

# PROVIDER Pursuits:

Delaware  
First

Professional Development  
for Early Childhood



INFORMATION FOR  
DELAWARE EARLY CHILDHOOD  
PROFESSIONALS

SUMMER 2012

## Child Care Hits the National Headlines

Issues concerning the operations of child care facilities and the safety of children in those facilities have come under investigation in several states. All these reports and investigations should give us pause to consider the potential consequences of our actions.

The March 2, 2012 airing of NBC's Dateline episode exposed the failure of many states and child care providers to ensure that staff in those facilities had been through comprehensive background checks and found suitable to work in child care. In that episode, "Dateline" did some random sampling of child care owners and found a surprising number of child care operators who had criminal records.

Deaths of children in child care in Minnesota have more than doubled in the past five years. Six deaths have been reported in less than three months in 2012 alone, all in Family Child Care Homes. In one of the deaths the provider had been cited for failure to follow Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) reduction guidelines prior to the death of the child. Minnesota had previously taken the step to loosen SIDS prevention rules and some are looking at how this action may be a contributing factor in the increase in deaths.

The Wisconsin child care system was the subject of an intensive investigation by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel newspaper. The reporter was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for the investigative series which looked into fraud in the child care system. According to the state's own records, Wisconsin has overpaid child care providers by at least \$13.7 million in recent years, including millions of dollars spent on bogus child care that was never delivered. As a result of this investigation, there have been many changes in the oversight and payment system and several former child care owners have gone to prison.

In Delaware, the Office of Child Care Licensing (OCCL), Division of Social Services and the Child and Adult Care Food Program have been keeping a watchful eye on these developments and are very mindful of the risks that such behavior can present to children in out-of-home care. All providers are urged to assess their hiring practices, always use Safe Sleep practices, and ensure the accuracy of claims being submitted to the State for payment. You must make sure that you are compliant with Delaware Rules and all state and federal requirements associated with Purchase of Care (POC) and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The Federal government is increasingly

more interested in how Federal funds are used and in the safety measures states require to protect children in care.

What actions should providers take?

- When hiring, carefully consider the results of the criminal history screening determination and assess the potential risks before bringing someone into your child care business.
- Home-based child care providers should also carefully consider who is living in the home and their personal history prior to opening a child care business or deciding if continuing in child care is appropriate.
- Always follow Safe Sleep practices. (Training is available.)
- Ensure that all claims for POC and CACFP are for services rendered at licensed locations only, within time frames allowed, and are supported by proper documentation.

As one statewide team we cannot let "a few bad apples" mark the reputation of the vast majority of honest, caring and responsible providers. Providers are encouraged to be part of the solution and encourage professionalism among peers and report suspected abuse of POC or CACFP procedures and OCCL rules to protect children and promote the very highest quality child care services.

Patti Quinn, *Administrator*

Betty Gail Timm, *Resource and Development Manager*

DELAWARE INSTITUTE FOR

Excellence in Early Childhood

Produced by: Delaware Institute for Excellence in  
Early Childhood  
University of Delaware  
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and Family Studies  
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Delaware Department of Education  
302.735.4295 fax 302.739.2388

DE First:

www.doe.k12.de.us/programs/delfirst/

## A Win-Win for Family Child Care Providers

Family Child Care Providers are unique in the fact that they are able to run a high-quality education program for children in the convenient location of their own home. The benefits of this environment affect their own family, the children and families they serve and the community as a whole. Delaware Stars for *Early Success* can work with family providers, helping them not only invest in their business, but in their own family and themselves. Let's take a brief look at some of these benefits:

### For the family child care business

- **Marketability-** what parent wouldn't want their child in a program that is committed to improving quality? Word of mouth is the most widely-used form of advertisement!
- **Resources-** what business owner would turn down opportunities for free resources that are targeted to help you and your business?
- **Opportunities for additional income-** Who wouldn't want to receive more money per child (for children eligible for Purchase of Care), per day for those that become Star Level 3 and higher?

### For the provider's family

- **Balance of work and home-** what working mom/dad would not like strategies and approaches that encourage a more efficient way of running a business, meeting the needs of the children they care for, while allowing space for their personal needs?
- **Positive working environment-** Who doesn't want to be around others who have renewed energy, renewed motivation and a renewed sense of purpose – (it is contagious!)? It creates a sense of teamwork and encourages other family members to help you succeed!

### For the provider

- **Sense of accomplishment-** What does it feel like to have all your hard work recognized?

- **Relationships-** When do you have the opportunity to work with others within your profession that have research-based, credible advice, and have your best interest at heart? Someone who wants to see you succeed?
- **Reaffirm that he/she IS a professional-** When have you felt challenged, worked hard and then had the rewarding feeling of reaching goals and feeling like you have grown as a professional? Making small changes over time become big, rewarding, quality improvements for the program as a whole.

### For the community

- **Prepared children for kindergarten-** What school district would not want high quality child care providers that serve families whose children will enter their school system?
- **Educated and informed parents-** How many parents could be so much better at relating to their children if only they had an early childhood teacher who could help guide them in making experiences for their children that will benefit them for the rest of their lives?

If all providers in the State of Delaware were to be a part of Delaware Stars for *Early Success* and experience the benefits above-what could we accomplish?...I challenge you.

*Submitted by Jennifer Cortes, Delaware Stars Technical Assistant*

**Have you heard?** Delaware Stars for *Early Success* wants your program to join its efforts to improve the quality of care for all children in Delaware. Currently, over 275 programs in Delaware have made a commitment to improving the quality of care children receive.

Delaware is committed to:

1. Providing support to address the health and development of the whole child;
2. Building a professional and effective early childhood workforce;
3. Increasing the number of identified HIGH QUALITY programs; and
4. Aligning the birth-to-eight approach to school readiness.

Delaware Stars for *Early Success* programs will receive support:

1. Tiered reimbursement for Purchase of Care;
  - Star Level 3 – 80% of the market rate
  - Star Level 4 – 90% of the market rate
  - Star Level 5 – 100% of the market rate
2. Technical Assistance for a program's unique quality improvement path; and
3. Access to exclusive grants and awards.

