



May 11, 2023

Champions of Child Care

Strengthening Child Care for our Community

We Proudly Support the

**Child Care Council
of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.**

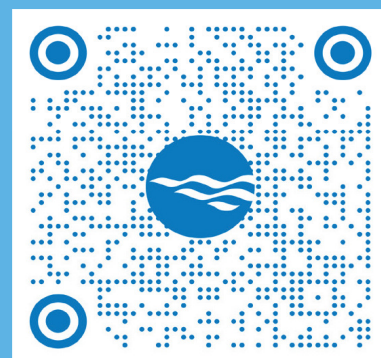
and the

2023 Champions of Child Care



Your Community Bank!

Learn more about
how we support or
communities.



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Champions of Child Care

Program

May 11, 2023

Registration

Welcome

Introductions

Dinner

Certificate Presentations

Raffle

Closing



National Child Care Provider Appreciation Day: Friday May 12, 2023

The second Sunday in May has long been recognized as the day to honor mothers and their commitment to children. **The Friday before Mother's Day, May 14, 2023, is Child Care Provider Appreciation Day**, a special day to recognize child care providers, teachers, school-age program staff, child care center directors and staff, and all those who work with children and are responsible for their education and care. **It is estimated that nearly 11 million children under age 5 are cared for by 2.8 million child care providers in the United States.**

Provider Appreciation Day began in 1996 by a group of volunteers in New Jersey who saw the need to recognize the tireless efforts of providers who care for children of working parents. Momentum and support for this event has grown each year, and recognition presently includes individuals and government organizations throughout North America, Europe, and Asia.

To learn more about Provider Appreciation Day, visit www.providerappreciationday.org.



Arlington Wine & Liquor

celebrates the child care providers of Dutchess and Putnam Counties

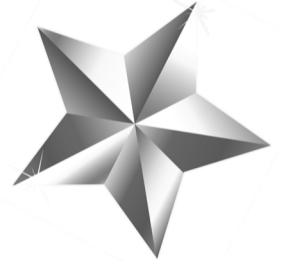




Programs At A Glance

Child Care Resource and Referral (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Provides information to parents on locating child care, consumer education, referrals, subsidies, services for families
- Recruits child care providers, provides start-up information and technical assistance in meeting regulatory requirements
- Provides the community with education on child care issues and current data needed in planning for community services
- Supports employers in planning, implementing and providing employee child care services
- Offers Quality Improvement initiatives to child care providers
- Facilitates regular Professional Development for the Family Day Care Networks and School Age Child Care Programs.



Child Care Registration (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Provides supervision of 47 family day care homes in Dutchess and 12 in Putnam
- Provides supervision of 37 school age programs in Dutchess, and 9 in Putnam
- Includes processing new and renewal applications, monitoring and inspecting programs, providing technical assistance and investigating complaints

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP—Dutchess and Putnam)

- Supports group and family day care providers in serving nutritious, meals and snacks to children in their care
- Manages the CACFP federal reimbursement program for participating providers

Health Care Consultancy Services (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Registered Nurse on staff conducts training on health issues for child care providers
- Reviews and approves health care plans for medication administration
- Conducts training for medication administration



Day Care Subsidy Administration (Putnam)

- Manages the subsidized day care services program

Infant-Toddler Technical Assistance Center (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Infant Toddler Specialist and Infant Toddler Mental Health Consultant provide training and technical assistance to providers who care for infants and toddlers

Resource Lending Library (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Onsite lending library consists of toys, equipment, teaching units and professional resources

Child Care Tuition Scholarship Program (Dutchess)

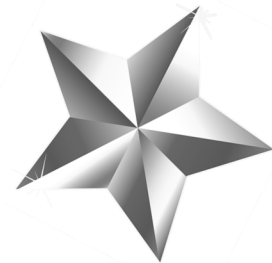
- Administers child care scholarships to income-eligible families whose children attend regulated child care programs in Dutchess County. Funded by the Dyson Foundation

Professional Development (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Provides opportunities for child care providers to take trainings in the nine required topic areas
- Training opportunities may be held at the Child Care Council or at the program site.
- Quarterly cluster meetings for home-based child care providers

Grants and Business Coordinator (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Provides child care business trainings
- Assists child care programs with program budget creation
- Offers individualized child care business technical assistance



You are seen and appreciated!

