



May 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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Dear Provider: Covid-19 Tests Available

Please come to our Syracuse/Auburn office to pick up the COVID-19 Rapid Tests Today!!! The NYS Dept of Health/NYS OCFS just shipped us another round of COVID test kits. These are available to all Legally Exempt Enrolled programs, and Registered and Licensed Programs in Cayuga and Onondaga Counties. You may pick them up during regular business hours at the office that is most convenient to you. Please bring a copy of your Registration/License (a photo on your phone is fine) and photo id. You may have someone pick them up on your behalf.

The test kits are intended to be used by child care providers, staff, and the families enrolled in your program. We encourage all programs to take advantage of this opportunity, especially those that did not participate in the initial distribution of kits. OCFS is also strongly encouraging programs to obtain some test kits through this opportunity to share with the families that you serve. Child care providers MUST not test children enrolled in their programs! If an enrolled child has symptoms of COVID-19, you may provide a test kit to the child's parent/guardian.

If you have any questions, please call us at 315-446-1220.

Do You Know Someone Looking to Start their Own Business?

Child Care is in high demand and now is the time to become an entrepreneur.

Grant recipients can also use the funding to support:

- start-up expenses
- recruiting
- retaining and training staff
- personnel costs
- general child care business expenses
- staff expenses in accessing COVID-19 vaccines

Please attend one of our informational sessions to help you understand how the process works and if you are eligible for this grant. Please visit our training calendar: <https://bit.ly/CCSCNYcalendar> to register for the date of your choosing.

Informational Session Dates:

May 12, 2022 6pm-7pm
May 16, 2022 9am-10am

To start the process, please visit: <https://bit.ly/CCSDeserts>



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@childcaresolutionscny.org or (315) 446-1220 ext.309

Upcoming Trainings:

In-Person Workshops:

Regulations Review

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

This training gives participants the opportunity to address OCFS Regulations using scenarios that will be reviewed, discussed, and addressed using specific OCFS regulation criteria.

Instructor: Liza Hernandez

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Creating Calm

Saturday, May 21, 2022

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Would you like to create calm in your child care environment? Working with children on self-regulation is an important skill that will help to reduce behavior management concerns. Come explore methods of mindfulness and relaxation that you can bring into your classroom the very next day. Activities for children from birth to school age will be included. Everyone can benefit from creating a calm environment and practicing mindfulness techniques.

Instructor: Casey Miner

1 3 7 10 9 (SACC)

Online Workshops:

Responsive Caregiving for Infants (ZOOM)

Thursday, May 19, 2022

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

This training will help to expand and strengthen your knowledge of the importance of creating nurturing relationships with the infants you care for in the early childhood education field to promote high-quality care.

Instructor: Casey Miner

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What is New in May?

To register: [e-mail Duquinha](mailto:duquinhat@childcaresolutionsny.org)

NETWORKING SERIES

Let's Get Social

Via Zoom
6PM-7PM
DATES:
4/13, 5/11

Presented By: Infant and Toddler
Mental Health Team

Calling all Child Care Providers!
Join our social group networking series!

Have you been cooped up too long from COVID?
Would you like to network and socialize with
other providers, while learning something new,
sharing ideas, and just have fun?

Then this is the group for you!

Please Join Us Over Zoom on April 13th, and May
11th. More Dates to Follow.

If interested: please email Duquinha at
duquinhat@childcaresolutionsny.org

This is not a training. The social group is a voluntary
service we are providing for child care providers.

Staff Member Highlights:



Hi, I'm Brittney!


Position: Parent Services Specialist

From: Liverpool, NY

Likes to do: Spending time with Friends/Family and traveling

Background: Worked in the childcare field for 17 years. Started working as a floater and worked her way up to a lead toddler teacher before coming to CCS.

"I love that I get to work with families within the community daily and help in their search for high quality childcare!"



Hi, I'm Melissa!

Position: Administrative Receptionist

From: Chittenango, NY

Likes to do: Traveling and Swimming

Background: Worked in HR and payroll for 20 years before coming to work at CCS

"I enjoy making a difference everyday by helping the team here at CCS and helping the parents and providers that come through the door!"

CACFP (Child and Adult Care Food Program)

Is joining CACFP worth it?

The answer is always YES! All licensed, registered, and legally exempt child care providers are eligible to participate, regardless of income or location. Many providers don't realize the financial benefits of joining and staying on CACFP (Child and Adult Care Food Program) – there is a lot of incorrect information floating around about how the program works and specifically how it impacts taxes. If you are still unsure if it's worthwhile to [join CACFP](#), give us a call (315) 446-1220 ext. 346. Our Provider Services team is here to help explain how the program works and answer any questions you might have. There are also some useful resources on the web that help explain the tax benefits of CACFP – we recommend checking out [this article](#).



A Great Activity for Kids of All Ages and a Health Snack:



Recipe:

1 apple
1/4 cup almonds, sliced
1/4 cup shredded coconut

1/4 cup peanut butter
1/4 cup walnuts, chopped
1/4 cup chocolate chips

Click here for the full recipe: <https://rachelschultz.com/2014/04/09/apple-cookies/>



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 446-1220.

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