



**October 2021**

Published by Child Care Solutions

**CHILD CARE CONNECTION** 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 much more!



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## COVID-19 News: Mask Regulations

COVID19 strategies remain important to protect children and staff in care programs. As of Sept. 16th, 2021, OCFS has implemented an emergency regulation mandating all people in a child care setting to wear a mask indoors. The mandate applies to all people age 2 and older who are able to medically tolerate a face covering, regardless of vaccination status. To learn more about the details about the mandate or if you have questions: [Click here](#) or call 888-364-3065.

## Looking for More Trainings?

Are you missing training hours or do you need OCFS categories? Do you need our training schedule, "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 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](mailto:Kristic@childcaresolutionscny.org).

# We are Growing!

## [Job Openings:](#)

Child Care Deserts Technical Assistant

Receptionist/Clerical Assistant

Registrar Specialists

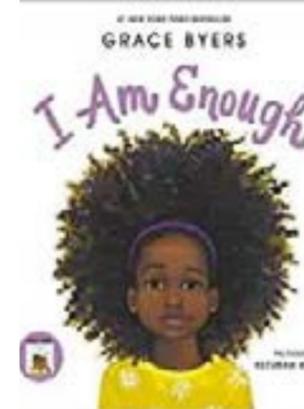
## [Apply Now!](#)

**Child Care Solutions is a nonprofit organization that has worked since 1975 to help families find child care, educate and empower child care providers, and advocate for children in Onondaga & Cayuga Counties. Our generous employee benefits include:**

- Family friendly
- Flexible schedule
- EAP (Employee Assistance Program)
- Earned time off, sick leave & 10 paid holidays
- 'Bring Your Baby to Work' Policy
- Medical, dental & vision insurance
- Life Insurance & 401k Retirement Plan

## Want Your Children to Read and Learn more?

Here are some books that they can read or listen to:

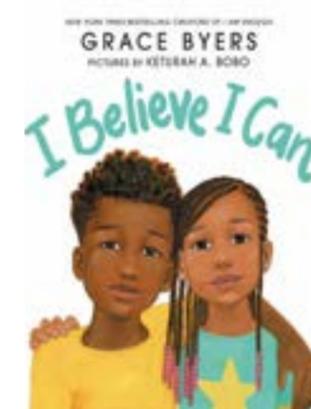


### I Am Enough

This book is perfect with helping children of color build self-esteem. There are times where children feel down on

themselves, this book will lift them up by helping create a sense of self-worth. Great for children struggling with who they are.

[Click here](#) to view the book and listen.



### I Believe I Can

This books help children understand that anything is possible and is a great resource for parents and providers to

use. It is important to make sure your children know that they can be and do anything they want as long as they believe.

[Click here](#) to view the book and listen.



## Fall Conference Schedule:

### AM Session:

### PM Session:

**Welcome Room**  
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM

**Supervision of Children**  
9:15 AM - 10:45 AM

**Beyond the Book - Activities that bring Books to Life**  
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

**Lunch**  
12:30 Pm - 1:00 PM

**Music and Movement Across the Ages**  
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

**Making Self Care Routine**  
2:45 PM - 4:15 PM

**End of Day Room**  
4:15 PM - 4:30 PM

#### Supervision of Children

9:15 AM - 10:45 AM

This session will review the NYS OCFS regulations related to supervision of children as well as assess the strategies to utilize for supervising children. This training is meant to help providers ensure that they have a full understanding of supervision of children of all ages as well as ensuring their environment is set up for successful supervision.

Instructor: Kristy Sherman

1 2 3 4 5 7

#### Beyond the Book - Activities that Bring Books to Life

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Participants will look at two favorite children's books and explore ideas for continuing the stories into other areas of their program through book-theme based art activities, math, puppets, large motor play, and so much more. One lucky training participant will also win all of the fun props and materials presented during the training to use in their own childcare program!!!

Instructor: Kristi Cusa

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To register or learn more, [click here.](#)

#### Music and Movement Across the Ages

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Participants in this training will create opportunities for children to practice skills that develop coordination, balance, movement, and strength. Participants will discuss ideas for music and movement in the program as well as allowing children to communicate their understanding through movement and drama.

Instructor: Tessa Bolia

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**Raffle Prizes will be Drawn Throughout the Day!!!**

#### Making Self Care Routine

2:45 PM - 4:15 PM

Training will focus on implementing techniques to combat burnout and fatigue while developing an individualized long term self care plan.

Instructor: Casey Miner

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## Welcome our New Staff Members!



Hi, I'm Kali!

**Position:**  
Parent Services Specialist

**From:** Originally from Maine, but now live in Camillus

**Likes to do:** run, paint, and garden

**Background:** Worked at BASCOL for 2 years working with children, understanding state regulations and family needs

"By becoming a Legally Exempt Specialist, I've been able to help a wide variety of families within our community in various ways."



Hey, I'm Erin!

**Position:**  
Legally Exempt Inspector

**From:** Camillus

**Likes to do:** running, take photos, and meeting new people

**Background:** Previously worked as a Preschool Teacher, Pre-K Teacher, and Assistant Director of a child care center

"I joined CCS to continue working with children and families, but from a different angle. My mission is to serve the families of this community."



Hello, I'm Christina!

**Position:**  
Business Consultant

**From:** Syracuse

**Likes to do:** read, and play with my two little children, TJ and Remy

**Background:** Was a teacher and staff/program coordinator at the Salvation Amry

"Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others."



Hi, I'm DeAnna!

**Position:**  
Legally Exempt Inspector

**From:** Camillus

**Likes to do:** hiking, live music, traveling, playing darts, and reading

**Background:** Taught toddlers in early childhood education for 12 years

"I chose to transition to a L.E. Inspector so I would be able to help children and families in a new way. I have a passion for helping people in our community."



Hey, I'm Pat!

**Position:**  
Registrar

**From:** Camillus Syracuse

**Likes to do:** Hiking, Kayaking, Hammocking, and loves music

**Background:** Worked as a site director in a local SACC program

"It feels good to know I work for an agency that works for children and their families to provide them with quality care, because kids deserve that."



Hi, I'm Gretchen!

**Position:**  
Legally Exempt Inspector

**From:** Syracuse

**Likes to do:** spending time outdoors and with family, cooking and trying new foods

**Background:** Operated a registered family home daycare for years

"I wanted to be a source of support and resources for families and providers and that is why I joined CCS."

## Looking for Some fun Online Games that **Promote Social Emotional Development** for Your Children?

- <https://pbskids.org/games/feelings> : This website always has social emotional development in mind when creating games and programs for children to use.
- <https://www.mes-games.com/feelings.php> : This website has a lot of resources that providers can use to help promote social emotional development and more. They also have worksheets, games, and you can buy equipment needed for social emotional development.
- <https://www.abcmouse.com/abc/?> : Not a free website, but it is a great resource to have and the first month is free!

Social and emotional Learning can ...

- Reduce aggression and emotional distress
- Increase helping behaviors in the classroom
- Improve positive attitudes toward self and others

-Durlak et al., 2011

**Did you know?**

## A Great Activity for Kids of All Ages: Build a Fort



### Build a Fort:

Grab some blankets, pillows and rope and make a fort! You can add flashlights, books, and other fun things to make it more cozy and fun for your children. Get them excited by making it an adventure.



**Membership** We truly appreciate their support.



## Child Care Solutions - Membership & Support Form

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

<input type="checkbox"/> New
<input type="checkbox"/> 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