Day Care Centers

Acorns to Oaks

Miss Erica's Toddler Classroom
Miss Erica
Miss Kayleigh
Miss Abby
Miss Melanie
Miss Jeanie
Miss Maggie
Melanie Tetor

Acorns to Oaks II Inc.

Susan Sanchez

Care 4 Me, Inc

Community Family Development, Inc.

Creative Kids of Beekman

Nicole Ferris
Erika Giorgio
Tracey Burger
Dana Trusso
Gianna Heinrich

Creative Kids of Brewster

Olivia Casino
Melynda
Joy R

Creative Kids of Kent

Ashley Martin
Jennifer Messineo
Jessica Weick

Creative Kids of Mahopac

Dreamland DayCare

Ms. Michaela Monahan
Ms. Renee Brownell

Dutchess Community College

Day Care Center

Shelley L. Squires-Trani
Kayleigh
Angelina
Tabitha
Enza

Jason Goldsbary

Elaine Myrianthopoulos

Green Chimneys

Children's Services, Inc.

Brandy Miller

Heart 2 Heart Child Care Center LLC

Diane Verdi
Daniel Rudolph

Kid's Place Learning Center

Kidz Town of Dutchess

Little Garden Montessori

Mid Hudson Valley

Early Education Center

Jacobina Tiani
Tammy Corcoran
Corinne Perry
Karrington Knauer

Northern Dutchess Day Care Center

St. Lawrence O'Toole

Early Childhood Learning Center

Karen Dossantos
Brittany Gauriloff

Stages Childcare, Inc.

Felix Bruner

Step By Step Childcare Center

Ms. Sharon
Ms. Susan

Taylor

Tara Gigliotti

Ms. Michelle

Ms. Tiffany

Ms. Emma

Jessica Bonetti

Emma Velardo

Gina Labate

Dainna Lifrieri

Stepping Stones Childcare and Development, Inc.

Sue Mock
Nicole Woodward
Michelle O'Meara
Marianne Christie-Peci
Ms. Tabby

The Enchanted Forest Daycare and Learning Center, LLC

TOTally Kidz Childcare LLC

Tots-N-U's, Inc.

Miss Christina
Miss Joyce

Toddler 3s Classroom

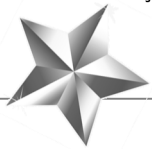
Wee Play Children's Center, Inc.

Samantha Lou Jones

Wingdale Golden Goose

Tara Moccio

Wish Upon a Star Childcare, Inc.



Group Family Day Care

ABC Soup Corp.

Miradelia Rojas Garza
Veronica

Corlies Christian Childcare LLC

First Friends Day Care

Ellen Rayburn

Froggy's Play Palace

Jennifer Gorski

Guardian Angel Day Care

Michele Eddington

Hilltop Daycare LLC

Humble Life Child Care

Jan's Kidz Childcare, Inc.

Jackie

Kyra

Aliajah

Kristin Lafalce

Ms. Ingrid's Little School

Ashley Calderon

Ingrid Quintana

The Children's Playhouse Inc.

Michelle Beck

Tiny Seeds Daycare

Anne Squeglia

Tiny Toes Daycare

Heather Conde

Totally Kidz Childcare LLC

Renee Swart

Trudy's Group Family Day Care, Inc.

Victorian Teddy Bears/Cedar Tree

Preschool

Pauline Fredrickson

Family Day Care

Cliffdale Childcare L.L.C

Jonnalynne Rouse

Marie Daley

Happy Kids Playhouse LLC

Ana Pinto-Horvath

School Age Child Care

City of Beacon

Ms. Maggie
Angeline Johnson
Margaret Kinney
Richard Rinaldi

First Reformed Church of Fishkill Mt. Tremper Outdoor Ministries, Inc.

Town of Putnam Valley

Toniann Cortina

YMCA of Central and Northern Westchester

(Lakeview)

Sophie

Nursery School

Millbrook Community Preschool at Grace Church

Legally Exempt Child Care

Martin James



Milestone Anniversaries

Congratulations to the day care providers and staff celebrating Milestone Anniversaries since 2019.

Five Years

April Aquino—Care 4 Me, Inc.
Sarah Barnish—Acorns To Oaks II Inc.
Jade Benson—Creative Kids of Kent
Alexis Bo—Stages Childcare, Inc.
Dila Bujaj—Creative Kids of Kent
Renee Burris—Astor Early Childhood Program
Anna Cabral—Froggy's Play Palace
Susan Deehan—Step By Step Childcare Center LLC
Erica Dieleman—Froggy's Play Palace
Sharon Garcia—Step By Step Childcare Center LLC
Adrienne Lebowitz—Acorns To Oaks II Inc.