**Interested?** For more information call 302-831-3239 or visit us on the web at: [www.dieec.udel.edu](http://www.dieec.udel.edu)



# Professional Development Opportunities Calendar



## NEW CASTLE COUNTY

### Child Assessment (NEW)

Level 3 (OA)  
7/16, 7/23, 7/30, 8/6  
**Monday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$22  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Talking About Feelings, Helping Children Express Emotions

Level 2 (SE)  
7/18  
**Wednesday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Children's House Montessori  
2848 Grubb Rd., Wilmington  
Cost: \$16  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### A Child's Place in Their Community

Level 2 (EC)  
7/19  
**Thursday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Special Quest

Level 3 (MT)  
7/20, 7/27, 8/3, 8/10, 8/17, 8/24  
**Friday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$36  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Applying the Infant Toddler Environment Rating Scales - ITERS-R

Level 2 (EC)  
7/23, 7/25  
**Monday/Wednesday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Tender Loving Kare  
22 Peoples Plaza, Newark  
Cost: \$28  
Sponsor: DIEEC

For the latest information & updates on training and to register for classes go online to [www.dieec.udel.edu](http://www.dieec.udel.edu)

### Introduction to Center-Based Early Care & Education

Level 2 (MT)  
7/24, 7/26, 7/31, 8/2, 8/7, 8/9  
**Tuesday/Thursday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$32  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Dine Safe

Level 2 (HS)  
7/24  
**Tuesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Sponsor: Coop Ext  
Call 831-1239 to request a registration brochure

### RELATE: Infant/Toddler Routines and Curriculum Using Observation and Assessment (NEW)

Level 3 (MT)  
7/30, 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27  
**Monday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
JCC Early Childhood Center  
101 Garden of Eden Rd.  
Wilmington  
Cost: \$30  
Sponsor: DIEEC

*Picture ID will be required for admittance to all training sponsored by Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood (DIEEC)*

### Fundamentals of Family Child Care (NEW)

Level 2 (MT)  
7/30, 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27  
**Mondays 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$27  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Child Abuse: What Is It and How Do We Handle It?

Level 2 (HS)  
7/31  
**Tuesday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Sponsor: Coop Ext  
Call 831-1239 to request a registration brochure

### Child Development

Level 2 (CD)  
8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22, 8/29  
**Wednesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
St. Michael's School  
700 North Walnut St.  
Wilmington  
Cost: \$27  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Applying the School-Age Care Environment Rating Scales - SACERS

Level 2 (EC)  
8/2, 8/9  
**Thursday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Newark Day Nursery & Children's Center  
921 Barksdale Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$28  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Multi-Age Learning Environments in Family Child Care (NEW)

Level 2 (EC)  
8/7  
**Tuesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Let's Get Moving-Energizing Brain Power in Preschoolers and Beyond

Level 2 (HS)  
8/7  
**Tuesday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Ebenezer Preschool  
525 Polly Drummond Hill Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$16  
Sponsor: DIEEC

#### KEY: Core Competency (Content) Areas:

- (CD) Child/Youth Development
- (EC) Environment & Curriculum (Educational Activities for Children - FCC)
- (SE) Social Emotional Development (Positive Behavior Management)
- (OA) Observation & Assessment
- (HS) Health, Safety, Nutrition
- (FM) Family & Community
- (PR) Professionalism
- (MA) Management & Administration (Business Practices & Administration - FCC)

*Note: (MT) is noted for all Multi-Topic classes. The content areas will be separated in the Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood Registry and on each professional's transcript.*

**Observation and Assessment**

Level 2 (OA)  
8/14  
**Tuesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Let's Play-Integrating Nutrition Activities into the Classroom (FORMERLY Let's Play with Our Food)**

Level 2 (HS)  
8/14  
**Tuesday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Ebenezer Preschool  
525 Polly Drummond Hill Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$16  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Numbers and Counting**

Level 2 (EC)  
8/16  
**Thursday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**School Age: Learning Environment & Curriculum (NEW)**

Level 3 (EC)  
8/21, 8/23, 8/28, 8/30, 9/4  
**Tuesday/Thursday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$27  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Applying the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scales - ECERS-R**

Level 2 (EC)  
8/28, 8/30  
**Tuesday/Thursday 6:30-8:30pm**  
JCC Early Childhood Center  
101 Garden of Eden Rd.  
Wilmington  
Cost: \$28  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Inclusion Best Practice**

Level 2 (EC)  
8/31  
**Friday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Family Child Care: Business Practices (NEW)**

Level 3 (MA)  
9/6, 9/13  
**Thursday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$16  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Sing Dance and Stomp!**

Level 2 (EC)  
9/10  
**Monday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Developmentally Appropriate Practice (NEW)**

Level 3 (EC)  
9/11, 9/18, 9/25, 10/2  
**Tuesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$22  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Bullying: What To Do**

Level 2 (SE)  
9/13  
**Thursday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Sponsor: Coop Ext  
Call 831-1239 to request a registration brochure

**For the latest information & updates on training and to register for classes go online to [www.dieec.udel.edu](http://www.dieec.udel.edu)**

**Early Childhood Screening Using Ages & Stages (NEW)**

Level 2 (OA)  
9/15  
**Saturday 8:30-12:30 pm**  
Children's House Montessori  
2848 Grubb Rd., Wilmington  
Cost: \$30  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**School Age: Youth Development (NEW)**

Level 3 (CD)  
9/18, 9/25, 10/2, 10/9, 10/16  
**Tuesday 9:30-12:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$27  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Implementing Early Learning Foundations**

Level 2 (EC)  
9/19  
**Wednesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Bancroft Elementary School  
Library, 2nd floor  
700 N. Lombard St., Wilmington  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Applying the Family Child Care Environment Rating Scales - FCCERS**

Level 2 (EC)  
9/20, 9/27  
**Thursday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Hudson State Service Center  
501 Ogletown Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$28  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Moving Youth Ahead: Introduction to School-Age Care**

Level 3 (MT)  
9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24  
**Wednesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Cooperative Extension  
461 Wyoming Rd., Newark  
Cost: \$30  
Sponsor: Coop Ext

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**KENT COUNTY**

**Parents Friends or Foes**

Level 2 (FM)  
7/10  
**Tuesday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Sponsor: Coop Ext  
Call 730-4000 to request a registration brochure

**A Child's Place with Others**

Level 2 (EC)  
7/24  
**Tuesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
DelDot Administrative Building  
800 Bay Rd., Dover  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Applying the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scales - ECERS-R**

