



Reaching Out

to the Child Care Community

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Metro CCR&R Changes

Resources for Child Caring has been selected by the Minnesota Department of Human Services to deliver child care resource and referral services in the West Metro counties of Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, and Scott in addition to the East Metro counties of Anoka, Ramsey, and Washington. We will continue to work with our CCR&R partners providing local technical assistance, support, and community services in each of these counties and have staffed a local satellite office to better serve Hennepin County.

Resources for Child Caring is committed to giving families throughout the Twin Cities metropolitan area the tools and information they need to find high-quality child care. For over thirty-five years we have been active in supporting the early childhood field by providing the resources and support it needs. We will work to make the transition in services as smooth as possible for all parents and providers.

Resources for Child Caring staff are available to attend metro-area provider and director network and association meetings. If you have questions about the child care resource and referral system, its programs, or its services, or about training, grants, or other issues, please contact Sandy Myers, Director of Programs, at 651-641-6635 to schedule a visit with a staff person. CCR&R does not offer training certificates for these meetings.

2007 Child Care Rate Survey Begins in February

The Minnesota CCR&R will conduct the annual rate survey for all providers in the state this

February, March, and April. Resources for Child Caring will be contacting caregivers in the seven-county metro area to request information about child care rates and business policies. This survey is additional to the recent business update survey and can be completed online at www.mnchildcare.org.

The annual rate survey is the method that the Department of Human Services uses to monitor the market rate in order to establish the reimbursement rates for child care assistance. Participation by all licensed child care providers and programs as well as school-age child care ensures that DHS has the most accurate information possible. Please call the referral service at 651-641-0332 if you have any questions. Rates and ranges of full-time child care costs will be available on the Resources for Child Caring Web site, www.resourcesforchildcare.org, after April 30, 2007.

Voices for Children: March 29, 2007

Voices for Children Advocacy Day is an opportunity for parents, teachers, early care and education professionals, and others from across the state to raise their voices for children. The event will include a rally in the Capitol rotunda, fun activities for children, and opportunities to visit with legislators. This year's theme is "Plant the Seeds—Help Children Bloom!" For more information, contact your local CCR&R or visit the Voices for Children Web site at www.voicesforchildrenmn.org.

2006–07 Grants Program to Wind Down This Spring

Resources for Child Caring will be winding down its 2006–07 grants program this spring. The following timeline has been put in place to ensure that grant recipients provide all necessary documentation and invoices in order to receive reimbursement for purchases and expenses related to their grant award.

For the West Metro: Carver, Dakota Round One (Fall 2006), Hennepin, and Scott counties:

- All training plans should have been sent to Resources for Child Caring for approval for grants awarded in November. If you received a grant award and have not submitted a training plan, please contact Kim Stoll, RCC West Metro Grants Administrator, at 651-366-6789 to finalize this step.
- Training plans for second-round grant recipients (Dakota County only) are due February 28, 2007.
- Reimbursement requests and grantee invoices for all West Metro counties and grant rounds are due April 30, 2007.

For the East Metro: Anoka, Ramsey, and Washington counties:

- All training plans should have been sent to Resources for Child Caring for approval for grants awarded in November. If you received a grant award and have not submitted a training plan, please contact Saeng Kue, RCC East Metro Grants Administrator, at 651-641-6647 to finalize this step.
- Reimbursement requests and grantee invoices for all East Metro counties are due April 30, 2007.

Please note: Not all training that counts toward licensing hours will meet your grant training requirements. Training that deviates from the approved training plan and is not included in the approved CCR&R grants list may not be accepted as required training. Please refer specific questions to the staff listed on page 4.

Recruitment to Begin for the 2007–09 Grants Advisory Committees

Every two years CCR&R recruits community members to participate in grants advisory committees. The new biennium begins July 1, 2007, and continues through June 30, 2009. Committees will be established in each of the nineteen CCR&R regions in Minnesota. Committee members will be appointed by the Department of Human Services. The committee advises staff on priorities and funding recommendations for the regional grants program and will participate in approximately four meetings and some independent review of grant applications over the course of the biennium. For more information on the grants advisory committees in the seven-county metro area, contact your local CCR&R representative listed on page 4.



Professional Development Opportunities Available

Resources for Child Caring has several new professional development opportunities available this winter! To register contact the professional development staff at 651-641-3549. Each of the following classes provides two in-service hours for a fee of \$18.00. For more information, refer to our latest training catalog, which can be viewed at or downloaded from our Web site (www.resourcesforchildcare.org).

Building Parent Partnerships . . . and Educating Parents Too!

