



CHILD CARE SOLUTIONS

navigating the way to high quality child care

September 2021

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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!

Auburn Office is Now Open!

100 North St. Suite 3, Auburn NY, 13021



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Get the Latest Information and Fun Ideas



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[CCSolutionsCNY](https://www.pinterest.com/CCSolutionsCNY)

Reporting Positive Covid-19 Cases:

The June 7th “Interim Guidance for Child Camp Day Camp, and Overnight Camp Programs during the COVID19 Public Health Emergency” issued by the New York State Department of Health is no longer in effect. To learn more about the regulations in your child care program: [click here](#). For the full letter by OCFS on requirements: [click here](#).

Dear Provider Letter Elijah’s Law Updates:

Anaphylaxis Policy:

On March 15, 2021 OCFS distributed the Anaphylaxis Policy for Child Day Care Programs, and a Dear Provider letter explaining the upcoming changes regarding allergy awareness and response. As a reminder, child day care programs are required to be in compliance with the elements of the anaphylaxis policy on September 15, 2021.

Regulations:

On July 9, 2021 OCFS notified child care programs that the proposed regulation changes related to Elijah’s Law are published in the State Register. The public comment period closes on September 7, 2021. Any comments may be sent to: regcomments@ocfs.ny.gov

To learn more about the Anaphylaxis Policy, the Epinephrine Auto Injector Initiative and trainings and regulations and to read the full letter, [click here](#).



Child Care Stabilization Grant:

Child Care Providers who were licensed or registered by March 11, 2021 and are caring for children are eligible for the new Child Care Stabilization Grants.

- The online application is fast and easy!
- You don't have to spend the money first then wait to be reimbursed
- Six monthly payments begin within 30 days of approved application
- Award amounts vary by type of care and maximum capacity listed on your license or registration: the minimum award is \$19,300 for Family Child Care.
- The online application is available through 11:59 p.m. on November 30, 2021 – late applications will not be accepted
- Grant funds can be spent between January 2021 and September 30, 2023 – you don't have to submit receipts, but save your receipts in case you are audited



Providers can use their funds for:



RENT,
MORTGAGE,
UTILITIES



PAYROLL,
BENEFITS



HEALTH & SAFETY
TRAINING



FACILITY
MAINTENANCE OR
IMPROVEMENTS



PPE, CLEANING
& SANITIZING
SUPPLIES



EQUIPMENT
RELATED TO
COVID-19



GOODS TO
CONTINUE
CHILD CARE



MENTAL HEALTH
SUPPORT FOR
STAFF & CHILDREN



Office of Children
and Family Services

Contact Child Care Solutions at 315-446-1220 for help completing the application or deciding how to spend the grant. Our staff can assist you by phone, zoom, or in-person. Evening and Saturday appointments are available.

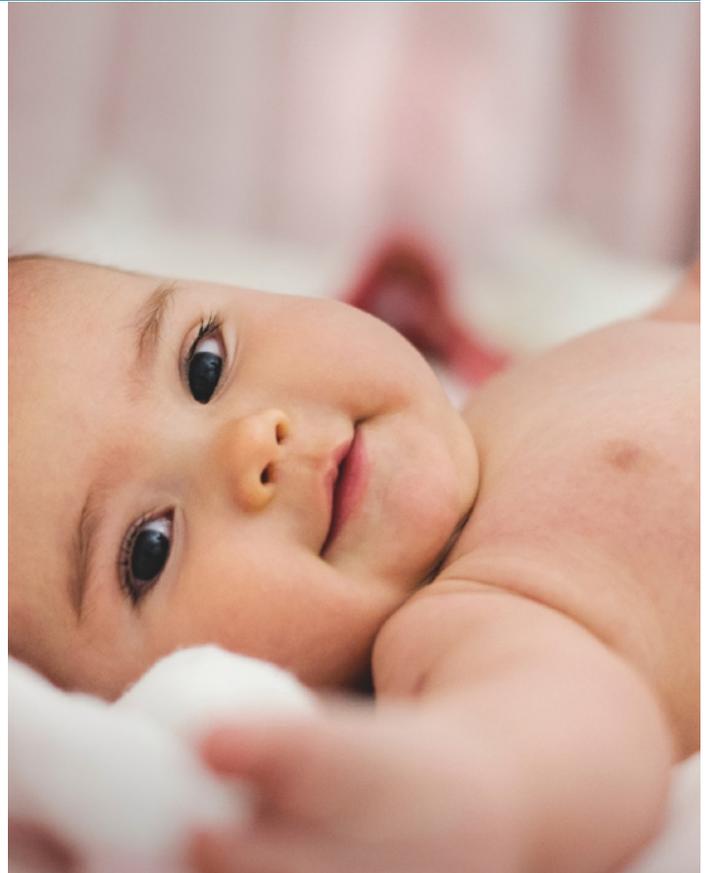
OCFS staff are also available to answer technical questions regarding the Child Care Stabilization Grant on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 11:00 am [Click here to register](#). Stay tuned for more dates and times coming soon!