Level 2 (EC)  
7/24, 7/25  
**Wednesday/Thursday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
The Wonder Years Kids Club  
17001 South DuPont Hwy., Harrington  
Cost: \$28  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Implementing Early Learning Foundations

Level 2 (EC)  
7/31  
**Tuesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
DelDot Administrative Building  
800 Bay Rd., Dover  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Introduction to Center-Based Early Care & Education

Level 2 (MT)  
8/1, 8/2, 8/8, 8/9, 8/15, 8/16  
**Wednesday/Thursday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
The Wonder Years Kids Club  
17001 South DuPont Hgwy.,  
Harrington  
Cost: \$32  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Applying the Infant Toddler Environment Rating Scales - ITERS-R

Level 2 (EC)  
8/6, 8/7  
**Monday/Tuesday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Love N Learn  
710 Buckson Dr., Dover  
Cost: \$28  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Observation and Assessment

Level 2 (OA)  
8/7  
**Tuesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
DelDot Administrative Building  
800 Bay Rd., Dover  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Shapes and Patterns

Level 2 (EC)  
8/14  
**Tuesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
DelDot Administrative Building  
800 Bay Rd., Dover  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

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### Applying the School-Age Care Environment Rating Scales - SACERS

Level 2 (EC)  
8/15, 8/22  
**Wednesday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
The Learning Center  
258 North Rehoboth, Milford  
Cost: \$28  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Child Development

Level 2 (CD)  
8/20, 8/21, 8/27, 8/28, 9/4  
**Monday/Tuesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
The Learning Center  
258 North Rehoboth, Milford  
Cost: \$27  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Visual Arts

Level 2 (EC)  
8/21  
**Tuesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
DelDot Administrative Building  
800 Bay Rd., Dover  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Developmentally Appropriate Practice (NEW)

Level 3 (EC)  
8/23, 8/30, 9/6, 9/13  
**Thursday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
The Learning Center  
258 North Rehoboth, Milford  
Cost: \$22  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Applying the Family Child Care Environment Rating Scales - FCCERS-R

Level 2 (EC)  
8/25  
**Saturday 9:30-1:30 pm**  
DelDot Administrative Building  
800 Bay Rd., Dover  
Cost: \$28  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### RELATE: Infant/Toddler Routines and Curriculum Using Observation and Assessment (NEW)

Level 3 (MT)  
8/29, 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26  
**Wednesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
The Learning Center  
258 North Rehoboth, Milford  
Cost: \$30  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Healthy Air, Healthy Spaces, Healthy Children

Level 2 (HS)  
9/17  
**Wednesday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Sponsor: Coop Ext  
Call 730-4000 to request a registration brochure

### Talking About Feelings, Helping Children Express Emotions

Level 2 (SE)  
9/20  
**Thursday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
The Wonder Years Kids Club  
17001 South DuPont Hgwy.,  
Harrington  
Cost: \$16  
Sponsor: DIEEC

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## SUSSEX COUNTY

### Fundamentals of Family Child Care (NEW)

Level 2 (MT)  
7/14, 7/21, 7/28  
**Saturday 9:30-4:30 pm**  
(1 hour lunch)  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St., Georgetown  
Cost: \$27  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### A Child's Place in Space & Time

Level 2 (EC)  
7/24  
**Tuesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St., Georgetown  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### Child Development

Level 2 (CD)  
7/26, 8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23  
**Thursday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St., Georgetown  
Cost: \$27  
Sponsor: DIEEC

### School Age: Learning Environment & Curriculum (NEW)

Level 3 (EC)  
7/30, 8/1, 8/6, 8/8, 8/13  
**Monday/Wednesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St., Georgetown  
Cost: \$27  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Introduction to Center-Based Early Care & Education**

Level 2 (MT)  
8/7, 8/14, 8/21, 8/28, 9/4, 9/11  
**Tuesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
Georgetown  
Cost: \$32  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Special Quest**

Level 3 (MT)  
8/11, 8/18, 8/25  
**Saturday 9:30-4:30 pm**  
(1 hour lunch)  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
Georgetown  
Cost: \$36  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**School Age: Youth Development (NEW)**

Level 3 (CD)  
8/15, 8/20, 8/22, 8/27, 8/29  
**Monday/Wednesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
Georgetown  
Cost: \$27  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Applying the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scales - ECERS-R**

Level 2 (EC)  
8/20, 8/22  
**Monday/Wednesday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Cozy Critters  
35371 Beaver Dam Rd.,  
Frankford  
Cost: \$28  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Set the Stage**

Level 2 (EC)  
8/20  
**Monday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
Georgetown  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Applying the School-Age Care Environment Rating Scales - SACERS**

Level 2 (EC)  
8/30, 8/31  
**Thursday/Friday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
The Breakfast Club  
727 S Washington St.,  
Milford  
Cost: \$28  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Show Me Your Math: Rulers and Graphs**

Level 2 (EC)  
8/30  
**Thursday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
Georgetown  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Child Assessment (NEW)**

Level 3 (OA)  
9/5, 9/10, 9/12, 9/17  
**Monday/Wednesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
Georgetown  
Cost: \$22  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Applying the Family Child Care Environment Rating Scales - FCCERS-R**

Level 2 (EC)  
9/8  
**Saturday 9:30-1:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
Georgetown  
Cost: \$28  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Inclusion Best Practice**

Level 2 (EC)  
9/13  
**Thursday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
Georgetown  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Let's Get Moving-Energizing Brain Power in Preschoolers and Beyond**

Level 2 (HS)  
9/14  
**Friday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
Georgetown  
Cost: \$16  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Multi-Age Learning Environments in Family Child Care (NEW)**

**CANCELLED**  
Level 2 (EC)  
9/15, 9/22  
**Saturday 9:30-3:30 pm**  
on 9/15 (1 hour lunch)  
9:30-2:30 pm on 9/22  
(1 hour lunch)  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
Georgetown  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Applying the Infant Toddler Environment Rating Scales - ITERS-R**

Level 2 (EC)  
9/18, 9/19  
**Tuesday/Wednesday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Beach Babies  
31169 Learning Lane, Lewes  
Cost: \$28  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Implementing Early Learning Foundations**