NEW

Child care providers have more regular, ongoing connections with parents than any other community professional. Learn how to use these "points of contact" as opportunities to strengthen your relationship with parents using their child's development as the key focus. We'll have a lot of fun!

Time: Thursday, February 22, 6:30–8:30 PM

Location: Ramsey Fire Station

Social and Emotional Development of Infants and Toddlers

This class will examine some of the different stages of social and emotional development in infancy and toddlerhood. Some of the topics we'll cover are trust vs. mistrust; communication with the baby; smiling; stranger anxiety; social referencing; attachments; and peer relations. We will also discuss how to enhance infants' and toddlers' social-emotional development through a variety of activities.

Time: Tuesday, February 27, 7:00–9:00 PM

Location: Shakopee Community Center

Superheroes and Heroes: What's the Difference and Should We Allow This Kind of Play?

We live in an interesting time, when real-life heroes share the spotlight with superheroes. Learn how to help children understand the difference; formulate your own policies and rules regarding superhero play; and learn what the experts say about this type of play. Children's books that illustrate courage and heroes of many kinds will be discussed. Time for Q&A, sharing, and small-group discussion is included.

Time: Monday, March 5, 6:30–8:30 PM

Location: Resources for Child Caring

Environments: "Please Help Me Be Good!"

In this ITTI class, you will learn how physical surroundings have a powerful influence on the behavior of both adults and children. Discover how the physical and social environment can be managed in order to help children feel confident and successful.

Time: Thursday, March 8, 6:30–8:30 PM

Location: Blaine Human Services Center

Flannel Boards for Learning and Fun

Make teaching aids for learning activities. Learn how to choose stories for a flannel board, create the flannel board story, use the flannel board to tell stories, and store it.

Time: Wednesday, March 21, 6:30–8:30 PM

Location: Oakdale Nature Center

Working with Parents of Day Care Children

How is it that some parents seem so easy to relate with and understanding while others can be pushy, critical, and dissatisfied? Let's take a look at the parent and service-provider relationship, using emotional intelligence skills to handle situations with parents. Please bring examples of parental interactions that have bothered, hurt, or frustrated you, as well as some that have been effective.

Time: Monday, March 26, 7:00–9:00 PM

Location: Crystal Community Center

Enhancing Our Children's Self-Esteem

What is self-esteem and how do caregivers affect a child's self-esteem. Learn various ways to enhance and strengthen the self-esteem of the children in your care. We will also learn self-concept dos and don'ts.

Time: Tuesday, March 27, 7:00–9:00 PM

Location: Chaska Community Center

Snacking through the ABCs

NEW

Snacktime is an important time of day for children. This class will give you valuable ideas to take home and start using immediately to make snacktime fun and educational. There also will be a "make it and taste it" section to this class. A CD-ROM of exciting ideas and recipes will be available for \$5.00.

Time: Thursday, March 29, 7:00–9:00 PM

Location: Veterans Memorial Community Center, Inver Grove Heights



Resources for Child Caring

Child Care Resource and Referral

10 Yorkton Court, St. Paul, MN 55117

Phone: 651-641-0332 Fax: 651-645-0990

TDD/TDY: 651-641-0332

www.resourcesforchildcare.org

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Events

Scott County Family Child Care Association Conference

Saturday, February 17, 2007

Licensed Child Care Providers of Anoka County

March 24, 2007, at the National Sport Center in Blaine

Voices for Children

March 29, 2007, at the State Capitol
www.voicesforchildrenmn.org

Washington County Child Care Conference

April 21, 2007
Call 651-641-3549 for more information

Week of the Young Child, "Building Better Futures for All Children"

April 22-28, 2007
www.naeyc.org/about/woyc

Key Metro CCR&R Contacts

To update enrollment or to note changes in your program: Resource and Referral, 651-641-0332

For training information:

East Metro: Jamie Cooper, 651-641-6613

West Metro: Samantha Pereira, 651-366-6787

To register for classes: 651-641-3549

For grants information:

East Metro: Saeng Kue, 651-641-6647

West Metro: Kim Stoll, 651-366-6789

For local technical assistance:

Anoka County: Casey Green, 763-783-4881

Carver and Scott counties: Marie Johnson, 952-402-9824

Dakota County: Mischelle Ulrich, 952-985-4045

Hennepin County: Sia Vue, 612-721-0112, ext. 102

Ramsey County: Fabiola Verela, 651-641-6606, or
Sandy Myers, 651-641-6635

Washington County: Carolyn Veesper-Egbide, 651-430-6644