			
<b>July 9, 2024</b>	<b>WVIT-R Administrator's Course</b>	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: July 9 &amp; 10</i> )	PL	Online
<b>July 10, 2024</b>	<b>Mind in the Making (Series)</b> 	Abigail Carter Shannon Valles	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This series investigates research on how children learn and how to encourage engaged learning in the classroom ( <i>Session dates: Jul. 10, 17, 24, 31, Aug. 7, 14, 21, &amp; 28.</i> )	Various	Online
<b>July 16, 2024</b>	<b>WVIT-R</b> 	Alicia Mazariego	
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. ( <i>Series dates: Jul. 16, 23, 30, Aug. 6, 13, Sept. 3, 10, 17, Oct.</i> )	Various	Online
<b>July 25, 2024</b>	<b>Change the Environment, Not the Child!</b>	Jennifer Powell	
5:00pm – 8:30pm	In this training participants will gain insights into creating environments that foster optimal learning and development, tailored to each child's unique needs.	EC	Online
<b>August 8, 2024</b>	<b>Understanding ACEs</b> 	Jodi Fortney	
12:00pm – 1:30pm	This training will provide a brief overview of Adverse Childhood Experiences through awareness and education.	CGD	Online
<b>August 27, 2024</b>	<b>Quality Environments FCCERS-3 Overview</b>	Jennifer Powell	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Family childcare providers will learn more about the environmental rating scale, how this pertains to quality, and how to score their environment to foster enriched learning experiences.	EC	Online
<b>September 19, 2024</b>	<b>WV Early Learning Standards Framework Overview</b> 	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
<b>September 23, 2024</b>	<b>RR Spreading HOPE</b> 	Jodi Fortney	
12:00pm – 1:30pm	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

Date and Time	Title and Presenter/Description	Core Competency	Location
<b>Wood County Professional Development Calendar</b>			
<b>July 10, 2024</b>	<b>Let them Move</b>	Chrissy Lafferty	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This training applies to anyone working with toddlers, preschool, and school age children. It will discuss activities to include your classroom that can improve behaviors.	CGD	Choices
<b>August 3, 2024</b>	<b>FCCPBIS Module Training</b> 	Chrissy Lafferty	
9:30am – 4:00pm	During this 6-hour training you will learn some Positive Behavior Implementation Strategies to positively support children. This training is for family childcare homes and facilities.	Various	Choices
<b>August 21, 2024</b>	<b>WV Elements of Family Childcare Module Series</b> 	Ashley Jobes	
4:30pm – 8:30pm	WV Elements of Family Child Care Module Series is for family childcare providers. This is a 7-week course that will focus on best practice, child development, organizing your day and home, and individual goals for providers. ( <i>Series dates: Aug. 21, 28, Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, &amp; Oct. 2.</i> )	Various	Choices
<b>September 9, 2024</b>	<b>The Growing Brain</b> 	Abigail Carter Alicia Mazariego	
6:00pm – 9:00pm	This 7-session series delves into research into brain development and strategies for childcare providers to support children, birth to 5 years old. ( <i>Series dates: Sept 9, 16, 23, 30, Oct. 7, 21, &amp; 28.</i> )	Various	Choices
<b>September 10, 2024</b>	<b>Designing Creative Learning Environments in Family Childcare</b>	Ashley Jobes	
6:00pm – 7:30pm	This training will cover the importance of creating a learning environment for children that is based around creativity. We will discuss how to improve your learning environment to support creative thinking and art-based learning for mixed age groups.	Various	Choices
<b>September 26, 2024</b>	<b>Playful Engagement: Nurturing Daily Interactions with Children</b>	Jennifer Powell	
6:00pm – 7:30pm	Discover the profound impact of daily interaction on children's development and nurture positive relationships with them. Equip yourself with essential strategies for engaging effectively with the children in your care.	EC	Choices

## WV STARS Core Knowledge

CGD: Child Growth and Development  
 FC: Family and Community Relationships  
 COA: Child Observation and Assessment;  
 EC: Environment and Curriculum

HSN: Health, Safety and Nutrition  
 PL: Professionalism and Leadership  
 AM: Administration and Management  
 Various: Multiple Core Knowledge areas covered

This image indicates that this training meets the requirements for the WV Child Care Credential.





