

Great Plains Child Care Resource & Referral Center



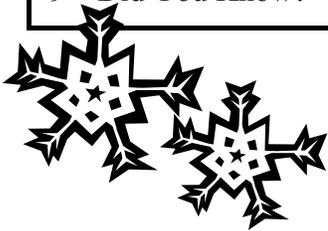
Third Quarter FY15

Inside this Issue...

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 2 | Big News |
| 3 | Training Calendar |
| 5 | Preventing Illness |
| 8 | Winter Activities |
| 9 | Did You Know? |

New Number for the Toll-Free Parent Referral Line! 1-800-438-0008

This toll-free number is the parent referral line for Resource and Referral information. If you are a provider and have received phone calls from parents for child placement but have no openings, please refer the callers to this number. The referral line representative can help them narrow their search down 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 parents.



Great Plains CCR&R Staff

Amber Cuyler
Program Manager
580-695-6999

Rachel Myrko
Child Care Consultant
405-250-3360

Jera Diltz
Program Assistant
1-888-878-4417

Office Hours
Mon-Thurs 8:30-5:00
Friday: 8:30-3:00
888-878-4417
www.gpcrr.org

Check out our BIG NEWS on page 2!





In an effort to better serve YOU, the child care professionals of SW Oklahoma, we are opening a GPCCRR Resource Room in Comanche County!

The new Resource Room will be located in Elgin, Ok. It will be filled with materials including dozens of Accucut die-cut shapes, numbers & letters, colored paper, felt material, foam, laminator, computer and printer!

*Resource books & DVDs will remain in Hobart for the time being and you will use the same process to borrow/return those materials.

We will also be using the new Resource Room to host meetings & trainings throughout the year.

Our long term goal is to offer a “Toy Lending Library” at this location. It will take time, but we hope to build up a selection of materials & equipment to lend for use in your family child care home or classroom. Stay tuned for more news on this exciting new addition!

Set hours for the Resource Room are limited due to our small number of staff; however, if you are unable to visit the Resource Room during the listed times, please contact Amber @ 580-695-6999 or acuylar@gpcrr.org to schedule an appointment.

GPCCRR Resource Room Dates & Times:

EVERY Wednesday 1pm—5:30pm (beginning February 11th)

Saturday, February 7th, 9am-1pm

Saturday, February 14th, 9am-1pm

Saturday, March 14th, 9am-1pm

Saturday, April 11th, 9am-1pm

Saturday, May 9th, 9am-1pm

*We really want this Resource Room to be useful to YOU, so please call if you need to visit on an alternate weekday or after hours. We are happy to open for 1 person or an entire center’s staff, just give us a call!

Training Calendar

Date	Training or Conference	Location	Contact
1/24/2015	Growing Up Wild Full	Weatherford, OK	For more information contact GPCCRR @ 888-878-4417
2/7/2015-2/21/2015	Quest for Quality: OK ELG Ages 3-5	Lawton, OK	For more information contact Sybille 580-280-0582
2/7/2015	Growing Up Wild Full	Chickasha, OK	For more information contact GPCCRR @ 888-878-4417
2/7/2015	First Aid/CPR	Elgin, OK	For more information contact GPCCRR @ 888-878-4417
2/17/2015	Let's Get Cooking	Lawton, OK	For more information contact GPCCRR @ 888-878-4417
2/19/2015	Let's Get Cooking	Altus, OK	For more information contact GPCCRR @ 888-878-4417
2/28/2015	Growing Up Wild Full	Lawton, OK	For more information contact GPCCRR @ 888-878-4417
3/2/2015	Let's Get Cooking	Elk City, OK	For more information contact GPCCRR @ 888-878-4417
3/10/2015	Science Sparks	Duncan, OK	For more information contact GPCCRR @ 888-878-4417
3/14/2015	Growing Up Wild	Altus, OK	For more information contact GPCCRR @ 888-878-4417
3/24/2015	Science Sparks	Chickasha, OK	For more information contact GPCCRR @ 888-878-4417
Ongoing (3rd Saturday of every mth.)	Red Cross-CPR/First Aid (2yr. Certification)	Lawton	For more information contact 580-355-2480
Ongoing	Leap Into Literacy	Lawton	Barbara Griffin 580-355-0218

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 CPR and First Aid Classes: Contact Amber Cuyler @ 580-695-6999, your local American Red Cross, your local hospital, or your county health department for dates and times.

