



# CHILD CARE SOLUTIONS

*navigating the way to high quality child care*

**July 2022**

## **CHILD CARE CONNECTION**

Published by Child Care Solutions

is Child Care Solutions' monthly newsletter for child care providers and parents in Central New York. Stay informed about upcoming professional development opportunities, news from OCFS, local events, provider tips, fun activities, and more!



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## Looking for More Trainings?

Are you missing training hours or do you need OCFS categories? Do you need our training flyer, “The Navigator”, and haven’t received it by postal mail or email? [Send us a message](#) to make sure you are on our email list or postal mailing list for future trainings and other announcements. We would also love to hear from you if there are any topics you are interested in learning more about. Contact Kristi Cusa at [Kristic@childcaresolutionscnny.org](mailto:Kristic@childcaresolutionscnny.org) or (315) 446-1220 ext.309.

### In-Person Workshops:

### Upcoming Trainings:

#### Summertime Challenges

Wednesday, July 13, 2022  
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

In this training participants will identify strategies to engage children’s attention during summer child care. Participants will examine the regulations for outdoor time and planning field trips.

Instructor: Liza Hernandez

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#### Core Business Series: Program Contracts and Policies

Wednesday, September 28, 2022  
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

This training will focus on the importance of having contracts and policies in child care businesses. Participants will discuss the basic elements in a contract, identify the process for developing and revising policies, and evaluate current program policies.

Instructor: Kristi Cusa

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### Auburn Workshops:

#### What Can We Do About Adverse Childhood Experiences?

Friday, August 26, 2022  
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

This training will give child care providers a better understanding of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and strategies that can be used in our programs to reduce the impact of ACEs.

Instructor: Kristy Sherman

3 10 9 (SACC)



## We Will Miss You!

We are Happy and yet Sad to say that Laura Cummings our long-time CPR/First Aid instructor will be retiring. After teaching this course for Child Care Solutions for over 25 years she would like to enjoy life and her new grandchild.



“I took my first CPR training on Bassett St. with Laura as the instructor when we were known as Child Care Council of Onondaga County. I have had the pleasure of working with Laura directly for over 10 years, helping people register in her classes,” said Pam, an employee of Child Care Solutions. She was the ultimate instructor always taking the extra time to work with students to help them understand the skills as well as teaching many classes with multiple language speakers with ease. Her students always came first and it showed in her teachings. Child Care Solutions will miss her skills, but we will also miss her calmness and charm.

## Dear Provider: Allergy Awareness

In recent months, OCFS has seen a dramatic increase in the number of complaints of children with diagnosed allergies ingesting known allergens while in the child care program. These cases are deeply concerning. Please read the attached letter carefully. Please pick up a free poster at our office, or call and we may be able to deliver the, “What is Anaphylaxis” posters available from NYS OCFS.

CALL Stacey Percy, Health Care Consultant at extension 350, or [staceyp@childcaresolutionscnny.org](mailto:staceyp@childcaresolutionscnny.org) if you have other questions or need assistance to develop a plan that works for your program.

To read the full letter, [click here](#) for English and [click here](#) for Spanish.

## Do You Want to Expand Your Child Care Business?

### Child Care is in high demand and now is the time to expand your business.

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services Announces \$100 Million in Federal Funds to Address Child Care Deserts.

### Funding will support new child care programs and programs that want to expand their business:

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) announced that \$30 million in grant funding is available to existing licensed, registered or permitted child care programs in areas of the state with the least supply, known as child care deserts.

### Second Round RFA #2- Expanding Child Care Businesses:

This grant is for existing child care providers looking to expand their business under their current license. Beginning June 30th, 2022, you may apply for the Child Care Deserts Grant. The application must be submitted by August 4th, 2022. Existing providers are providers who were licensed/registered/permited BEFORE January 28th, 2022.

To learn more or to see if you are eligible and the requirements to apply: [Click here](#).

## Swimming Pool Safety Awareness:

NYS OCFS Regulations for all program types prohibit the use fill-and-drain/dump wading pools.

Please note: If you have a fill-and-drain wading pool for personal use for your own children, please store it in a manner that doesn't collect rainwater.