Level 2 (EC)  
9/18  
**Tuesday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
Georgetown  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Observation and Assessment**

Level 2 (OA)  
9/20  
**Thursday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
Georgetown  
Cost: \$12  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Let's Play-Integrating Nutrition Activities into the Classroom (FORMERLY Let's Play with Our Food)**

Level 2 (HS)  
9/21  
**Friday 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
Georgetown  
Cost: \$16  
Sponsor: DIEEC

**Multi-Age Learning Environments in Family Child Care (NEW)**

Level 2 (EC)  
9/24  
**Monday 6:30-9:30 pm**  
Adams State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford St.,  
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## Promoting Acceptance of Diversity

As an early childhood professional, you have a unique opportunity to help children appreciate and accept differences in people as well recognize similarities. People can be diverse in many ways including race, culture, age, and abilities. You also have the opportunity to teach against common stereotypes and bias that often cause people to make incorrect assumptions about a group of people which can lead to unfair treatment and discrimination. These attitudes can lead to many problems for society. Instilling this basic value of acceptance could go a long way in more peaceful relationships throughout societies!

One important way is to be sure all children are encouraged to participate in all types of activities. For example, boys can play in dramatic play and have dress ups appropriate for them while girls can build blocks and race cars. This is similar to promoting non-sexist images in the materials, books, and displays in the classroom. An example might be showing both boys and girls playing football as this is typically thought of as a male sport. In this way you are promoting positive non-stereotyping images of children participating in a wide variety of activities which promotes a positive self-image for the children in your classroom and encourages them to do whatever it is that interests them, regardless of their gender.

Understanding how to incorporate diversity in your program can impact many items in the Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and help lead to a higher level of quality. Diversity can be promoted through incorporating music from other cultures and if this occurs

daily, can be credited towards the Promoting Acceptance of Diversity item. As your program chooses the wide selection of books to make accessible to the children, be sure to incorporate all of the categories of diversity. Creating a dramatic play center should also reflect diversity such as dolls portraying at least 3 different races. Incorporating food from other cultures, such as rice and beans, croissants, or sushi as well as other props such as chop sticks or a wok are other ways to help raise children's awareness of differences and can help them become more comfortable with situations that differ from what they're familiar with in their own households. It is especially important to include items from the cultures of the children in your group as well to help them feel more at home in your environment. Whenever items are used to promote diversity, there must be a contrast in order to receive credit in the ERS since it is the contrast that sends the message of accepting diversity. This would also help children begin to notice the similarities and differences. For example, a croissant and a piece of bread would represent one contrast and receive credit as one item. Similarly, chop sticks and a fork would represent one contrast or one example of a material portraying diversity.

Another way to promote the understanding and acceptance of diversity is to be sure the posters throughout the classroom portray people of different races, cultures, ages, abilities, and non-sexist images. Since 3 pictures, which do not include photos of the children and their families, are required, you'll need to follow the same "contrast" rule as with

the materials. Sometimes one poster shows a contrast within it and counts as one example. For instance, a poster showing a therapist helping a child using braces to walk shows several contrasts within it. While this poster can only count as one example, it can count towards multiple categories such as age and abilities. Another example would be a poster showing an igloo and another poster showing a grass hut. These two posters form the contrast and would therefore count as one example, receiving credit for the culture category.

Incorporating diversity throughout the materials in the classroom is important as well. Take a look at people portrayed in the puzzles and block figures in your program. Do they all look similar or do they represent at least some of the 5 categories of diversity? As you become aware of the importance of promoting the acceptance of diversity, it is fairly easy to begin to incorporate that throughout your classroom and to have it in mind as you choose new materials for the children.

Once the classroom has a variety of materials, books, and pictures that promote the acceptance of diversity, consider adding cultural awareness to activities. This may be introducing simple words and phrases from other cultures, such as counting in Spanish. It could also include celebrating holidays from different cultures throughout the year. Depending on which scale is used, these activities could occur on a daily basis or they could be special activities that are planned throughout the year.

**Fall semester: University of Delaware is offering  
HDFS 456/656 Professional Development & Supervision, Thursdays, 5:30-8:30pm and  
HDFS 440/640 Early Childhood Admin., Leadership and Advocacy, Tuesdays, 5:00-8:00 pm.**



## T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Delaware

**Better than Ever – New and Improved!  
Don't Miss Out on the Opportunity to  
Get Your Degree in Early Childhood!**

T.E.A.C.H. has implemented the following **new participation and eligibility criteria** for the **new Associate and Bachelor Degree** scholarship models:

- Tuition covered by T.E.A.C.H. – increased to 85%
- Scholarship Recipient's responsibility for tuition – decreased to 7.5% to 15% depending upon position
- Sponsoring Center's responsibility for tuition – decreased to 7.5%
- Book Reimbursement to Scholarship Recipient – increased to 90%
- Travel Allowance to Scholarship Recipient – increased to \$75 per semester
- Release Time Reimbursement for Sponsoring Center and LFCC/FCC Providers – increased to \$7.50 per hour; however, must work at least 30 per week to be eligible for release time and provide direct child care
- Experience – decreased to 6 months
- Minimum work hours per week – decreased to 20 hours in licensed facility

Call the **T.E.A.C.H. Coordinator, Lynn Jezyk** at (302)764-1501 or email her at [ljezyk@daeyc.org](mailto:ljezyk@daeyc.org) to receive individual assistance regarding the various scholarship models. Lynn is also available for group presentations to explain how T.E.A.C.H. works (for FREE) and/or to offer the approved *Individual Professional Development Planning* workshop (fee per participant dependent upon length of training). Center Administrators/Directors (with or without staff members), Large Family and Family Child Care Providers, and Early Childhood and School-Age Associations are encouraged to inquire.

**Congratulations to –  
Karen Bell and Debra Messenger,  
two new Early Childhood DTCC  
Graduates and to Michelle Herbert  
for her CDA - T.E.A.C.H. Scholars!**

## Career Advisement for Early Childhood Professionals

Career Advisement is now available through the Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children. Career Advisement is available for anyone considering a career in early care and education and for any early care and education professional who is interested in furthering his/her education or career position. This free service is offered to center staff, large family child care staff, and family child care providers. Career Advisement can help you see where you fall on the Career Lattice, a career planning tool designed by the Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood; assist you in making a Professional Development Plan to help meet your career goals; and/or guide you through the Delaware First Qualification Review process. Career Advisement appointments can be completed in-person, by telephone or email. Please call or email Sara Kelley, Career Advisement Coordinator, at 302-764-1015 or [skelley@daeyc.org](mailto:skelley@daeyc.org) for more information.

