

YOUR PATH TO PROFESSIONALISM...

For the Latest and Greatest Trainings...

Visit our statewide training calendar at www5.semo.edu/ccrr and click on the training opportunities link!

Did You Know.....

Continuing Education Units (C.E.U.'s) are needed for CDA renewal. Remember that your CDA credential is not a lifetime credential, it must be renewed. The expiration date should be printed on your CDA certificate. 4.5 CEU's are needed to renew your CDA credential. We offer CEU's at all of our seminars. C.E.U.'s are always an additional cost payable to Southeast Missouri State University. The following are upcoming dates to earn C.E.U.'s:

- Dunklin County Seminar
June 14, 2008
Bootheel Youth Museum, Malden, MO
.4 C.E.U.'s
- Early Childhood Fall Seminar
Saturday, September 6, 2008
Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO
.5 C.E.U.'s

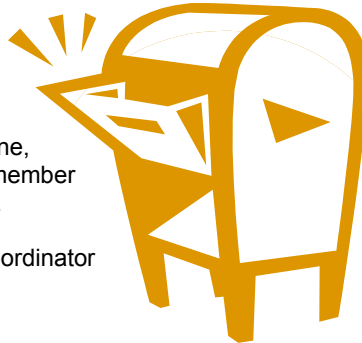
CDA Renewal Class Coming Soon!

Inclusion in Community-Based Early Childhood Environments.

Starting in June we will offer our first CDA renewal class, this class will consist of 48 training hours and will be worth 4.8 C.E.U.'s. The class will be held in Cape Girardeau. Dates and times are still being determined. For additional details, please call 1-800-811-1127, ext. 3.

A friendly reminder to those registering via telephone, registration is expected prior to training; please remember to send your payments to confirm your registration.

- Heather Fisher, Assistant Director/Training Coordinator



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES INITIATIVE AND THE EARLY LEARNING CENTER

At our center we are using the Strengthening Families Approach to preventing child abuse and neglect. We shift our focus of preventing child abuse and neglect to assisting families with their strengths and deficits and focus on creating resilient families.

The Strengthening Family Initiative is built on promoting family resilience; therefore, the goal is to make the program effective so that it reaches many families long before a risk of child abuse or neglect emerges. Another goal of our program is to create an understanding of what we as providers can do to promote healthy child development and reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect. Research has shown that all early childhood programs can serve as effective teachers of child abuse prevention strategies in addition to promoting healthy child development. By providing extra support and helpful information to parents it can build self confidence which in turn will empower parents with the skill and tools necessary to make a difference in their everyday life with their children. Remember you can make a difference in the life of many children and families when the effort is put forward.

- Stephanie Hahn, Director
Oran Early Learning Center

WHAT IS ACCREDITATION?

Accreditation is a sign of a high quality. To become accredited a program must meet standards of quality child care practices that exceed licensing requirements. Accreditations standards are based upon developmentally appropriate practice. Accreditation benefits everyone in your community. Child care programs that are accredited receive a **20% increase per child per day** in the money they are given by the state to care for low-income children.

We currently have **OPENINGS** in our Accreditation Project! The Accreditation Project provides thorough consultation through the self study manuals and process. Programs in the project will receive \$200.00 per year to be used to purchase self study manuals, materials, and equipment. Programs will also receive incentive gift certificates to Constructive Playthings!

To learn more about accreditation please call Christy at 1-800-811-1127 ext 8 or (573) 290-5572 or fill out the application for consideration form enclosed and return to me.

Achievement of accreditation says to the world "This is a high quality program", which offers recognition for the hard work professionals do each day!

From: Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs, revised edition; Sue Bredekamp and Carol Copple, Editors

REMINDER

All facilities who have received accreditation, do remember to send (or fax) CCR&R a copy of your Accreditation Certificate. We will not indicate your accreditation to families seeking accredited child care until we have a copy of the certificate on file. (Yes, callers are now asking for information about accredited facilities!)

YEARLY UPDATES

As a child care resource and referral office, Southeast Child Care Resource and Referral (SEMO CCR&R) strives to maintain the most accurate records of the license, license exempt and non-licensed child care programs in the Southeast Missouri region. SEMO CCR&R is required by MOCCRRN, (Missouri Child Care Resource & Referral Network) and DSS to periodically update all of the records of licensed, license exempt and any non-licensed child care programs using our service. **You can help us accomplish this task.**

In early June you will receive an "Update" packet complete with a postage-paid, addressed envelope. Complete the form immediately and put it in the mail. Looking forward to hearing from you.



Note:

When a staff member from Child Care Resource & Referral leaves you a message, we are typically working with a family looking for child care and need to mail referrals out to them within a day. Please get back to us as soon as you can, even if you call after hours and leave us a message. Our policy is to call any provider on the list whose date of vacancy check is two weeks past the current date. You can now check with us to see how many times your name has been given as a referral.

THANK YOU for calling us about your vacancies. We really do appreciate this small favor. Congratulations to **Christine Soong** (A Child's Place) in Barnhart, **Shelly Reed (Little Wildcats Preschool and Childcare Center)** in Union, and **Rhonda Nichols** (The Early Learning Place) in Bell City and **Patricia Voyles** (Family Child Care) in Kennett our April, May, June winners. Remember, when you let me know of vacancies, I will mention you specifically to the families seeking child care in your area.

Keep those calls coming in!

Remember, children learn through play! Happy playing!

- Karen McDougall, Referral Coordinator

SAFETY TIPS

Since there has been several car and building break ins at Child Care facilities in the Cape Girardeau area, the Cape Girardeau Police Department issued this list of suggestions for Child Care Providers:

Please feel free to review these items with your staff and parents.

1. **Remove all valuables** from inside the passenger compartment of the vehicle (including purses, wallets, and any electronic devices).
2. **Lock all doors** on the vehicle.
3. **Increase lighting conditions** in those parking areas where children are being dropped off or picked up in the early morning and evening hours.
4. **Install no trespassing signs.** This will help to deter persons from entering onto the property who may be attempting to victimize your clientele. By posting the property, it will also assist in the prosecution of those subjects that are on the premises who may be attempting to cause damage or commit other criminal acts.
5. **Watch for suspicious persons** and or vehicles on your premises. Get License plate numbers when able.
6. **Encourage parents and staff** to be more observant when in parking areas.
7. **Report all suspicious activity** to the police immediately (including license numbers as well as descriptions of vehicles and persons).



We hope this will prevent any more of this activity from occurring!

- Syd Egan, Referral Specialist



Week of the Young Child Kick-off Event !



Messy Morning was held in Cape Girardeau on April 14 at the Show Me Center to kickoff the *Week of the Young Child*. The event was sponsored by Child Care Resource and Referral, The University Child Enrichment Center, Educare, Cape Girardeau Parents as Teachers, Sikeston Child Development Center, Godwin Center for Math and Science, Community Day School, Christian School for the Young Years and Southeast Missouri State University! The event consisted of area businesses and agencies that came together to provide information to parents while the children engaged in Messy Fun! Over 3000 people attended the event! WOW! A special thanks to all the child care providers that participated in the event. The event was followed by the Messy Mud Run sponsored by Southeast Hospital. Children of all ages participated in the run and finished the race by sliding through a pit of shaving cream! It was an amazing event!

