



# Reaching Out

*Hennepin County Supplement*

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## CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE (CDA) NEWS

If you are interested in the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, the classes at Resources for Child Caring will meet the CDA training requirements. Besides consultation and guidance, as part of the Businesswise project, and funding through the Minnesota Department of Humans Services, CDA participants may receive a copy of the [CDA Prep Guide: The Complete Review Manual for the Child Development Associate](#) and the CDA companion resource guide, customized for Minnesota.

For more information, consider attending one of the free classes being offered on the CDA. You can also contact our career guidance coordinator, Claudia Freund, at 651-641-6653.

### Upcoming CDA Introductory Class

*The ABC's of CDA:* Do you want to increase your professionalism? Learn more about the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential. Class includes: How to obtain the credential, classes required, the process, evaluation, and scholarship possibilities. The CDA is appropriate for early childhood professionals that do not have formal post secondary education.

Each session will provide two in-service hours. Classes run from 6:30-8:30 on the following dates and at different locations as noted. There is no fee for the class, but registration is expected by calling 651-641-3549 or through [www.mnstreams.org](http://www.mnstreams.org).

Thursday, September 11th, RCC East  
Thursday September 18th, RCC West  
Thursday, November 13th, 6:30-8:30 Our Space Child Care Center in Hopkins  
Wednesday, November 19th, RCC East

## UPDATE VACANCIES ANYTIME

With the pending business survey, please note that you can still keep your current vacancies as accurate as possible. Update at your own convenience via our website at [www.resourcesforchildcare.org](http://www.resourcesforchildcare.org). Let us know if you have made any changes to your hours or business practices, if you got a new puppy over the summer or if anything else may have changed; by typing information in the comment box at the bottom of the update page. If you'd like us to contact you, please let us know in that same box. As always you may also contact us by phone at 651-641-0332, 651-641-6605 or 651-366-6788.

## RCC HAS ANOTHER HOME IN MINNEAPOLIS

Resources for Child Caring opened a second office in June in Minneapolis. Located in the Hennepin Square building, the address is 2021 East Hennepin Ave, Suite 250, Minneapolis, 55413. Regular office hours in the RCC West building will be Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00, and evenings and weekends as classes are held.

All phone numbers indicated in Reaching Out and on other Resources for Child Caring and Child Care Resource and Referral materials remain in use. The new space has two classrooms, and a smaller training/conference room. While you will see professional development opportunities in both of the RCC offices, we will continue to work with community agencies and partners throughout our service area to hold additional training at convenient locations. For directions to either office, please visit [www.resourcesforchildcaring.org](http://www.resourcesforchildcaring.org).

## BUSINESSWISE

Business Wise is a project to improve the stability and accessibility of child care by introducing and/or building on business management skills and enhancing professional development of individuals working in family and center based child care programs.

### Child Care Centers

Scholarships for the Early Childhood Directors Credential are available on a limited basis for BusinessWise directors. The Director's Credential Program is a voluntary opportunity for career advancement and professional development in the field of early childhood. Directors must agree to develop a plan, and start the credential process by December 31, 2008.

To learn more, or apply for the Scholarship, contact Sandy Myers at Resources for Child Caring, 651-641-6635 or [smyers@resourcesforchildcare.org](mailto:smyers@resourcesforchildcare.org)

MNAEYC [www.mnaeyc.org](http://www.mnaeyc.org) Click on the links to the Directors Credential to learn about next cohort groups through St Paul College. Information to be posted fall, 2008.

Eager to Learn <http://etl.mnchildcare.org> Options for on line non-credit based training to meet the guidelines of the Directors Credential is in development.

### Directors Group

Center directors are invited to participate in a monthly directors group, with trainers and speakers, specific to the groups requests. The group is focusing on the needs of directors of programs of non-profit or single site programs. The Business Wise Directors group meets on 2nd Thursdays, 12:00-2:00 at alternating Minneapolis and Little Canada locations. Upcoming meetings:

Sept. 11, RCC, 10 Yorkton Ct, St Paul

Oct. 9 RCC, Hennepin Square, 2021 E Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis

Nov. 13, RCC, 10 Yorkton Ct, St Paul

Dec. 11, RCC, Hennepin Square, 2021 E Hennepin Ave



### Family Child Care

RCC wants to work with 60 newly licensed families Child care providers in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties. Components for family child care providers include business training and coaching on marketing, contracts and policies, and record keeping. If you participate, you will also receive the Family Child Care Business Series of books, published by Redleaf Press, authored by Tom Copeland, and will be eligible for free training on business related topics. Contact Fay Hopkins, [fhopkins@resourcesforchildcare.org](mailto:fhopkins@resourcesforchildcare.org), 651-641-6624 for more information.

## NEW COHORTS STARTING FOR PARENT AWARE

The Parent Aware Rating Tool is built upon the understanding that providing high-quality child care and early learning are not easy tasks and the pressures placed on our providers are many. The rating tool is designed to recognize early educators for the quality of care they deliver and build on this quality by supporting their efforts at program improvement.

Bringing together the latest research on children's learning and the current needs of our community, the Parent Aware Rating Tool will build upon the good work completed by earlier quality rating system planning efforts.

Please contact Valerie Peterson at [valeriep@mnchildcare.org](mailto:valeriep@mnchildcare.org) or 651-290-9704, ext. 107 for more information or to register for a program orientation, or visit <http://www.parentawareratings.org/about.html>

### Hennepin Licensed Family Childcare Association

Learn more about *your* county provider association and how you can become a member today! HLFCA is new and growing. We are working to support your local neighborhood groups and advocate for all providers in Hennepin County.

Call Sandy for membership information at (612) 729-8494.