## CDA Renewal Amnesty Program

The Council for Professional Recognition recently announced the CDA Renewal Amnesty Program, which may be of interest to your agency. Beginning March 1, 2012, anyone who has earned a CDA in the last ten years may apply for renewal, even if their CDA has expired. This means that all CDAs with a credential date of January, 2002 or later are eligible for Renewal Amnesty. This amnesty program will only last until December 31, 2012.

### CDA Renewal Requirements:

- 4.5 CEUs or 3 college-credit-hours of training within the last 5 years
- A recommendation from an ECE professional who is familiar with your professional work
- A pediatric first aid certificate
- Membership in an ECE professional membership organization
- A brief letter from a supervisor testifying that you have worked at least 80 hours in the past year

Apply online for a CDA Renewal, or contact the Council for further information:

Council for Professional Recognition  
2460 16th St. NW  
Washington, DC 20009-3547  
800-424-4310  
202-265-9090  
Office hours: 8am - 5pm EST  
[www.cdacouncil.org](http://www.cdacouncil.org)

## CPR & First Aid Training

<b>Advanced CPR/First Aid Training</b> www.advancedcprfirstaidtraining.com	302-602-3632
<b>American Red Cross</b> www.redcrossdelmarva.org	800-777-6620
<b>Beacon Safety</b> www.beaconsafety.com	302-428-6073
<b>Christiana Care</b> www.christianacare.org	302-733-1395
<b>First State Safety Services</b> www.firststatesafety.com	302-292-1368
<b>Heart Care</b> heartcarepr@comcast.net	302-562-0517
<b>Make-A-Difference Training Center, Inc.</b> www.madtci.com	302-792-0542
<b>Rescue Breath</b> www.rescue-breath.com	302-387-1541

## Seizure Recognition and Management

Seizures are vastly misunderstood. Most people believe that all seizures are convulsive, but more children have seizures that look like daydreaming or disruptive behavior. All of these situations have a negative effect on the learning process. This 1 hour Level 2 program demonstrates what the most common seizures look like and how to manage them in the educational setting. Our educator will come to any facility that will provide a minimum of 10 attendees. The maximum is whatever your facility can accommodate. The ability to show a tape or DVD is necessary.

There is no charge for this program, but honoraria are gratefully accepted. Please contact The Epilepsy Foundation of Delaware to schedule this professional development, at 302-999-9313 or 1-800-422-3653.

## Training for Early Care and Education (TECE) I & II

Are you thinking of registering for TECE I or TECE II? If so, please be advised that each of the sponsoring agencies have a mandatory minimum class size, if the minimum do not register for the class it will be cancelled.

### DE Technical & Community College Owens

**Campus**, Rt. 18, Georgetown, DE 855-1617

### DE Technical & Community College Terry Campus,

100 Campus Drive, Dover DE 857-1400

### DE Technical & Community College Wilmington &

**Stanton Campus**, 333 Shipley St., Wilmington, DE

571-5378

### Delaware Skills Center

1300 Clifford Brown Walkway, Wilmington, DE 654-5392

### Marshallton Education Center

1703 School Lane, Wilmington, DE 683-3652

### POLYTECH Adult Education

823 Walnut Shade Road, Woodside, DE 697-4545

### Sussex Tech

17099 County Seat Highway, Georgetown, DE 856-9035

## Verification of Qualifications Review Process

The Delaware First Professional and Development system will process applications for qualifications for the Office of Child Care Licensing, Early Care and Education and School-age positions.

When an individual believes that he or she is fully qualified for one of these specific positions, a *Qualifications Application* should be filled out for that position. The process will be as follows:

1. Applicant reviews requirements of positions.
2. Applicant selects the position they qualify for, fills out and signs the **appropriate** form.
3. Applicant collects copies of transcripts, diplomas and training certificates to document training and education to meet the specific qualifications.
4. Applicant makes a copy of driver's license or picture ID and proof of age to meet qualifications.
5. Applicant collects signed copies of verification of employment form to document experience to meet qualifications.
6. Applicant mails form and all documents to:

**Delaware First, Department of Education, Townsend Building, 401 Federal Street, Dover, DE 19901**  
(Faxes will not be accepted)

## Delaware Technical Community College

**(DTCC)** offers numerous courses in early childhood education/child development. Many early childhood professionals have come to the field with degrees in related or unrelated fields; coursework towards a degree; or may be thinking about obtaining a degree in early childhood. DTCC is flexible and encourages those wanting to pursue an early childhood degree or coursework to contact the appropriate candidate. Here are some facts that may help you decide to take the first step into higher education at DTCC:

- Students already in the early childhood workforce who want to take courses and not pursue a degree may register as an adult student and would not have to take the College Placement Test (CPT). As an adult student, you assume responsibility for taking courses without necessarily having the required pre-requisites and are NOT eligible for federal financial aid. There is no limit on the number of classes you can take at DTCC as an adult student.
- Students who have already obtained a degree (AA or BA) from another college or university do not have to take the CPT, as you are exempt based on earning a degree from another institution, no matter how long ago. You will have to provide proof of the degree. The exception is if you want to take a math course, then you must take the CPT for math placement.
- DTCC has two early childhood degrees: Birth to Second – the appropriate degree for those intending to transfer and continue on for a BA; and Early Childhood Development – the appropriate degree for those intending to go directly into the workforce. It is important to think about your career goals and meet with an advisor at DTCC to determine which program is best for you.
  - Those students going for Birth to Second have the option of completing ECE 244 Fieldwork Teaching Practicum or EDC 100 Praxis 1 Prep and EDC 230 Children’s Literature.
  - Those students going for Early Childhood Development must complete ECE 244 Fieldwork Teaching Practicum
- If you are a student over the age of 60 years, you are able to take classes at DTCC tuition-free. The procedure requires you to enroll in a class where you are put on a waiting list. A week prior to the start of the class, if there are still seats remaining in the class, you will be enrolled. If the class is full, you will not be able to attend tuition-free.
- If you live out-of-state but work in Delaware, you will be charged in-state tuition.

