

R E A C H

a monthly e-newsletter for Delaware's early childhood and school age programs



September 2017



You're here for Delaware's children and families.
We're here for YOU!



September Training

Get on board with "Back to School"

This month offers a wide variety of learning opportunities across the state. Check out all the training schedule by going to:

<https://dieecpd.org/registry/calendar>

Provider Spotlight: Mi Casita Daycare

A Journey in Quality Improvement

Carmen Benitez, owner of Mi Casita Daycare, is now a Star level 5 family care provider. In four short years, Carmen has achieved this level through hard work, determination and actively being involved in Stars. She began her quality improvement journey in 2013 and became a member of the first Spanish-speaking cohort. While a member of the cohort, she took classes toward her Family Child Care credential, completed her portfolio and was awarded the credential. Carmen quickly moved to Star level 4.



With her eye on Star level 5, Carmen wanted to enroll more infants and toddlers and increase her materials for dual language learners. To pursue this goal she applied for, and was

New Course Offerings

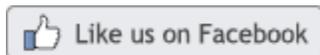
Timely topical training available!

We are now offering two new classes that can provide you and your families with the skills needed to deal with change and to build resilience.

Information on "Transition Workshop." And "Creating Your Journey Together" are attached to this publication



Remember to like our "Professional Development" Page on Facebook!



Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood
Delaware Stars for Early Success
Professional Development Department
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Visit PD at www.dieecpd.org
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granted, the capacity grant. Through the grant Carmen was able to obtain developmentally appropriate materials for use both inside and outside, to safely engage infants and toddlers. She also purchased dual language materials to add to her classroom.

Carmen fully accesses the resources of Stars to help her meet her goals. In addition to meeting regularly with her generalist TA, she has worked with the infant toddler TA and a curriculum and assessment TA.

"Delaware Stars has worked with me hand-in-hand from the start. I have learned to better manage my program. I have the criteria to evaluate each child, individualize lessons accordingly and report to their parents how they are developing," adds Carmen.



The September Transition - Tips for Dealing with Separation Anxiety

It's that bittersweet time of year. Summer is winding down, vacations are over and everyone, including families with small children, is getting back on a schedule.

Getting back into a "normal" routine can be challenging on many fronts - earlier bed and wake up times, re-establishing meal times, and for many parents of preschool children, dealing with separation anxiety.

For practical tips to share with parents during drop off times go to:

<https://www.care.com/c/stories/6877/back-to-school-troubles-5-tips-for-handling/>

Don't forget to like us on Facebook.



Transitions Workshop

Successfully Changing Activities!



November 20th, 6:30 p.m.
Blue Hen Corporate Center

December 7th, 6:30 p.m.
Hudson State Service Center

December 18th, 6:30 p.m.
Adams State Service Center

Register at: <https://dieecpd.org/registry/calendar>



Level - Introductory

Three hours/One Session

Transitions are one of the most frustrating times of the day, often leading to behavior challenges and escalated tensions. The structure of the content is around supporting both staff and children in making transitions and in waiting between activities.

The objectives that guide the learning are:

- Participants will reflect on transitions, their impact, and why they are difficult for young children
- Participants will analyze various transition strategies and plan effective ways to implement them with the children in their classroom
- Participants will explore a variety of ways in which children can take the lead in transitions as a way to learn leadership, initiative, and self-regulation skills.

Within this workshop are many ideas, suggestions, and tips for making transitions go smoothly.



*"What would you pack in
a child's backpack for
their life journey of
success?"*



Creating Your Journey Together (Building Resilience)

**October 6th, 13th, 27th, and November 3rd
9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

Blue Hen Corporate Center - Dover, DE

Register at: <https://dieecpd.org/registry/calendar>

Level - Intermediate

12 hours/4 sessions

Journeys of resilience are ones that every person and family must make. Trauma, conflict and risk are elements that affect all lives yet are very difficult times to navigate. The DIEEC professional development team partnered with Devereux (creators of FLIP It and Facing the Challenge), using Devereux's workshop for families, Your Journey Together, and constructed a workshop series that teaches participants about creating stepping stones to resilience. The goal is for caregivers to increase capacity for resilience by intentionally embedding opportunities within programs and classrooms, by supporting families in the journey and honoring our own journey. Within the four modules are opportunities to learn about and practice collaboration, supporting children at risk, and creating strategies for children at risk who need resilience skills. There are specific engaging activities that enhance caregiver ability in talking to families about risk and ideas for how to care for ourselves as caregivers.

