

Great Plains Child Care Resource & Referral Center



Third Quarter 2019

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Cache Office Hours
By appointment

www.gpcrr.org

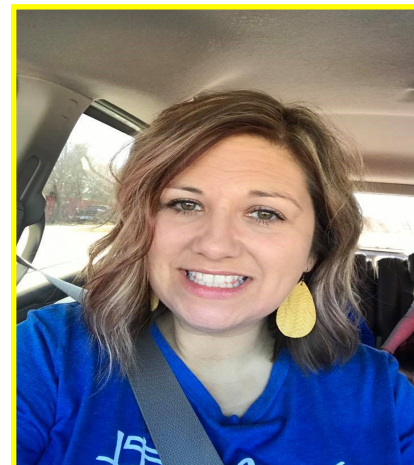
January Jumpstart

Our annual January Jumpstart conference was held Saturday, January 12th and was a huge success. Close to a hundred participants left refreshed and prepared to seize the new year.

We hope to see everyone back next year!

Meet our Staff

Lisa began her work at GPYFS in 2018 but previously worked here in 2005. She is currently working as the Infant & Toddler Specialist. Lisa grew up in Hobart and obtained her bachelors degree in Mass Communication from SWOSU. She is married to Derek and they have five children. Callie (19), Avery (15), Boedey (13), Presley (7), and Dillen (6). Lisa spends most of time with the kids sports (football, baseball, basketball, wrestling, and gymnastics). Her family has a boxer named Max and an inherited Lab mix named Zeus Lisa's favorite family activities include going golfing and fishing and of course anything sports related.



Lisa Earls
Infant & Toddler Specialist
lisa@gpcrr.org

Do you want to improve quality?



We want to help improve infant toddler care programs—building a strong relationship between children and their providers.

Oklahoma Right Start Infant Toddler Project

Benefits for your Program

- ♦ Receiving free formal training
- ♦ Receiving 30 hours of coaching for staff
- ♦ Building effective learning environments
- ♦ Increasing community involvement and support through resources



Your Program Must

- ♦ Provide care for Infants and Toddlers
- ♦ Be OKDHS Licensed at a 1 Star Plus or higher and have a current subsidy contract
- ♦ Have at least 10% of capacity filled with children receiving subsidy

Call to sign up today!

1-888-878-4417

www.gpcrr.org



Oklahoma Child Care
RESOURCE & REFERRAL ASSOCIATION, INC.



Oklahoma Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRA) has created an online provider portal that gives providers the freedom to update their child care program information for parents to view.

At no cost to you, this new Online Provider Portal (OPP) gives you the ability to maintain and update your program's information. As an early childhood professional, you play a key role in providing quality care and education for the children and families you serve. With this new Online Provider Portal (OPP) you can communicate this to families.

- * Update your information as often as you'd like (days and times open, rates, offerings and more)
- * Update your openings and the as of date (if you are full simply do not enter any openings)
- * Choose from a variety of fields that reflect your care, such as business policies and practices, activities and special services, curriculum and environment
- * Write a message to families about your exemplary care and what makes your care unique
- * Add up to 5 pictures to showcase your program to families

Please check out your new portal as soon as you can.

<https://stage.worklivesystems.com/program/23>

Free Technical Assistance

Did you know we offer one-on-one Technical Assistance in your Family Child Care Home or Center Classroom?

Topics include, but are not limited to:

- * Room Arrangement
- * Stars Applications
- * Behavior and Guidance
- * Creating Policies/Handbooks
- * Communication with Families
 - * Customer Service
- * Marketing Your Child Care Business
 - * Story Time Strategies
 - * Transition Ideas
- * Color Photos of your Interest Centers for Labeling
 - * Equipment Inventory
 - * Die Cut Services
- * Eco Friendly Environment Assessment
 - * Guidance on NAFCC Accreditation
 - * & Much More!