Child Passenger Safety Training

This training opportunity is offered by Safe Kids Oklahoma in partnership with Oklahoma Child Care Services. Come learn how to transport children safely.

(Please note this is not a required training for Family Child Care Homes)
Cost is \$25.

Class times: 8:30am to 5:00pm

For information on class content, contact Safe Kids Oklahoma,
www.safekidsok.org
or (405)-945-6709.

For registration information call The University of Oklahoma, Records and
Registration at 405-325-6808 or 1-800-522-0772

Website: <http://events.oucpc.org/safekids>

January 28 - Moore
February 18 - Lawton
March 4 - Tulsa
April 1 - Enid
April 25 - Bethany
May 13 - Muskogee
June 3 - Tulsa

Moore - CECPD
January 28, 2015
1801 N. Moore Avenue

Enid
April 1, 2015
Garfield County Health Department
2501 S. Mercer

Lawton
February 18, 2015
Comanche County Health Department
1010 South Sheridan

Bethany
April 25, 2015
Children's Center
6800 NW 39th Exp.

Tulsa
March 4, 2015
Tulsa County
Health Department
5051 S. 129th E. Ave.
Room 200

Muskogee
May 13, 2015
Muskogee County
Health Department
530 S. 34th Street

Tulsa
June 3, 2015
Tulsa County
Health Department
5051 S. 129th E. Ave.
Room 200



Here are 6 things you can do to prevent your kid from catching a bug.

1. Boost immunity.

Experts agree that a healthy diet high in fruits, vegetables, and iron-rich foods as well as plenty of sleep are key to a strong immune system. If you're concerned your child isn't getting enough iron, speak with your pediatrician about an iron supplement.

2. Insist on clean hands.

"Hand hygiene is the number one way to reduce the spread of illness," according to Dr. Danette Glassy, a pediatrician and chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Early Education and Child Care.

Daycare staff should wash their hands frequently throughout the day and especially before feedings, after checking or changing diapers, after eating or using the restroom, and after wiping runny noses, spit up, or drool. If you have concerns, visit or stay for a bit to see if the staff are washing their hands thoroughly and using hand sanitizer correctly.

3. Understand the sick policy.

Most facilities require parents to pick up their child if he has a fever yet "so many infections are contagious before fever onset and after fever resolution," Swanson said. What's more, a child could have a fever and feel fine or have a severe cold without any fever. Be sure you understand and agree with the daycare's policy and find out if it's being enforced.

In addition, Swanson suggested asking the staff if they're able to go home when they're feeling sick and if they have the center's support when they believe a child should go home. "Asking the teachers is one of the most powerful things you can do," she said.

4. Advocate for vaccines.

Your daycare probably required your child's immunization record before he could attend, yet many don't follow up with parents to make sure subsequent vaccines are up to date. Some states have a database to look up a child's records, but if it's not something your daycare does, advocate to make it happen.

It's also important to find out if the staff has been vaccinated against life-threatening illness like Pertussis, especially because many do not have health insurance. In fact, only 26 percent of child care workers in day care programs have access to health care, according to a recent report by the National Research Council.

5. Control cross-contamination

Your infant puts everything in his mouth and at daycare, that same toy he just picked up has been in every other child's mouth as well. Contamination is inevitable, but there are things the daycare can do to keep things clean. For example, the sink the staff uses to wash their hands after changing diapers, shouldn't be the same sink where bottles are prepared.

Glassy said there's also a logic for what needs to be cleaned, disinfected, and sanitized and how frequently. Check out Child Care Aware of America's checklists when evaluating a facility and The National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education's book, [Caring for Our Children](#) for more information.

6. Ask about regulations, standards, and more.

Daycare facilities are required to adhere to licensing regulations yet it varies by state. If your daycare is accredited by a national professional organization, they may have standards that include health and safety practices that go above and beyond state regulations.

Be sure to ask the director what their policies are and if the staff have regular training and support. Glassy suggested parents find out if the day care has a professional child care health consultant that meets with the staff on a regular basis. The consultant can teach the staff about health and safety and work with them to adhere to regulations and policies.

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
- 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!

We also offer consultations over the phone and email. We are here to help!