Veronica Marrinan—ABC Soup Corp.
Katelyn Mcdougal—Creative Kids of Kent
Maria Morelli—St. Lawrence O'Toole Early Childhood Learning Center
Patty Nelson—Care 4 Me, Inc.
Dawn Otten—Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center
Jennifer Padgett—Step By Step Childcare Center LLC
Michelle Pineiro—Step By Step Childcare Center LLC
Clara Segreti—St. Lawrence O'Toole Early Childhood Learning Center
Dayle Tracey—Creative Kids of Beekman
Debra Viafore—Creative Kids of Beekman

Ten Years

Michelle Beck—The Children's Playhouse LLC
Carol Fisher—St. Lawrence O'Toole Early Childhood Learning Center
Stephanie Gammon—Acorns To Oaks II Inc.
Dainna Lifrieri—Step By Step Childcare Center LLC
Diana Perez-Rodriguez—Creative Kids of Kent
Jessica Roe—The Enchanted Forest Day Care and Learning Center, LLC

Jillian Rudowich—Creative Kids of Beekman
Jeffrey Simko-Frazita—Care 4 Me, Inc.
Lesley Sprauer—Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center
Jacobina Tiani—Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center
Nancy Tucker—St. Lawrence O'Toole Early Childhood Learning Center

Fifteen Years

Gail Burney—The Enchanted Forest Day Care and Learning Center, LLC
Kathleen Clark—Astor Early Childhood Program
Lorraine DiDonato—Acorns To Oaks II Inc.
Nicole Ferris—Creative Kids of Beekman
Karen Giorgio—Creative Kids of Beekman

Kathleen Macdonald—Creative Kids of Kent
Melissa Poppo—Creative Kids of Beekman
Shauntee Thomas—Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center
Leeann Viola—Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center
Danielle Winchcombe—Creative Kids of Beekman

Twenty Years

Monica Hunter—Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center
Andrea Montanez—Astor Early Childhood Program
Hollie Morse—Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center

Cruz Ortega—Astor Early Childhood Program
Carrie Simko-Frazita—Care 4 Me, Inc.
Tara Young—Astor Early Childhood Program

Twenty-Five Years

Nancy Roe—The Enchanted Forest Day Care and Learning Center, LLC

Alecia Ziegler—Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center

Thirty Years

Christina Brent—The Enchanted Forest Day Care and Learning Center, LLC
Tamitha Corcoran—Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center
Pauline Fredrickson—Victorian Teddy Bears/Cedar Tree Preschool

David Fredrickson—Victorian Teddy Bears/Cedar Tree Preschool
Doretha Oliver—The Happy Face Daycare
Barbara Passaro—The Children's Playhouse LLC

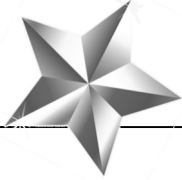
Thirty-Five Years

Marie Daley

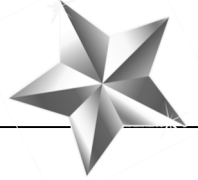


Education Awards

Congratulations to the following persons who have achieved an Education Milestone since 2019.
We salute your efforts to further your education to enhance what you offer to children and their families.



Katelyn Mcdougal
Creative Kids of Kent
Masters in School Counseling



Jade Benson
Creative Kids of Kent
Bachelors in Early Childhood/Childhood Education B-6th

Samantha Galente
Acorns To Oaks II Inc.
Associates of Science Early Childhood

Antonia Deltreste
Stepping Stones Childcare and Development, Inc.
Bachelor of Science in Early childhood and Childhood Education

Gianna Heinrich
Creative Kids of Beekman
Associates in Early Childhood Education

Laura Quigg
Acorns To Oaks II Inc.
Bachelor of Arts General Studies

Doretha Oliver
The Happy Face Daycare
A.A. Degree in Biblical Studies

Child Development Associate

Megan Clancy—*Creative Kids of Beekman*
Katrina Lucas—*Care 4 Me, Inc.*
Ashley Quigley—*Care 4 Me, Inc.*
Yvelise Rodriguez—*Little Scholars Childcare LLC*
Lynn Sherman—*St. Lawrence O'Toole Early Childhood Learning Center*
Dana Trusso—*Creative Kids of Beekman*