Infant & Toddler Program Consultation (Infant & Toddler Mental Health): What are Infant and Toddler Program Consultants?

Infant & Toddler Program Consultants (ITPC) build a supportive partnership with adult caregivers to bolster their care of infants and toddlers. By definition, the goal of mental health consultation is to improve “the ability of staff, families, programs, and systems to prevent, identify, treat, and reduce the impact of mental health problems” among young children (Cohen and Kaufmann, 2005). The project focuses on children 0-3 years of age and follows principles of mental health consultation identified by Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development:

- Relationship-based
- Collaborative
- Individualized
- Culturally and linguistically responsive
- Grounded in developmental knowledge
- Evidence-informed
- Data-driven
- Delivered in natural settings
- Spans the continuum from promotion through intervention
- Integrated with community supports

[Click here](#) for more information.



Looking for More Trainings?

Are you missing training hours or do you need OCFS categories? Do you need the September Navigator and haven't received it by 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@childcaresolutionscnny.org.



Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Call the Provider Services team for more information about the program at: 315-446-1220 ext. 318.

Great News!

What is CACFP?

Your day care now qualifies for Tier 1 CACFP reimbursement!



The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federally funded program designed to improve the nutritional quality of meals served to children in childcare centers and childcare homes. Providers can receive a monthly reimbursement to help pay for the meals and snacks served to children in their care. There is absolutely no cost to enroll or to be a part of this program.

From July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022 all participating day care home providers will receive the higher Tier 1 reimbursement rates for all creditable meals or snacks they serve. The rates per child are listed on the left. On average, day care home providers are reimbursed approximately \$100 a month per child.

Breakfast	Lunch/Dinner	Snacks
\$1.40	\$2.63	\$0.78

How do I get started?

Call the Provider Services team at:

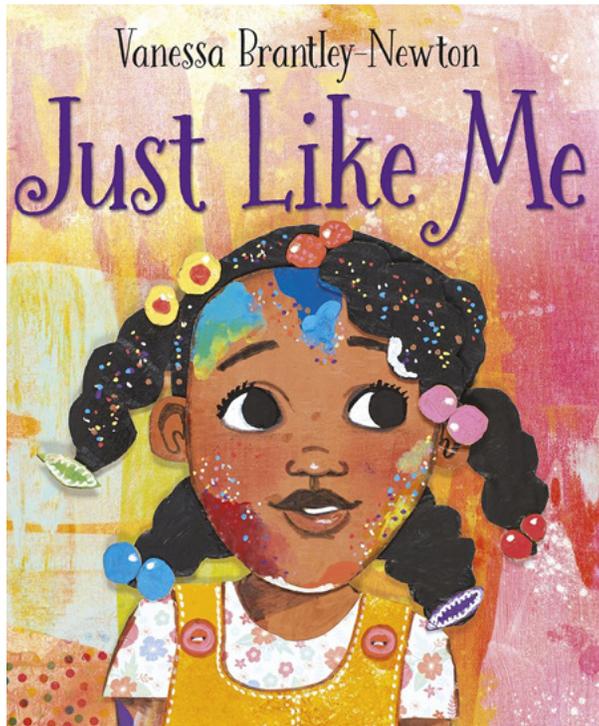
(315) 446-1220 ext. 318



CACFP is an equal opportunity program administered by the NY Department of Health.