Oklahoma Early Childhood Family Guides

The Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) is excited to share the Oklahoma Family Guides for English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies for Pre-K through 2nd Grade.

The OSDE Family Guides are resources aligned with the Oklahoma

Academic Standards and developed specifically for Oklahoma families to complement classroom learning. They illustrate what is expected of students at each grade level in different content areas along with activities families can do at home to further support children's learning experiences.

The content information in these family guides is a snapshot of learning in the individual grade levels. For a complete set of academic standards for ELA, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies, visit the [Oklahoma-academic-standards](#).

Grades 3-6 are coming soon!

Do you need training hours?

Check out Early Childhood Investigations Webinars!

You can have 6 hours of "informal" training per year. These webinars are FREE & 1.5 hours each. The best part about these webinars:

1. They are all recorded, so you can search the archives, find a topic that interests you and listen. At the end of the webinar, there is a link to print the certificate!
2. The topics are FABULOUS - all Early Childhood Education related.
3. The presenters are FABULOUS - all ECE or Business professionals from all over the country.
4. If you don't have time to take advantage of the live webinars (1pm-2:30pm every Wednesday). Choose a recorded one and listen ANYTIME ANYWHERE!
5. Did we mention...they are FREE?!

www.earlychildhoodwebinars.com/presentations

Important Dates

February 2nd– Columbus Day	March 17th– Saint Patrick's Day
February 12th– Lincoln's Birthday	April 1st– April Fool's Day
February 14th– Valentine's Day	April 19th– Good Friday
February 18th– President's Day	April 21st– Easter
March 10th– Daylight Savings Time	April 22nd– Earth Day



2019 Oksharedservices.org

What is OK Shared Services?

OK Shared Services is a password-protected web platform that forms an extensive knowledge hub of tools focused on supporting the needs of early childhood education and care professionals. Quick links to difficult-to-find state and federal regulations, samples and templates of procedures, policies, forms, toolkits, handbooks and more help providers manage their programs more efficiently and effectively, all available at the click of a mouse. The resources are created with the knowledge and expertise from early childhood education and care experts in 28 states resulting in very high-quality, vetted tools. CCA For Social Good develops, hosts, and maintains the online platform. Oklahoma Child Care Resource and Referral supports the program in Oklahoma.

Why Does this Matter?

The early childhood education and care sector is challenged with rising costs, shrinking budgets, rapidly changing workforce, diversified needs of children and their families and the increasing demand to improve quality. ECE Shared Resources is the only platform that provides a systems approach to address these challenges while strengthening the needs of this sector. ECE Shared Resources helps save time and money that can be invested in quality improvement efforts. Further, the pragmatic tools and resources enable practitioners to improve the quality of the education and care they provide while streamlining the reach of technical assistance and coaching specialists; this in turn helps states 'take quality to scale' in a cost-effective manner.

Are there savings or discounts offered?

Pre-negotiated everyday discounts are available on a variety of products and services used by early childhood education and care programs throughout the US. Types of savings programs include: payroll, office and classroom supplies, facilities and janitorial supplies, uniforms, website development, food, insurance, and more. Users choose which program they'd like to use and when they want to use it.

Typical Savings

- **Office Supplies 12% - 18%**
- **School Supplies 10% - 20%**
- **Payroll Processing 25% - 30%**
- **Food Supply 10% - 35%**
- **Job Postings 55%**

Are the resources vetted?

Yes. the resources are informed by professionals highly engaged in current research and thinking in ECE including the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control, Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning from Vanderbilt University, Penn State Better Kid Care and many, many more leaders.

Materials and documents used to be very difficult to develop and customize. Now it's so easy. Tools are presented in Microsoft Word and Excel. They can be downloaded, edited and customized for immediate use by a program. Having these resources helps TA Staff to cover more topics during visits, and also use the time saved to assist additional programs. Following are just a few of the tools that help contribute to higher quality:

- Clear policies
- Handbooks
- Checklists
- Procedures
- Classroom tips
- Parent Handouts
- Hiring and HR documents
- Cost Savings (funds that get put back into the program)

Membership

Participation is by membership. Every provider will be given a free year of membership from their first login during 2019 with unlimited users. After the first year, membership fees are as follows:

Family Child Care Homes - \$35/year with 2 user logins.