Family Development Credential Certificate

Renee Burris—*Astor Early Childhood Program*
Melissa Flores—*Astor Early Childhood Program*
Laura Robles—*Astor Early Childhood Program*
Bianca Stewart—*Astor Early Childhood Program*
Ana Vertiz—*Astor Early Childhood Program*

Child Development Associate Infant/Toddler

Melissa Friedemann—*Acorns To Oaks II Inc.*
Ashley Potanovic—*Acorns To Oaks II Inc.*

One Year Certificate in Early Childhood—Early Childhood/ Child Development Infants & Toddlers

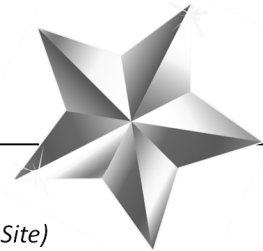
Yvelise Rodriguez—*Little Scholars Childcare LLC*

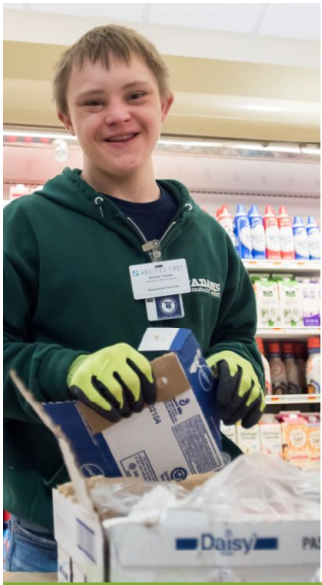
Child Development Associate Preschool

Susan Sanchez—*Acorns To Oaks II Inc.*

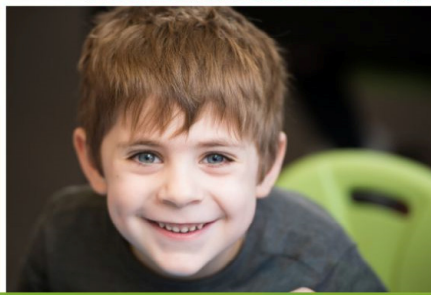
NAEYC Re-Accreditation

Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center (North Street Site)
Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center (Spackenkill Site)





Tomorrow looks different,
and so do we.
PossAbilities




ABILITIES FIRST
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& ADULTS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

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 **Become a partner of the Council!**

Your partnership helps the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. provide service to our community.

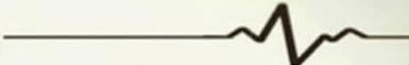
With your help, the Council can continue to:

- Support the people of Dutchess and Putnam Counties by referring families to available services and resources.
- Improve the quality of early childhood programming for young children by supporting child care staff through technical assistance, guidance and innovative training.
- Enhance the ability to deliver quality early care and education to more than 10,000 children in our community who are in out-of-home child care programs.

As you join with other early care and education professionals, you help to strengthen our child care "voice" in Dutchess and Putnam Counties.

Give us a call or check our website for more information!
www.childcaredutchess.org (845) 473-4141



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CONGRATULATES
CHAMPIONS OF CHILD CARE HONOREES
&
THE CHILDCARE COUNCIL OF DUTCHESS
AND PUTNAM**

**For all you have done and continue to do
for our youngest!**



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Fun Facts about The Champions of Child Care Celebration

How did Champions of Child Care get started?

For many years the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. held a luncheon at a local restaurant for its Annual Meeting with speakers, election of the Board of Directors and recognition of child care providers. The recognition of providers was at the end of the meeting and as the program seemed to last longer each year, many in the audience had returned to work before the recognition took place.

Then in 2003, a small group of us decided “to give it a shot” and host an event solely to recognize and honor child care providers. There was little time to plan, so we hoped it would all come together. We had no intention of doing this again.

Approximately 100 people attended (more than we had anticipated) at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel. The son of one of the Council staff entertained with a spectacular tap dancing routine and everyone enjoyed a delicious dinner. The rest of the evening was devoted to presenting awards and honoring child care providers. As people were leaving, we were overwhelmed with the many sincere thank you’s. But one family day provider’s comment made all the difference as she said, “I was planning to close my doors because I felt discouraged and unappreciated. But after tonight I feel appreciated and I’m staying open.”

That one comment gave us the reason and the inspiration to continue to celebrate the many dedicated, caring and passionate people who care for our children every day.

How many awards have you given out between 2003 and 2019?