Date and Time	Title and Presenter/Description	Core Competency	Location
<b>Harrison County Professional Development Calendar</b>			
<b>August 22, 2024</b>	<b>Safe and Sound: Health and Safety for Infants and Toddlers in Family Child Care</b>	Alicia Hundley	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This course will cover health and safety issues for infants and toddlers that family child care providers need to be attentive to carrying out. <b>For Family Child Care Providers Only.</b>	HSN	Choices
<b>September 14, 2024</b>	<b>Embracing Diversity</b>	Shannon Valles	
9:00am – 11:00am	This training will explore the meaning of diversity and ways to include diversity in your learning environment.	EC/FC	Choices
<b>September 17, 2024</b>	<b>Designing Creative Learning Environments in Family Childcare</b>	Ashley Jobes	
6:00pm – 7:30pm	This training will cover the importance of having a learning environment for children that is based around creativity. We will discuss how to improve your learning environment to support creative thinking and art-based learning for mixed age groups.	Various	Choices
<b>September 26, 2024</b>	<b>Let them Move</b>	Chrissy Lafferty	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	This training applies to anyone working with toddlers, preschool, and school age children. It will discuss activities to include your classroom that can improve behaviors.	CGD	Choices

### In-Person Professional Development Policies

- Anyone with symptoms of any illness will not be permitted to attend training.
- You must register at [www.wvstars.org](http://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.
- Training sessions may be cancelled due to low enrollment or weather.

### 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.
- Technical issues should be brought to the trainers attention as soon as possible so they can be resolved.

## Child Care Nurse Health Consultant Trainings

Date and Time	Title and Description	Trainer
7/2/24 5:30-8:30 PM	<b>Medication Administration</b>	Karen Gilbert
7/8/24 6:30-7:30 PM	<b>Morning Health Checks</b>	Candace Morgan
7/11/24 6:00-8:00 PM	<b>All About Allergies</b>	Karen Gilbert
7/15/24 6:00-8:00 PM	<b>Creepy Crawly Creatures</b>	Lisa Galford
7/17/24 6:00-8:00 PM	<b>Summertime Safety</b>	Brittany Parsons
7/22/24 5:30-8:30PM	<b>Medication Administration</b>	Brittany Parsons
7/25/24 6:30-8:30 PM	<b>Communicable Diseases in Child Care</b>	Candace Morgan
8/3/24 8:00-11:00AM Saturday Morning	<b>Medication Administration</b>	Lisa Galford
8/5/24 6:00-8:00 PM	<b>Creepy Crawly Creatures</b>	Lisa Galford
8/9/24 12:00-1:00 PM Lunchtime Learning	<b>Morning Health Checks</b>	Candace Morgan
8/13/24 5:30-8:30 PM	<b>Medication Administration</b>	Candace Morgan
8/14/24 6:00-8:00 PM	<b>Summertime Safety</b>	Brittany Parsons
8/19/24 6:00-8:00 PM	<b>Communicable Diseases in Child Care</b>	Candace Morgan
8/22/24 6:00-8:00 PM	<b>All About Allergies</b>	Karen Gilbert
8/29/24 5:30-8:30 PM	<b>Medication Administration</b>	Candace Morgan
9/3/24 6:00-8:00 PM	<b>Creepy Crawly Creatures</b>	Lisa Galford
9/11/24 5:30-8:30 PM	<b>Medication Administration</b>	Candace Morgan
9/16/24 6:00-8:00 PM	<b>All About Allergies</b>	Karen Gilbert
9/19/24 6:00-8:00 PM	<b>Communicable Diseases in Child Care</b>	Brittany Parsons
9/25/24 6:00-7:00 PM	<b>Morning Health Checks</b>	Candace Morgan

Training Topic	Summary
<b>Communicable Diseases</b>	Tips for minimizing the spread of infection in programs as well as information about common communicable diseases.
<b>Summertime Safety</b>	Information about recognizing and preventing various heat related conditions along with first aid for each condition. Water and Bug Safety is included.
<b>All About Allergies</b>	Information about managing allergies in the childcare setting, including food, insect, and seasonal allergies.
<b>Morning Health Checks</b>	A task to perform to help identify when a child may not be well enough for child care. This presentation will explain what a morning health check is as well as how to conduct it.
<b>Medication Administration</b>	Participants will be introduced to safe medication handling and administration practices. This training is required for providers to administer medication to children in the childcare setting.
<b>Creepy Crawly Creatures</b>	Information about parasites commonly identified in a childcare setting as well as guidelines for preventing an outbreak.

## Child Care Health Educators Online

WV Child Care Health Educators Online Training Schedule July, Aug, and Sept 2024		
July 16, 2024	6:30pm-8:30pm	Identifying Environmental Hazards 1
July 22, 2024	12:00pm-1:00pm	Nutrition Basics
July 30, 2024	6:30pm-8:30pm	Identifying Environmental Hazards 2
August 8, 2024	6:30pm-8:30pm	Let's Make a Menu
August 20, 2024	6:30pm-8:30pm	Safe Sleep Practices
August 26, 2024	12:00pm-1:00pm	Infant Feeding
September 5, 2024	6:30pm-8:30pm	New Recipe Ideas 1
September 19, 2024	12:00pm-1:00pm	Childhood Obesity
September 24, 2024	6:30pm-8:30pm	New Recipe Ideas 2

### WV Child Care Health Educators

#### Training Topics

2 Hour:

- All That Sugar and Fat
- Beans...More Than Just Cute Songs
- Bed Bugs and Beyond
- Being a Good Role Model
- Breastfeeding Basics
- Identifying Environmental Hazards 1
- Identifying Environmental Hazards 2
- Indoor and Outdoor Safety
- Let's Make a Menu
- Let's Move
- New Recipe Ideas 1
- New Recipe Ideas 2
- Oral Health
- Picky Eaters
- Planting Seeds for Healthy Eating
- Safe Sleep Practices
- Stress Management
- Understanding Special Dietary Needs

1 Hour:

- Fun and Healthy Snacks
- Infant Feeding



Face-to-face and online trainings are available. Please contact Renee or check the WV STARS calendar for more information.