Child Care Centers with a licensed capacity of 99 or fewer - \$110/year with 4 user logins. Child Care Centers with a licensed capacity of 100 or more - \$150/year with 6 user logins.

For every user beyond the number provided, there will be a \$10 fee. As an example, your center is licensed for 65 children and you begin using the system on March 31, 2019. You will have unlimited user through March 31, 2020. On April 1, 2020 you will pay \$110 for 4 users to have access to the system. Each additional user will cost you \$10.

Funded in part by OKDHS Child Care Services, Potts Family Foundation, Tulsa Educare, the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma and the Shawnee Tribe.

Brought to you by



Eco Hot Tip: Radon

Radon is the largest cause of lung cancer in non-smokers.

RADON

January is national radon action month. Radon is a serious health risk facing tens of thousands of U.S residents. Exposure to radon gas causes 20,000+ deaths annually. The challenge is that we can't see or smell radon, so it's easy to forget that this toxic gas may be a concern in any home or child care.

Radon is an invisible radioactive gas that can only be detected through testing. It is produced by the natural breakdown of uranium in rock, soil, and water. Any building can have a radon problem. Radon gets into a building by moving up through the ground and then through cracks and holes in the foundation. Buildings can trap radon, which can lead to harmful concentrations indoors.

REDUCE YOUR EXPOSURE

The Environmental Protection Agency recommends that all homes, child cares and schools be tested. If your average indoor radon level measures at or above 4 pCi/L, take action to reduce it.

Fixing buildings to reduce radon exposure may entail sealing cracks in the foundation, ventilating the area or depressurizing the soil.

HOW TO TEST FOR RADON

Test kits are available at larger home improvement stores. They typically cost about \$15. Test kits also can be ordered from online retailers, as well as from the National Radon Program Services. Visit sosradon.org or call 1-800-SOS-RADON.



ANNOUNCING THE
Oklahoma Right Start
INFANT/TODDLER
Achievement Stipend
Program

A new stipend program funded by Department of
Human Services (DHS) Child Care Services for
providers that work with infants/toddlers

\$600 One-time payment for
those who qualify

AVAILABLE STARTING **JULY 2018**

www.cecpcd.org  

We Are Proud Of You!

Congratulations on Your Recent Star Level Increase!

We are Proud of You! Keep Reaching for the Stars!

- * Little Learners Early Childhood Enrichment Center- 1+ star
 - * Pitter Patter's Daycare #2- 2 star
 - * Children of Joy- 3 star
 - * Kid's Kompany- 1+ star

*GPCCRR offers free on-site consultation to help assess
Stars Application readiness. Give us a call today and you too could be headed
toward a new Star level!



*When educating the minds of our youth, we
must not forget to educate their hearts.*

