

WCFCCA Newsletter

Fall 2008
Volume 1, Issue 2



Dear Providers

It's been a busy fall for us and 2009 is looking even busier! The Week of the Provider is May 3-9. For more information, please visit our website; you can nominate another provider for the Provider of the Year award. This cheerful time of year is the perfect time to spread joy to others, such as those in hospitals or nursing homes. You could bring your kids to carol or simply send cards. We wish you and your family fun-filled and safe holidays! If you have suggestions for our newsletter, trainings, website, or anything else, please let us know!

WCFCCA Board Members

President: Hollee Saville
St. Michael, MN
hollee@wcfcca.org

Vice President: Jen Barnes
St. Michael, MN
jen@wcfcca.org

Secretary: Shanna Kuehn
Otsego, MN
shanna@wcfcca.org

MLFCCA Rep: Jo Ellen Franke
Hanover, MN
joellen@wcfcca.org

Treasurer: Position open
Please contact if interested

Upcoming Events

All trainings are held on Tuesday nights from 7-9PM at the St. Michael Community Education Building. Trainings are FREE for members, \$15 for non-members. Reserve space by calling or e-mailing us

December 2 - Toddler Activities

We're sorry, but this class is currently full. However, you can request to be notified if someone cancels.

January 20 -- Marketing Matters

Effectively marketing your child care program is a major factor in running a successful family child care business. During this session we will discuss marketing ideas, improving the appearance of your home, handling phone calls and interviews, offering special services, setting child care rates and more. This informational session is designed for those just starting out and for those looking for ways to better market your program.

February 17 -- Field Trips Without Leaving Your Neighborhood

You might be asking yourself "how do I take the children on a field trip without leaving the neighborhood when nothing is around me?" This class will give you great ideas of what kinds of field trips you can offer your families that are fun for them and for you. The majority of them will cost next to nothing, you will not have to transport them in your car and all the children can participate.

March 3 -- ADHD: Seeing the Disability Behind the Behavior

Navigating the landscape of a child with AD/HD might be easier if providers had a 'map' to follow! Join other participants in this interactive training in discovering the myths and facts of AD/HD as well as exploring successful and practical strategies for inclusion of children with AD/HD.

April 7 -- Self Esteem

Lots of articles & books talk about the importance of giving a child a great self image. Self esteem is a term that has been used widely and broadly interpreted. The essence of self-esteem is not knowledge of facts or possession of particular skills, rather, it is an attitude toward the self and it grows in childhood as a child experiences that he or she is valued. Although self-esteem is defined simply, it is connected to two separate areas within a child and both are critical to healthy self-esteem. Come learn what these two areas are & activities that promote good self-esteem in infant, toddler, & preschool children.

Contact Us

Wright County Family Child
Care Association
10134 44th Court NE
St. Michael, MN 55376
Phone: (763) 463-5909
Email: info@wcfcca.org
www.wcfcca.org

MLFCCA Report



Minnesota Licensed Family Child Care Association (MLFCCA) had a full board meeting November 8, 2008. More training was provided on the workings of MLFCCA's food program. It was noted that some people do not know that MLFCCA is both a statewide childcare provider association as well as an excellent food program provider. MLFCCA is partnering with United Way.

MLFCCA's 22nd annual statewide conference and banquet "The Key to A Child's Success" will be held in North Mankato on May 1 & 2. May 3-9 is

MLFCCA's 2009 Week of the Family Child Care Provider and National Provider Appreciation Day is Friday, May 8.

MLFCCA is looking for board members and committee members; if interested call Kathy Baumgart at 763-754-2365 or email her with any questions at Kathy.baumgart@mlfcca.org. Our next full board meeting will be January 24, 2009, in St. Paul from 10:00 am until noon, followed by a potluck lunch. For more information on MLFCCA, please visit www.mlfcca.org

Recalls & Safety

There have been a large number of crib and bassinet recalls over the past few months, so we want providers to be aware of the danger they pose and exercise caution. While we are required to do monthly crib inspections and annual checks with the Consumer Product Safety Commission, they have a nifty e-mail notification system to alert you of any recalls. You can choose all

product categories or just toys or baby items. I only receive an e-mail or two each week from them, but I am surprised at the things getting recalled, such as tools, light fixtures, clothing, toys, cribs, mattresses, and more. The system is great for peace of mind. Simply go to www.cpsc.gov to sign up for free.