Important Dates

January 19th– Martin Luther King Day
February 2nd– Groundhog Day
February 12th– Lincoln’s Birthday
February 14th– Valentine’s Day
February 16th– President’s Day

February 17th–Mardi Gras Carnival
March 8th– Daylight Savings Time
March 17th– St. Patrick’s Day
April 1st– April Fool’s Day
April 5th–Easter

(EARLY CHILDHOOD ACCREDITING AGENCIES for CHILD CARE CENTERS
12-2014

Accredited Professional Preschool Learning Environment (APPLE)

4048 Evans Ave., Suite 206A

Ft. Myers, Florida 33901

877-634-9874

www.faccm.org

Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)

2001 West Plano Pkwy., Suite 3600

Plano, Texas 75075

972-941-4404

www.acsiglobal.org

Council on Accreditation (COA)

45 Broadway, 29th Floor

New York, New York 10006

866-262-8088

www.coanet.org

National Accreditation Commission for Early Care and Education Programs (NAC)

8000 Centre Park Drive, Suite 170

Austin, Texas 78754

800-537-1118

www.naccp.org

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)

1313 L Street NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005

800-424-2460

www.naeyc.org

National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA)

PO Box 2948

Merrifield, Virginia 22116

885-706-3272

www.necpa.org

" Ice Block Designs"

Children observe how salt melts ice and create colorful designs in large blocks of ice during this early childhood education activity by **Marjorie E**

Materials: Large ice blocks (We made them by freezing water in empty one gallon milk containers). When the water is completely frozen, tear off the cardboard container.
Coarse salt
Food coloring
Eye droppers

Description:

1. Place ice blocks on trays covered with several layers of newspaper.
2. Children sprinkle coarse salt on top of the ice blocks.
3. Children drip various colors of food coloring on top of the ice block.
4. Tunnels of color are created as the salt melts through the ice block.
5. Put the colorful ice blocks outside. If it's cold enough, they should stay frozen for several days. Children can continue to examine the melting process during outdoor play.

Comments: If possible, give each child his or her own block of ice. They love watching the changes that occur as the blocks melt away!

Snowy Day Activity and Song

Encourage youngsters to talk about different types of weather as they participate in this art activity and song.

Materials: Construction paper, crayons, markers, glue or glue stix and paper circles from using a hole punch constantly.

Description: Have children draw a winter scene onto construction paper using markers and crayons. Coat paper with glue (glue stix work best) then sprinkle paper circles onto paper. The color of the circles doesn't matter. Press circles down to be sure they're stuck. Teach children this song:

Oh, What A Rain!

If all of the rain drops were lemon drops and gum drops,
Oh, what a rain that would be.
Standing outside with my mouth open wide,
AHHH, AHHH, AHH, AHH, AHH, AHH, AHHH, AHHH, AH,
If all of the raindrops were lemon drops and gum drops,
Oh, what a rain that would be.

2nd. verse

If all of the snowflakes were candy bars and milk shakes,
(Continue as with 1st. verse.)

Comments: Using this song, the color of the circles doesn't matter. The children enjoy imagining that the circles are different candies after hearing the song and will have an amazing time telling you about their artwork.

Did you Know?

Did you know that DHS offers a higher special needs reimbursement rate to contracted child care providers who care for a child with disabilities? To meet the DHS definition of a child with disabilities, the child must participate in one of the following programs: SoonerStart (IFSP required), Special Education Services (IEP required), or Supplemental Security Income (Health Professional's statement required if the child doesn't participate in SoonerStart or Special Education services).

Recently the process for approval of the special needs rate has changed. Child care providers can now initiate the process by accessing the revised form 08AD006E Certification for Special Needs Rate for Licensed Child Care Homes and Centers on the Provider Web at <https://www.ebt.acs-inc.com/ecc>.

Parents or guardians will no longer need to contact their DHS workers to begin the process. This simplified process should make it easier for more qualified children to be approved for the special needs rate and more providers to receive the higher reimbursement.

If you have any questions about the special needs rate, please contact DHS Child Care Subsidy staff at (405) 521-3931.

Have you done this? - Policy Reminders for the Oklahoma Professional Development Registry (OPDR)

Child Care Center programs at 1+ or higher must be registered as a direct care organization with the OPDR.