How do you determine if it is a swimming pool, or a fill-and-drain-pool?

You can refer to the manufacturer's guidelines to learn how the pool is to be maintained. Generally, a filtration system is required for a swimming pool. If you are not sure, call Licensing/Registrar staff!

An above-ground or in-ground swimming pool that is on or adjacent to the program's premises is considered a water hazard that must have a barrier in place to prevent children's unsupervised/accidental access. Typical required safety measures include a barrier or fencing that measures at least 4 feet from the ground or deck and surrounds the pool. A locking gate to the pool area is also required, generally at a height out of children's reach.

If you have a swimming pool that you would like to have approved for program use to swim with children in care, please contact the Licensing/Registrar for your program. There are more detailed requirements.

Licensing/Registration staff will assist you with developing a Pool Plan. The pool plan must be approved by your Licensor/Registrar office prior to use, and "renewed" each year before use.

Center-based programs with a pool on premises must be inspected by the Department of Health and meet other requirements for lifeguards and pool use.

If you are planning a field trip with children to a "public pool" your program must meet certain supervision and safety requirements. Check with Licensing/Registrar staff if you are unsure.

Special permissions/parent consents are also needed.

**Check with Licensing and Registrar staff if you are unsure if a water activity is in compliance with regulations and safe for children in your program.**

**Have a safe and fun summer!**



## Staff Member Highlights:



**Hi, I'm Terisa!**

**Position:** CCQI Specialist

**From:** Chittenango, NY

**Likes to do:** Read, Shop, travel, and go for walks with her my dog

**Background:** After graduating from SUNY Cortland with a Bachelors Degree in Early Childhood Education, I worked as a UPK teacher for 2 years at a daycare center in Cortland. Before coming to Child Care Solutions, I became the director at the daycare center in Cortland.

**"I wanted to work at Child Care Solutions since my first training with them when I was a UPK teacher. I was so happy to get the opportunity to join CCS back in 2020."**



**Hi, I'm Yahel!**

**Position:** Registrar

**From:** Puerto Rico

**Likes to do:** Fishing, camping, watching movies and spending time with family

**Background:** Before coming to Child Care Solutions, worked and owned an in-home daycare business for over 20 years.

**"I love my job because it allows me to help providers enhance their program. Because of my history in the field of daycare, I can better understand my providers and their needs. It also gives me the opportunity to create a safer environment for our kids."**

## Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

**Childhood obesity, high blood pressure and diabetes are on the rise in the United States.** According to the New York State Department of Health, "a third of New York's children are obese or overweight."

This problem comes with risks and can cause serious health problems like:

- Diabetes
- Heart Disease
- High blood pressure and cholesterol
- Stroke
- Several Forms of Cancer
- Asthma
- Osteoarthritis

To read more about this problem, [click here](#) or to join our Free Food Program that can help cover costs of nutritious and healthy meals in your program, call us or visit our website for more information: [click here](#).



## Fun Activity: Leaf Print Art



# Leaf Print Art

*with Paint or Markers*

### Materials:

- Markers or Paint/Paint Brushes
  - Leaves
  - Paper

### Instructions:

- Paint or draw on the leaves
- Flip leaves off onto the paper (color side down)
- Press firmly on the leaves for 15 seconds before removing from paper
- Now you have created leaf art!



**Membership** We truly appreciate their support.



## Child Care Solutions - Membership & Support Form

Individual or Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

New  
 Renewing

### Professional Membership

(check one):

- \_\_\_\_ \$ 25 an Individual or a Family (Registered) Child Care home
- \_\_\_\_ \$ 40 Group Family (Licensed) Child Care home
- \_\_\_\_ \$ 55 per site / Small child care or early education program (five or fewer staff)
- \_\_\_\_ \$100 per site / Larger child care or early education program or non-profit agency

### Community Supporter

(check one/specify amount):

- \_\_\_\_ \$ 25.00 Professional Membership for CDA
- \_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ General Donation Fund
- \_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other

\* To pay by Visa or Mastercard call 315-446-1220.

Please mail this form with check to: Child Care Solutions  
 6724 Thompson Road  
 Syracuse, NY 13211