For more information, please contact the Education Chair at one of the campuses. (see page 14)

## Upcoming CARE Training for Early Childhood Professionals

To date, over 150 individuals have participated in the Child-Adult Relationship Enhancement or **CARE** training — a 6-hour, Level III professional development training designed to build improved relationships and increase positive child behaviors.

This training is in high demand with participant comments on the evaluations revealing: *“I want my entire staff trained; The training is AWESOME!; This training provided great information I can immediately use in the classroom.”*

Available through the Delaware Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services, the workshop is offered to staff of early care and education programs statewide. **CARE** training provides individuals who work with young children (up to age 7) general behavior management skills designed to build positive relationships so children feel more connected to the adults who care for them and, as a result, are more likely to demonstrate positive behaviors.

The workshop includes:

- Strategies for one-on-one time to connect with the child;
- Use of the 3 P Skills: Praise, Paraphrase and Point-out-behavior;
- Selective ignoring techniques to redirect problematic behaviors; and
- Techniques for giving children effective, positive commands for limit-setting.

Instructors Pam Morrison, LPCMH, and Mindy Webb, LCSW, will conduct the next CARE training session:

**Date:** July 14, 2012

**Time:** 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**Place:** Thurman Adams State Service Center  
(formerly the Georgetown State Service Center)  
546 S. Bedford Street  
Georgetown, DE 19947

**To register, visit [www.dieec.edu](http://www.dieec.edu) — the Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood website. The training is currently being offered free of charge. Class size is limited to 20 participants. Accommodations will be made on a “first come first served” basis.**

## Early Childhood Credentials

Have you thought about applying for an Early Childhood Credential? Delaware Department of Education has recently awarded the Inclusion Credential to Kim Pridemore, the director at DTCC-Terry Campus Child Development Center, a Delaware Stars participating Center. Kim is the first early childhood professional to complete her portfolio and the interview this spring. She has been the director for ten years, serves on the DAEYC Board of Directors, where she was Secretary for four years and is Co-President of the Kent County Director's Association. Kim began her early childhood career as a Pre-K lead teacher, with an AA in Early Childhood Education from DTCC, a BA in Elementary Education and MA in School Leadership from Wilmington University. Kim states "It is important to stay current with the latest information in the field. I wanted to take advantage of this opportunity and felt it my obligation to complete the credential first if I am going to ask my staff to apply as well. I want to be able to support my staff and model the need to always be learning. It is important to try new things, after all, that is what we ask children to do in our program every day." Kim plans on continuing to attain credentials – next on her list is the Administration Credential.

As a part of Delaware's cross-sector professional development system, ensuring a competent workforce is essential to facilitating children's growth and development. A professional Credential recognizes a level of achievement and expertise that reflects current research and best practice. Early Success, Delaware's Early Childhood Plan 2006, outlines objectives to be met in order to achieve "Ready Early Care and Education Programs". One of these objectives is to "create a system of credentials for recognition of specialized knowledge and experience." Delaware will offer Credentials in the following areas this year: Inclusion, Administration, Infant Toddler, Preschool, School-Age and Family Child Care.

In order to be awarded an Early Childhood Credential in Delaware, candidates must complete a package of education or training; demonstrate competency via a portfolio; and participate in an interview process related to their specific knowledge and skills in the applicant's field. Credentials will be coordinated by the Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood and awarded by the Delaware Department of Education. Obtaining a Credential benefits the individual by making them more marketable as they pursue career advancement opportunities. Programs will benefit as well, marketing the percentage of competent staff in a particular area as measured by those who successfully obtain a Credential. Applications are \$25 for each credential. The portfolio review is \$75, with scholarships available for Inclusion only at this time. Visit <http://www.dieec.udel.edu/early-childhood-credentials> or call 302-831-6522 for more information.

## Technology in Early Childhood Programs

Technology has become as much a part of the fabric of children's lives as school buses, backpacks and milk cartons. How can technology fit into early childhood programs in a positive way that enhances learning without detracting from play and concrete learning?

The May 2012 issue of NAEYC's *Young Children* has several articles related to technology and early learning. Here are some considerations taken from those articles:

- There is a difference in technology between *interactive and passive*. Interactive technology includes some software on computers, using tablets that encourage children to engage in the activities and Interactive White Boards. When children have to choose, find pathways, and make decisions, then learning is increased. This is contrasted with technology that is passive, such as watching videos on screens, DVDs and other types of movies, or television itself.
- It is important to consider what is *developmentally appropriate*. As with other practices, children's development and skills must be taken into consideration when choosing technology. This includes looking at the technology and its recommendations, knowing your children, their readiness and skills. In addition, this includes the amount of time spent using technology as it is still imperative that children build on the **concrete** and play.
- One reason most often cited by staff who are not always comfortable using technology is the issue of *supports*. This includes the ability to teach children how to use the software, how to choose appropriate software, how to monitor its use and how to access training on various software. A key component of technology in the classroom or program is staff access to supports for use and for problem-solving technology malfunction. Some companies, such as Hatch, are doing webinars and other outreaches to help this issue.
- *Adult engagement* is another important aspect of successful use of technology. Children learn most when an adult is engaged with them, discussing, asking open-ended questions and supporting the learning pathways.

In addition to these considerations in using the technology, it is also critical that a program have a plan that includes three elements:

1. Purchase and set-up: hardware, software; internet; troubleshooting; training; and maintenance.
2. On-going support: integrate and support the existing curriculum; use it daily; and add existing tools, such as digital cameras.
3. Monitoring its use; align with children's interests; staff comfort; and family conferences.

# The Way I Feel Preschool Activity Toolkit – Reinforces Social and Emotional Wellness

## Dignitaries Helped Showcase the New Curriculum During Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week

**Children’s Mental Health Awareness** was recently celebrated in Delaware through a special partnership with the early childhood community and the Delaware Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services (DPBHS). The partnership, along with various activities and events held April 28-May 9, helped raise awareness about the importance of children’s mental health and promote, **What happens in early childhood matters for a lifetime.**

To complement the effort, early care and education providers were invited to use The Way I Feel custom-designed, educational toolkit with daily tip sheets as part of a curriculum on social emotional wellness. “This is the second year that we have been able to offer educational material filled with special activities that enhance a child’s skills in this area,” noted Mary Moor, Project Director of DPBHS’ federal grant initiative Delaware’s B.E.S.T. (Bringing Evidenced-based System of Care and Treatment) for Young Children and Their Families.