Family Child Care Home and Child Care Center program staff that are counted in staff to child ratio must have a current Professional Development Ladder Certificate (PDL) within 12 months of employment or by PDL expiration.

Directors of a center must have a current Oklahoma Director's Credential (ODC).

One star programs CAN join the OPDR and assist in monitoring and maintaining their training records (R&R highly recommends this, it really is a good thing!)

Additional Info You May Not Be Aware Of:

Some providers (several actually) assume that because they have received the ID and password they are registered. There are ADDITIONAL steps in the individual application process, including personal info, verification of education, employment history, \$10 enrollment fee and submitting the participant agreement.

Staff of facilities MUST register individually with the OPDR.

Staff need to attach themselves to the child care program so that they appear on the direct care organizations report and MUST then be verified by the director or owner. (many are forgetting to do this step)

**You can find additional information including downloadable User Guides
at okregistry.org**

Or email questions to cecpd@ou.edu

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!!

We are giving away prizes, posting new trainings, and updating information on our facebook page.

Please like us by following the link: www.facebook.com/gpcrr
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.

Oklahoma Professional Development Registry

If you are a 1+ star, 2 star or 3 star program you are **required** to be registered as direct care organization with the Oklahoma Professional Development Registry.

You can register online as a direct care organization or as an individual at <https://okregistry.org/>

If you have questions feel free to contact CECPD: Toll Free: 888-446-7608 or 405-799-6383

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.

Reward Oklahoma: 1- 888-446-7608

Provides education-based salary supplements ranging from \$400 to \$1500 per year to teachers, directors, and family child care providers .

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

DHS Child Care Services Voucher Conferences:

Feb. 21, 2015 - Ada.
Ada Early Childhood Winter Conference.
cbell@ecok.edu; www.ecaok.org;
point of contact - Cheryl Bell (580) 559-5873

Spring 2015 - Moore.
OCCA Spring Conference.
occa@att.net; www.oklahomachildcareassociation.com;
point of contact - Jennifer McCord 1-800-580-4181 or (405) 942-0771

Mar. 28, 2015 - OSU/OKC, Oklahoma City.
Family Child Care Conference, The gift of play!
gatliff@osuokc.edu; covinga@osuokc.edu; www.osuokc.edu;
point of contact - Joeftta Gatliff or Adrienne Covnington Graham
(405) 945-9140, (405) 945-3383

March. 28 2015 - Enid.
Advocates for Children Training Institute.
linda.sutherlin@noc.edu; www.ecaok.org;
point of contact Linda Sutherlin (580) 747-1056

Apr. 18, 2015 - Lawton.
Red River Early Childhood Association Spring Conference. sybille.mckay@yahoo.com;
www.freewebs.com/rreca/
point of contact - Sybille McKay or Eva Maria Bryant (580) 280-0582

Apr. 18, 2015 - location to be determined.
Child Care conference, Choctaw Nation Child Care Assistance.
mpotter@choctawnation.com; www.cncca.org;
point of contact - Megan Potter (580)942-8280, ext. 2473

June 20, 2015 - Tulsa
Tulsa Community College Early Learning Conference.
lindsey.asher@tulsacc.edu; www.tulsacc.edu
point of contact- Lindsey Asher 918) 595.8245



COME ONE COME ALL!!
The Ada Area Early
Childhood Association
Winter Conference 2015

Saturday, February 21, 2015
7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
East Central University
Stanley P. Wagner Ballroom
Ada, Oklahoma
DHS Voucher Approved Conference
6 hours Tier I Training



Family Child Care Home Accreditation Scholarship Guidelines

This scholarship will reimburse up to \$500 of application fees paid by an Oklahoma family child care home provider for accreditation or \$250 for re-accreditation by the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC). The recipient must be a Family Child Care Home provider currently licensed in the state of Oklahoma.

After the Accreditation Application has been submitted to NAFCC, eligible providers may request reimbursement of up to \$500 new or \$250 renewal from OCCRRA by providing documentation that Application Fees have been paid to NAFCC.

Please attach copies of proof of application fee payment along with this signed scholarship form. Mail or email to: Paula K. Koos, Executive Director, OCCRRA, 4200 Perimeter Center Drive, Suite 235, Oklahoma City, OK 73112, pkoos@oklahomachildcare.org

SCHOLARSHIP FORM

Name on NAFCC application:

First Middle Last

Name on DHS Child Care License (if different)

First Middle Last

Street Address City State Zip

DHS License Number: K8 Total NAFCC Application Fee paid: \$ _____

Signature: By signing this form, I certify that all information provided by me is true and correct.

