



## Great Plains Child Care Resource & Referral January Newsletter

# Happy New Year

FEBRUARY 8TH, 2025  
9:00am-1:00pm



**SW REGIONAL RECONNECT**  
Canadian Valley Technology Center  
Chickasha, Ok

Registration: <https://form.jotform.com/243168171878164>

We are so excited to release registration for our the upcoming Regional Reconnect. Just like years past only ONE person per facility and only Southwest providers will be accepted. Follow the registration link to register.

<https://form.jotform.com/243168171878164>



### **Happy New Year from our staff at Great Plains Child Care Resource and Referral!**

Lisa, Emmy, Athena, Jennifer and Rachel are excited to continue serving you in 2025 and planning an amazing year with all kinds of training, great resources and fun connections for our Southwest friends. As you need us please feel free to reach out to us. Our main phone line is 888-878-441

# Higher Education Scholars Program

The Scholars program awards scholarships to eligible child care professionals to complete coursework in the area of child development or early childhood education, as well as the Child Development Associate (CDA) and Certified Childcare Professional (CCP) Credential Assessment. These scholarships enable child care providers in Oklahoma to improve their skills through education, receive an educational stipend.

## More Information about Scholars

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### Proposed Emergency Rules

Oklahoma Human Services Deputy Director Deborah Smith recently presented an overview of the proposed emergency rules to the Child Care Advisory Committee.

Rule Changes Dropped: Requirement for at least a three-star rating for subsidy contracts 12-month waiting period before moving to next star level ERS pathway for four-star and five-star rating Accreditation pathway for four-star rating Immediate implementation of four-star and five-star additional requirements Income eligibility for subsidy SMI from 85% to 70% Change of ownership implications for stars

Highlights of proposed changes: Reducing licensing review period for non-compliance from 24 months to 12 months. Designated CCS staff to monitor QRIS criteria. Precertification visits prior to QRIS approval. Clearly defined reduction processes. Reducing the number of QRIS visits per year. Accreditation required for all 5-Star programs. Next Steps: Proposed Emergency Rules are posted here. Public comments will be accepted through COB on Wednesday, January 8, 2025. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for



Conscious Discipline

@consciousdiscipline

In discipline situations, our **perception** determines whether we punish the child or teach new skills. If we are triggered, we can actively calm ourselves, choose a new perception & **respond** helpfully instead of reacting from unhealthy pre-programmed messages.

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## Community Grant Opportunity

OPSR Foundation is accepting proposals from community organizations and/or non-profits to implement a community public awareness and engagement campaign that supports the activities of Oklahoma's Preschool Development B-5 Grant (PDG B-5), including the existing state-level campaign, Before the Bell.

## Request for Proposal

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*How to Structure  
Class Meetings with  
the P.E.A.C.E. Process*



Conscious Discipline® 1/6

Tuesday, January 7, 2025. OKDHS will begin implementing the emergency rules in 2025.

## For More Information



### WHY JOIN THE THRIVE NETWORK?

The Thrive Network provides free resources, professional development and peer connection for Oklahoma home child care providers and prospective providers. While you take care of working Oklahomans' families, we take care of you, supplying the support and guidance you need to be successful.

#### BENEFITS

- National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) Executive Level Membership
- NAFCC Accreditation Self-Study Kit with trained mentor support
- Free Telehealth and Teletherapy for you, your family and your assistants
- Access to specialized trainings like the Pyramid Model Community of Practice
- Subscription to shared services
- Subscription to Brightwheel (child management software)
- Monthly newsletter
- Monthly trainings tailored towards family child care home providers

*Help Oklahoma Thrive - Support working parents and your community by becoming a child care provider today!*

### P= Problem

State the problem as you see it and its **impact on you**, "I've noticed that when children use their BIG Voices, some friends are not listening and continue with hurtful behavior." Follow this statement with how this is a problem from your point of view. "This is **a problem for me** because my job is to help keep the classroom safe, and I can't do my job if you are not willing to listen to each other's BIG Voices."

Conscious Discipline® 2/6

### E= Encourage

Encourage children to own the problem. "Have any of you noticed anything similar? For example, you might have said, *I don't like it when you bump me in line, please walk carefully behind*, and some children continue to bump you." This step allows the children to **own part of the problem**. With ownership, they are more likely to follow through on the plan devised.

Conscious Discipline® 3/6

### A=Affirm

Affirm the problem, restating it in terms of what you want to see. It is essential to flip the problem to **what you do want to happen**. Instead of saying, "As a School Family, we are not listening to our friends' BIG Voices," you would say, "So the problem is remembering to listen to each other's BIG Voices."

Conscious Discipline® 4/6

### C= Collect

In this step, collect opinions and summarize solutions into common threads. "**What would help** you be more likely to listen to your friends' BIG Voices?" Restate the common thread solution(s) into a new class agreement or rule. **Role-play** how to use the new skill so each child sees what it looks like, sounds like and feels like.

Conscious Discipline® 5/6

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## E= Evaluate

Evaluate to see if it's working. End the problem-solving session with the question, "How will we know if our solution is working?" Work with children to create a way to **measure if their ideas are working**. Meet again to check on the plan, celebrate their success, or do additional problem-solving if the issue persists.

 Conscious Discipline® 6/6



Check Ok Registry for  
upcoming trainings and events

[Okregistry](#)

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