Dalai Lama

Training Calendar

Date	Cost	Training or Conference	Location	Contact
1/25	\$15	Organize your Child Care Business with Google Calendar Event: 243094	Online	For more information contact Tammy Maus@ 405-364-2323 or www.okregistry.org
1/26	Free	Love & Logic Principals 3 & 4 Event: 241425	Lawton, OK	For more information contact Charlotte Hollarn @ 405-650-9757 or www.okregistry.org
1/26	Free	Introduction to Love and Logic Event: 241422	Lawton, OK	For more information contact Charlotte Hollarn @ 405-650-9757 or www.okregistry.org
1/26-2/2	\$20	Ok Early Learning Guidelines for Infants, Toddlers & Twos Event: 242289	Altus, OK	For more information contact Juanita Hall @ 405-250-9478 or www.okregistry.org
1/31	\$15	Safe Sleep Environments for Child Care Providers Event: 243613	online	For more information contact Tammy Maus@ 405-364-2323 or www.okregistry.org
2/2	\$55	Pediatric CPR/First Aid 2-year certification Event: 240627	Cache, OK	For more information contact Amber Cuyler at 580-695-6999 or www.okregistry.org
2/4	Free	Safe Sleep Event: 243673	Duncan, OK	For more information contact Jennifer Stover at 580-694-7560 or www.okregistry.org
2/22-2/24	\$20	Ok Early Learning Guidelines for Infants, Toddlers & Twos Event: 243579	Lawton, OK	For more information contact Krista Amon @ 405-647-2485 or www.okregistry.org
2/28	\$15	Safe Sleep Environments for Child Care Providers Event: 243614	online	For more information contact Tammy Maus@ 405-364-2323 or www.okregistry.org
3/2	\$55	Pediatric CPR/First Aid 2-year certification Event: 240628	Cache, OK	For more information contact Amber Cuyler at 580-695-6999 or www.okregistry.org
3/9-3/10	\$20	Learning Guidelines for School Age Children-ELG Event: 242896	Cache, OK	For more information contact Tracy Hinton @ 580-747-6396 or www.okregistry.org
3/14	\$15	Safe Sleep Environments for Child Care Providers Event: 243615	online	For more information contact Tammy Maus@ 405-364-2323 or www.okregistry.org
4/6	\$55	Pediatric CPR/First Aid 2-year certification Event: 240640	Cache, OK	For more information contact Amber Cuyler at 580-695-6999 or www.okregistry.org

For a complete training calendar of classes/events across the state go to www.okregistry.org

For online child care professional training go to www.smarthorizons.org/naccrra/okrr/

For more information on Pathways to CDA contact Vicki Rexroat at 888-302-9050 or 405-643-3247.

For More Information about scheduling a CPR/First Aid Class in your area: Contact Amber Cuyler @ 580-695-6999. For already scheduled classes in your area contact the local American Red Cross, hospital, or county health department for dates, times & costs.

Toll-Free Child Care Referral Line!

1-800-438-0008

If you are a provider and have received phone calls from families searching for child care but have no openings, please share this number.

The referral line representative can help families narrow their search to other possible providers. If you are a community contact and hear of any friends or co-workers needing child care, please refer them to this number. It is free, completely confidential, and a wonderful service for both providers and families.

Helpful Numbers



Great Plains Child Care Resource & Referral: 1-888-878-4417

Provides parent referrals, provider training, technical assistance, library and more.

Reaching for the Stars: 1-800-522-2564

A child care rating system based on quality and education

Scholars for Excellence: 1-866-343-3881

Provides early childhood educational opportunities through scholarships for child care professionals .

Warmline: 1-888-574-5437

Offers free telephone consultation to child care providers on behavioral, health & safety, and care topics. Consultants can offer ideas and solutions and refer providers to appropriate services and resources with in their communities.

Center for Early Childhood Professional Development: 1-888-446-7608

Provides training and resources for individuals who work in licensed child care in Oklahoma .

OKDHS Child Care Services County Offices:

Beckham 1-800-225-0098, Caddo (405) 247-4000, Custer (580)-331-1900,

Comanche (580) 250-3600, Cotton & Stephens (580) 251-8300,

Grady 1-800-433-7073, Jackson, Kiowa, Greer, Harmon & Tillman 1-800-493-7974,

Jefferson 1-800-493-7981, Roger Mills (580) 885-7546 & Washita (580) 832-3391



Great Plains Child Care
Resource & Referral Center

901 South Broadway
Hobart, OK 73651
1-888-878-4417

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and OKDHS Division of Child Care*

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“Whatever your life’s work is do it well.”

Martin Luther King Jr.

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and click on the LIKE button.

We are excited to utilize this form of social media to keep you informed with the most up-to-date information and to stay in contact.