Three of the providers participating in The Way I Feel preschool toolkit activities were showcased during the Children’s Mental Health Awareness week activities with the following special guests and dignitaries joining staff: Senator Joseph Booth made a special visit to the Delaware Technical Community College Child Development Center in Georgetown to engage the 4-year-old class on May 7; DPBHS Director Susan Cycyk visited the Children’s Secret Garden in Dover on May 8; and Delaware Children’s Department Secretary Vivian Rapposelli along with Rocky Bluewinkle, the Wilmington Blue Rocks baseball team mascot, read to and danced with the 4 year olds

enrolled at the Cornerstone Early Education and Youth Program Center in Bear on May 9.

“Feedback from participating programs about the toolkit has been extremely positive,” Moor explained. She noted that early care and education professionals across the state commented how easy it was to incorporate the activities into their programs, with one director stating “how nice it is to focus on an important area in a child’s development and to do it in such a fun and creative way.”

Designed to support the Early Learning Foundations, the free toolkit is available in Spanish or English and includes a copy of The Way I Feel hardback book and related activities that can be used throughout the year. A limited supply of toolkits are still available and can be obtained by contacting Delaware’s B.E.ST. Youth Engagement Specialist via [Pam.Weir@state.de.us](mailto:Pam.Weir@state.de.us) or 302-781-3216.

The early child care events are one of many partnership activities held across the state to raise awareness about the importance of children’s mental health, provide information on how to access services, decrease stigma around mental health challenges, and promote that positive mental health is essential to a child’s healthy development from birth.

The events started on April 28 with a special family fun night with the Wilmington Blue Rocks and continued through the National Children’s Mental Health Awareness celebration on May 9, which also coincides with Delaware’s 8th Annual Get the Scoop on Mental Health — an outreach event

including information sharing and a free scoop of Rita’s Water Ice at participating locations.

Delaware’s extensive outreach and awareness efforts are part of the national Caring for Every Child’s Mental Health Campaign, which seeks to raise awareness about the importance of children’s mental health. An estimated 4.5 to 6.3 million children and youth in the United States suffer from a serious emotional disturbance. Approximately 65% to 80% of these children and youth do not receive the specialty mental health services and supports they need. This data and the awareness efforts are meant to underscore the importance of programs and treatment services designed to reach young children and families before problems are deeply entrenched and require restrictive and costly intervention.

For more information about children’s mental health services and supports available in Delaware for young children and early child care and education programs, email [Mary.Moor@state.de.us](mailto:Mary.Moor@state.de.us) or call 781-3212.

**NEW!** the DIEEC website now allows you to register multiple people under one login. Simply choose a class by selecting "Register Now". You will see the option "Register a group of users". Individuals must have profiles before you can register them for the class(es). Payment is required at the time of registration. Please contact 302-831-3239 with questions

## Excuse Me, Please – An Exercise in Grace and Courtesy

In a fast paced and entertaining world of technology with video games, YouTube and access to social networks such as Twitter and Facebook, classrooms need to spend some intentional time on the formalities of Grace and Courtesy. In the Montessori classroom this is part of teacher training and lessons given in Practical Life. Practical Life is divided into lessons promoting Care of Self, Care of the Environment, and Grace and Courtesy. Care of self and environment include simple lessons that help the child towards independence. The classroom environment provides a whole area devoted to practicing dressing skills like buttoning, snapping, zippering, tying, lacing, and buckling. *Care of Self* lessons also include hand washing, shoe polishing, and nose blowing. The child's innate need for beauty and order in the environment is reinforced by lessons such as dusting, polishing, folding, hanging up garments, table washing, dish and cloth washing, and flower arranging. Activities to practice spooning, pouring, tweezing, snack preparation, sorting, clamping, cutting, and pasting all assist with the care of the environment. (See archived article in Summer 2011 Provider Pursuits entitled "Purposeful Activities for Young Hands" by Lisa Wilson Riblett)

Grace and Courtesy is a separate set of lessons that begin with exercises which develop self-discipline. Activities and lessons concerning control of personal movement are integral to this area of development. *Walking on the Line* (either a straight line or an ellipse) begins with carefully balancing on the line while walking carefully and quietly. Later lessons are *Walking on the Line* carrying a tray and *Walking on the Line* carrying a (silent) bell. Other lessons include opening and closing doors, cupboards, drawers, boxes, and bottles. Lessons such as rolling and unrolling a work mat, walking around a work mat, and pushing in a chair all help to develop control of movement. These exercises can be practiced in a classroom as a group or individually, and help in the area of independence as well as the courtesy of doing such work with intent, consciousness and safety in mind. How to walk with a partner and how to stand and move in a line are all important courtesies and safety necessities when demonstrated during field trips and fire drills. Practicing these skills before they are actually needed will result in preparedness and avoid situations of chaos.

Patience is a virtue. The *Silence Game* is an exercise in patience. The child can accomplish this task within a group at circle time for a set amount of time determined by a leader. A child can also practice this skill individually with various timers while sitting on a mat. This practice is also used while doing yoga to be in touch with one's inner self.

Other Grace and Courtesy lessons are socially oriented and based upon specific cultural expectations. It is

important to note traditions regarding greetings, eye contact, and table manners vary from culture to culture. Teachers need to appropriately model these lessons but it is also necessary to present formal lessons, usually in the form of role play with an assistant teacher. Practicing situations through a lesson with proper introduction will give the child an opportunity to ask questions and experience these situations in a less formal setting without judgment or personal reprimand. Introduction of oneself along with hand shaking shows children how to welcome and acknowledge a newcomer into the classroom. Greeting newcomers as well as one another is both welcoming and polite. How to enter a conversation or ask a question when someone is already engaged, moving around someone that may be in your way, and asking permission to join in an activity already in progress are all necessary courtesies for the smooth operation of the classroom. We cannot take for granted that children have had these experiences and know how to handle them with politeness; it is essential to include these lessons as part of the classroom curriculum.