Renee Y. Stonebraker, RS  
 Bruceton Mills, WV 26525  
 Call/Text: 304-710-9695  
[rstonebraker@rvcds.org](mailto:rstonebraker@rvcds.org)  
[www.wvearlychildhood.org](http://www.wvearlychildhood.org)

## Save The Date



# FIRST AID & CPR TRAINING

Presented by  
Jacklin Moats

*Course is \$25.  
Contact  
Jacklin for  
payment  
details.*

*Space is limited  
to 6 participants  
per session.*

**Friday, July 26 9am-3pm**

Clarksburg Office  
11 Chenoweth Dr., Ste. 201  
Bridgeport, WV 26330

**Friday, August 16 9am-3pm**

Parkersburg Office  
4421 Emerson Ave., Ste. 102  
Parkersburg, WV 26104



1-866-622-6528



Jacklin.S.Moats@wv.gov

**CHOICES**  
CHILD CARE RESOURCE & REFERRAL



## Save the Date

### MIND IN THE MAKING ONLINE

#### SESSIONS:

- JULY 10
- JULY 17
- JULY 24
- JULY 31
- AUGUST 7
- AUGUST 14
- AUGUST 21
- AUGUST 28

6:00 PM- 8:00PM



### CHOICES

Child Care Resource & Referral

Presented by Shannon Valles & Abigail Carter



1-866-622-6528



shannon.m.valles@wv.gov



www.wvstars.org

#### Module Series

### THE GROWING BRAIN

#### Session Dates

September 9, 2024  
September 16 2024  
September 23, 2024  
September 30, 2024  
October 7, 2024  
October 21, 2024  
October 28, 2024  
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Presented by:  
Abigail Carter  
Alicia Mazariego



#### You will learn:

- The Parts of the Brain and Their Functions
- Factors That Affect Brain Growth and Development
- Communication Milestones
- How Cognitive Development Unfolds
- How Social-Emotional Development Unfolds
- Basic Brain Anatomy
- Development of Play



304-485-2668



abigail.e.carter@wv.gov



www.wvstars.org

## Save the Dates

**Great Beginnings**  
INFANT/TODDLER  
CONFERENCE



**Save the Date**  
**September 26th, 27th and 28th**  
**2024**

**Waterfront Hotel**

Two Waterfront Place

**Morgantown**



## Food and Fun

### Car Wash Sensory Bin

**Materials:** 2-sided sensory bin, play cars and trucks, mud, soapy water (use tear free soap), scrub brushes, sponges, and wash cloths.

**Instructions:** Start by hiding, burying, and driving several toy cars into the mud. Give children a scrubby brush, sponge, or wash cloth and let them play carwash.



### Bug Hotel

**Materials:** A large plastic bottle or jug, string to hang, paper rolls, sticks, twigs, pinecones, bark, leaves, pieces of moss, and other small nature items.

**Instructions:** Cut your bottle to the desired size. You can make one large bug hotel or several small ones. Gather and sort all

your pieces. Place the pieces inside the container so that everything feels snug and secure. Depending on the size of the container you may need a lot of materials. When you are finished, place the bug hotel in a place where children can return to observe it. You can hang them on trees or on a fence. Bring out magnifying glasses for children so they can check if their bug hotel has any visitors.



### Watermelon Pizza

**Materials:** Watermelon cut into triangles, 1 quart of yogurt, various cut up fruit, child safe butter knife.

**Instructions:** Give each child a watermelon triangle. With the butter knife allow children to cover their watermelon slices with yogurt. Let them choose their fruit toppings to add on top of the yogurt and enjoy!



For more Food & Fun ideas, contact Ashley Jobes, TRAILS Early Childhood Specialist, at [Ashley.N.Jobes@wv.gov](mailto:Ashley.N.Jobes@wv.gov).

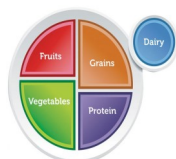
### Child Care Food Program

Wood County: 304-485-9238 ext 18  
Harrison County: 304-905-9867

[www.frac.org](http://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.

<https://dhhr.wv.gov/wic/>

### West Virginia Children's Health Insurance Program

[www.wvchip.org](http://www.wvchip.org)



Health care for children & expectant moms  
Apply online at [www.wvinroads.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.wvdhhr.org/choices).