Whether you're a childcare provider looking to improve your program, a family searching for childcare, an advocate for better childcare, or anyone with a question, we are here to help you.

Tips and Tricks

Save money on utilities!

From our last training with Sandy Schroeder, if you haven't already, apply for a free federal EIN at <http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=98350,00.html>. That way you won't have to give out your private social security number on parent's receipts at the end of the year. Using

your EIN, you can then call your utility companies, such as XCel Energy, and ask if they have discounted rates for small businesses. Some companies such as Waste Management offer a discount if you pay in advance.

Please feel free to share your tips or ask questions by emailing info@wcfcca.org.

New Members

We welcome the following new members to WCFCCA!

Sandy Oldenburg, Albertville
Jane Hegland, St. Michael
Jackie Ellerbrock, Otsego
Justine Folkestad, Albertville
Jean Kasper, Elk River
Mary Kay Geldert, Annandale
Lisa Borders, Annandale
Glenda Thurk, Annandale
Carrie Seiffert, St. Michael

Amy Henry, Montrose
Drew Jacobson, Annandale
Amy Pedersen, Rockford
Nicole Thurman, Albertville
Kristina Kullberg, St. Michael
Angela Brandt, Monticello

New members can join online at
<http://www.wcfcca.org/register.php>

Field Trips

In February, we're having a training about field trips close to home; if you have the opportunity to do outside field trips, here are some suggestions:

- Science Museum
- Elm Creek Park
- Bunker Park Stables
- Chuck E. Cheese (empty on weekday mornings!)
- Maple Grove Maple Maze
- Monticello Pool (or any community pool)
- Bakery
- Pizza place (Domino's lets kids make their own pizzas for free!)
- Nature Center
- Amaze 'N' Farmyard
- Pump It Up
- Como Zoo
- Minnesota Zoo
- The Park at the MOA
- Art Museum
- Railroad Museum or Store
- Underwater Adventures
- Children's Museum
- Local park
- Local restaurants
- Mini Golf
- Farmers Market
- Farm (Kelly Historic Farm is great for older kids)
- Apple Orchard (Deer Lake is fun)
- Construction Company
- Railroad Yard
- Bus ride
- Macy's Holiday Display
- Movie Theater
- Pet shop
- Library
- Post Office
- Toy Store
- Target (tour)
- Coffee House (for hot chocolate)
- Water Treatment Plant
- Factory
- Rec Center
- Basketball Game
- Soccer Game
- Football Game (flag if younger)
- Baseball Game
- Edinborough Park
- Mall
- Build-a-Bear Workshop
- Nursing Home
- Mexican Restaurant (Cinco de Mayo)
- Dentist
- Roller Rink
- Fire Station
- Chutes and Ladders
- Eagle's Nest
- Old Log Theatre
- Children's Theatre
- Egg Hunt
- Auto Museum
- Cabela's (cool aquarium and life-like animals)
- Chef's Academy
- Color Me Mine (ceramic painting)
- Home Depot (cool workshops)
- Sever's Corn Maze
- Space Aliens
- Grocery Store (math and finding items)
- Concert in the Park
- Ben & Jerry's Factory
- Artists' Studio
- Circus
- Greenhouse/Nursery
- Humane Society
- Police Station
- State Capitol or City Hall
- Hair Salon
- Flower Shop
- Vet/Animal Hospital
- Doctor (better than when it's an emergency)
- Recycling Plant
- "Camping"
- Native American History Center
- Disney on Ice
- Parade
- Dollar Store
- Scrapbooking Store (make presents)

Please feel free to share your tips or ask questions by emailing info@wcfcca.org.



*"Worry never
robs tomorrow
of its sorrow, it
only saps today
of its joy."
-- Leo Buscaglia*




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Travel Tots
 Bringing the Wonders of the World to Our Children

This program is offered as a field trip that brings the fun to you!
 Each class is an adventure in learning – Adventures in Geography, Adventures in Motion, Adventures in Science, and Adventures in Story & Song.

Visit our web site or call for details.
www.traveltots.org
 612-308-2660



Wright County Family Child Care Association
 10134 44th Court NE
 St. Michael, MN 55376-8499



RECIPIENT NAME
STREET ADDRESS
ADDRESS 2
CITY, ST ZIP CODE