Other lessons regarding social conventions revolve around serving and eating food. Setting the table, offering or declining food, and manners involving eating, serving, pouring, and waiting one's turn are not only useful niceties but may also involve cleanliness. Observing appropriate table manners is important when serving family style to larger groups in the childcare center and also continues in the home and while dining out.

Additionally look for resources that address manners and politeness through stories. *Manners* by Aiki, *Polite as a Princess* by Melissa Arps, and *Piggins* by Jane Yolen are just a few. Life's little courtesies include saying please and thank you, cleaning up your mess, being a good friend, taking care of animals, sharing, expressing you are sorry, and telling people you love them. Find and give opportunities to perform and demonstrate all of these in the classroom.

Practicing, role playing and modeling will all help set the stage giving the child the vocabulary, actions and steps required to build awareness and responsiveness to those around him. Proper etiquette distinguishes politeness from rudeness. In the end the child will have incorporated these graces and courtesies into everyday life, which will allow for a more pleasant classroom as well as a more pleasant environment wherever he/she may go.

*Submitted by: Marianne Cordrey Cotsell, Montessori Early Childhood Teacher at Children's House Montessori School. Children's House is a full affiliate of the American Montessori Society and a member of the Montessori Teachers' Association of Delaware. For more information contact [mimi@childrenshouse-de.org](mailto:mimi@childrenshouse-de.org).*

## Support Groups, Director Associations and Professional Organizations

Throughout Delaware, child care providers have organized into geographically-based support groups. The groups serve as a peer support system, in which providers can offer each other encouragement, share resources, network, receive training, and advocate for professional issues.

Some zip code areas are covered by more than one group. To learn more about the support group(s) in your area, please refer to the list below. Please call DIEEC at 302.831.3239 for any changes to this information or if a new group has been formed.

### Family Child Care

#### **Greater Wilmington Childcare Professional Alliance (serving all of New Castle County)**

Janet Nagengast 656-6898, Nancy Martin 475-5234, Connie Fitzwater 529-7986

#### **MOT Support Group Organization (Middletown/Odessa/Townsend) - 19706, 19709, 19730, 19731, 19734**

Kathy Manning 376-3771

#### **Newport/Elsmere/Wilmington Professionals Caring for Children (N.E.W.P.C.C.) - 19804, 19805, 19808**

Jane Hatfield 994-1084

#### **Northeast Provider Support Group - 19801, 19802, 19805, 19809, 19703**

Thelma Jamison 762-8645

#### **Pike Creek Family Child Care Providers - 19707, 19711, 19804, 19805, 19808**

Terry Windhorst 633-4633

#### **Region 1 - 19703, 19803, 19809, 19810**

Sharon Strohm 798-6303

#### **City of Wilmington -**

Kyma Fulgence-Belardo 777-4099

#### **Smyrna/Clayton Family Child Care Support Group -**

Shannon Murray 743-6989 or Tonia Hurt 223-6506

#### **Providers in Practice - Statewide**

Claudette Sherwood 373-8479

### Child Care Centers

#### **Kent County Child Care Center Directors**

Kim Pridemore

857-1720

#### **Child Care Association of Sussex County**

Kathy Moore

856-3490

### Delaware Professional Organizations:

#### **Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children (DAEYC)**

764-1500

[www.daeyc.org](http://www.daeyc.org)

#### **Nursery-Kindergarten Association of Delaware (NKAD)**

571-0230

[www.nkad.org](http://www.nkad.org)

#### **The Delaware Family Child Care Alliance**

373-8479

[www.dffcca.com](http://www.dffcca.com)

## Universities/Colleges that Offer a Variety of Courses Related to Early Childhood

**Delaware State University** - [www.desu.edu](http://www.desu.edu) Dr. Billie Friedland, Education Department Chair 857-6738

**Delaware Technical & Community College** - [www.dtcc.edu](http://www.dtcc.edu)

**Wilmington/Stanton Campus** Barbara Sheppard, Education Department Chair 434-5571

**Terry Campus** Lisa Peel, Education Department Chair 857-1743

**Owens Campus** Dr. Nancy Campbell, Education Department Chair 855-1654

**Springfield College** – [www.spfldcol.edu](http://www.spfldcol.edu) Judith Stang, Assistant Dean/Campus Director - School of Human Services 658-5720

**University of Delaware** – [www.hdfs.udel.edu](http://www.hdfs.udel.edu) Dr. Donald Unger, Chair – Human Development & Family Studies 831-6500

**Wilmington University** – [www.wilmu.edu](http://www.wilmu.edu) Jim Boyd, Program Coordinator- Early Childhood Education 356-6794



## Save the Date!

### Making A Difference in Early Childhood: A Conference for Early Childhood Professionals

Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27, 2013  
DTCC Terry Campus, Dover

Registration will begin in mid-January at [www.dieec.udel.edu](http://www.dieec.udel.edu)

## Save the Date!

### CORE Conference: Creating Opportunities for Reading Excellence

Sponsored by Reading ASSIST Institute

November 17, 2012  
Sheraton Dover

## DIEEC Attendance Terms:

**arrive on time • bring a photo ID to verify your attendance**  
**participate in activities • do not bring children**  
**turn your phone on silent or vibrate**

Please remember that this is DIEEC policy for all quality-approved trainings. All participants are expected to follow these policies for your own professional development experience as well as out of respect for the other participants and the instructor. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

The Division of Social Services (DSS) would like to invite you to the second of three scheduled 2012 Provider meetings. The meetings are voluntary and no credit for training hours will be given. Contents: Overall discussion of the POC program.

### Sussex County

**July 11, 2012**

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Adams State Service Center  
DSS Conference Room  
546 S Bedford Street  
Georgetown, DE 19947

### New Castle County

**July 18, 2012**

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Canby Park DSS Offices  
1920 Maryland Avenue  
Wilmington, DE 19805

### Kent County

**July 25, 2012**

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
DelDOT Admin. Bldg.-Farmington Room  
800 S. Bay Road  
Dover, DE 19903

## Delaware Stars for *Early Success* Application Deadlines

Applications for participation in Delaware Stars for *Early Success* are available at [www.dieec.udel.edu](http://www.dieec.udel.edu). For questions call 302-831-3239. Quarterly deadlines for applications are:

**July 15   October 15   January 15   April 15**