Books about Diversity:

Read some great books and share with your children to help teach them about diversity. (You can find these books read aloud on YouTube!)

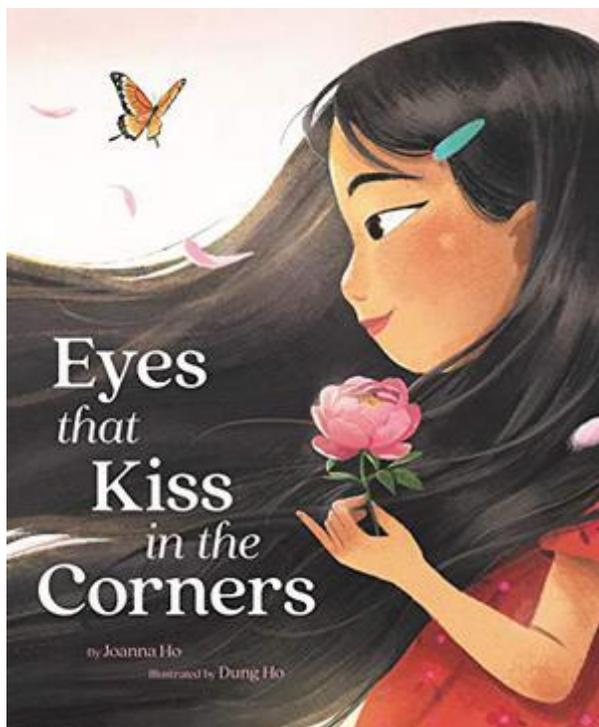


“Just Like Me”

This book explains diversity and how you should love who are. This book is so amazing because it explains diversity in a way children can understand. This book shows young girls how to be bold and love who they are!

You can find this book on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Target.

Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5y_4PuTIdE



“Eyes that Kiss in the Corners”

This book speaks about different eyes and how the shape of your eyes can be different. It also explains to children that different parts of the face and how it could be different on a little Asian person's face. The young girl speaks about her eyes in a positive way.

You can find this book in Target and other bookstores. There is also an activity book that goes with it!

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZtlljDiqg3M>

Ready for Back to School? What to Expect:

Prepare for:

It might be awkward: Things may not run smoothly and social norms will be changing

It may be hard to focus: Returning to classrooms may be distracting

Feelings of anxiousness or frustration: The stress of this pandemic might make you feel anxious about returning to school, make sure to be patient and try talking to someone about how you are feeling

A new normal: The school environment has changed so try and adapt to the new norm

Classes may be outside: It might be fun to have class outside in the fresh air.

Distancing measures will be in place: Most likely class sizes will be smaller, desks will be spaced out and might have temperature safety checks too. These protocols are designed to keep everyone safe

Virtual lessons are possible: The pandemic isn't over and it is still possible to have some or all lessons become virtual again

Tips:

1. **Make a routine again-** It is important to get back into a routine to give predictability and structure especially in these uncertain times.
2. **Communication-** share your concerns and questions with their teacher or counselor and make sure to check up on your children and how they are feeling.
3. **Be Flexible-** Things are changing and will keep changing. Keep in mind that everyone is learning to adapt in order to create a safe and supportive space.
4. **Practice Good Hygiene Habits-** Do your part by practicing washing your hands and avoiding touching your face.
5. **Stay connected to friends-** Safety always comes first, but try to find new ways to stay connected.



SAVE THE DATE!

Fall Conference

Zoom Only
8:30am - 4:00pm
Saturday, October 16th, 2021

Office Closings:

Labor Day
Monday, September 06th, 2021

A Great Activity for Kids of All Ages:



Easy & Fun Activity for Children

Bubble Foam

3 SIMPLE INGREDIENTS

- Water
- Dish Soap
- Food Coloring

To learn how visit: <https://bit.ly/bubblefoamactivity>

Child Care Solutions - Membership & Support Form

New
 Renewing

Individual or Contact Name _____
Organization _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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, Discover or Mastercard call 446-1220.

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

Information on membership benefits and multi-center discounts are available by calling (315) 446-1220 ext. 301.