REMEMBER TO ATTACH DOCUMENTS TO VERIFY PAYMENT OF NAFCC ACCREDITATION FEES!

ECAO ACCREDITATION SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

1. Award Description

The Accreditation Scholarship is given to programs that have demonstrated an ability or willingness to meet the standards associated with NAEYC Accreditation. This scholarship is intended to help deserving programs have the opportunity to pursue or maintain Accreditation by receiving financial assistance.

2. Award Distribution

In addition to receiving a financial award to help defray the cost of NAEYC Accreditation fees, an Accreditation Specialist will work with the program to answer questions that may arise concerning NAEYC Accreditation. The number of awards provided depends on available annual funding. Applications are reviewed by the Accreditation Scholarship committee and are presented to the Early Childhood Association of Oklahoma (ECAO) Board for final approval. Applications will be reviewed three times a year corresponding with the [General submission](#) dates set forth by NAEYC. Notification will be sent at least 60 days prior to the next submission date to allow funds to be available to the recipient before the due date.

3. Nominations

Those submitting an application should be able to:

- Demonstrate a knowledge of the NAEYC [Accreditation Process](#) and [Requirements](#)
- List SMART(Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Timely) goals for meeting the [NAEYC 10 Standards](#)
- Have a working knowledge of the [NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct](#).

4. Requirements

Those wishing to apply must:

- Be an ECAO member
- Be in good standing with state licensing and have a minimum of a two star status

5. Restrictions

Programs may only apply for one scholarship per year. For example, if you are applying for scholarship for Application/Self-Study you may not also apply for a scholarship for Candidacy within that same year.

6. Recognition

Recipients will be recognized in our newsletter and may be asked to provide a follow up statement to highlight how the funds helped the program.

7. Application

It is preferable to e-mail your application to ECAO@coxinet.net. If you must send by mail, download the application and fill out by hand (attaching essays, reference letters, nomination letters, etc.), and mail to:

ECAO –Accreditation Scholarship Committee
Oklahoma City Community College Child Development and Lab School
7777 S. May Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73159



Accreditation Scholarship Application

Part I: Program Information

Name of Program: _____

Owner: _____ Director: _____

Assistant Director/other alternate: _____

Program Phone #: _____ Cell/Alternate Phone#: _____

Fax #: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: OK Zip Code: _____ County: _____

Mailing address (if different from above): _____

E-mail address: _____ Web address (if applicable): _____

License# KB: _____ License Date: _____ 6-month Permit date _____

Program Start – Up Date: _____

Current Star Status: _____ If 3 STAR, please list accrediting body & any previous accreditations:

If currently NAEYC Accredited please list the date of your Accreditation: _____

Child Capacity and Enrollment

_____ Licensed Capacity Total

_____ Current Enrollment Total



Accreditation Scholarship Application

Part II: Financial information:

Program Structure: (check one)

Corporation/Non-Profit Corporation/For-Profit Private Non-Profit
 Limited Liability Corporation Proprietor/Sole Owner

Specify Program Financial Supports: **check all that apply*

State/Tribal Subsidy Head Start Early Head Start
 Scholarships/Grants United Way Discount: Employee/Employer

Scholarship request:

Fee Assistance for Self Study Fee Assistance for Application
 Fee Assistance for NAEYC Accreditation Maintenance (Annual Report/Renewal)

If you are not currently NAEYC Accredited, please tell us a little about your program and why you are pursuing NAEYC Accreditation: *Add additional pages if necessary*

If you are currently NAEYC Accredited, please share some of the steps your program has taken to meet the standards of quality set forth by NAEYC: *Add additional pages if necessary*

NAEYC Accreditation has an annual fee schedule. Does your program have a financial plan in place to secure these funds in the future? yes no **If yes, please explain:** *Add additional pages if necessary*

For ECAO office use only

Date application received:

Application review date:

Funds Awarded:

Accreditation Specialist Assigned to Program:



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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*“Free the child’s potential, and you
will transform him into the world.”
- Maria Montessori*