Milestone Awards

5 Year Milestone Awards: 278

10 Year Milestone Awards: 155

15 Year Milestone Awards: 85

20 Year Milestone Awards: 54

25 Year Milestone Awards: 28

30 Year Milestone Awards: 14

35 plus Year Milestone Awards: 12

TOTAL Milestone Awards: 626

Education Awards

Child Development Associate: 133

School Age Credential: 12

Family Development Credential: 4

Accreditation/Re-Accreditation: 13

Associates Degree: 49

Bachelors Degree: 34

Masters Degree: 22

Doctorate: 1

NYS Teaching Assistant Certification: 7

Other: 12

TOTAL Education Awards: 287

Special Awards:

We have given awards to **307 child care providers** that have been nominated by their peers.

How do you decide who receives a Milestone or Education Award?

A flyer is sent by mail and electronically to all regulated child care providers asking for years of service in five year increments and any educational achievements received within the past 12 months.

How do people nominate child care providers?

About 2 months before the Champions Event, we invite anybody to submit a nomination for any child care provider in Dutchess and Putnam Counties. We send this form electronically to all parents and providers on our mailing list and through the postal service to all regulated child care providers. We ask this to be shared across all social media outlets and ask that it be given to all parents in child care programs. The link to our online nomination form is available on our website and also through our Facebook page. Many reminders are sent out electronically during the nomination period.

Since 2003 we have received approximately 3100 nominations!

How do you choose the Special Awards Winners?

After all of the nominations have been submitted, the Champions of Child Care Committee spends about a week reading through all of them on our own. We then come together and vote on the nominations that were written to decide the most deserving of the award in each category. We do not count the number of nominations or decide the winner based on the number of nominations submitted for that program or individual.

How do you choose what the theme is?

There are evaluation forms on the tables at the Champions Event. We ask for feedback in all areas of the event.

The evaluations showed an overwhelming response for 2018’s theme; Tropical Luau. We showcased our new address and Child Care Council pride in 2019.

How did COVID-19 impact Champions of Child Care?

Because of COVID-19, 2023 is the first Champions of Child Care event since 2019. We had begun 2020 preparations, but sadly had to cancel. We were very disappointed! During the pandemic is where child care providers shone their brightest! Since we had already opened the Nomination submission form, we decided to continue to receive and send the recipients all of the kind words that were submitted. We sent over 300 messages to providers! We also sent each provider a certificate of appreciation to show our support.

Welcome back! We are so happy to finally celebrate all of your hard work and dedication in person!



2023 Board of Directors

Thank You to the STAFF

Monica Lee
Chair
Member at Large

Michael Liguori
Treasurer
Rhinebeck Bank

Marguerite Woodcock
Member at Large

Mary Ellen Iatropoulos
The Art Effect

Jessica Canale, MPH
Cornell Cooperative Extension

Julie Riess
Member at Large

Isabel Dichiaro
Member at Large

Lisa Druckreier
Astor Early Childhood Services

Bonnie Fogarty
YMCA of Central & Northern Westchester

Michael Hall
Dutchess Community College

Christa Hines
Hudson River Housing

Marisol Hoffmann
Child Care Provider, Dutchess

Andrea Massi
Abilities First

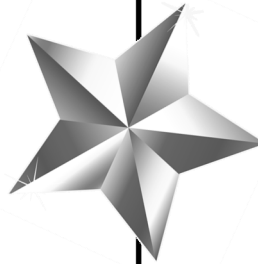
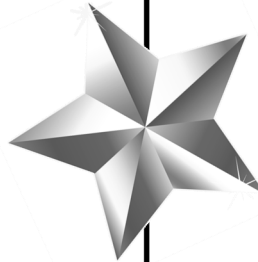
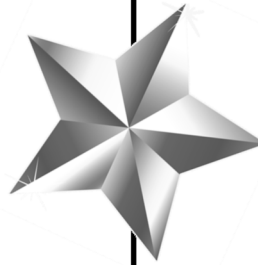
Jazmin Raby
Astor Early Childhood Program

Jennifer Santosuosso
Member at Large

Annie Spinelli
Child Care Provider, Putnam

Estefany Umback
Day One Early Learning

Pat Voytko
Early Childhood Institute of the Hudson River Valley



Nancy Owen
Council Clerk
31 years

Jeanne Wagner
Executive Director
25 years

Karen Walsh
Assistant Director
17 years

Lorraine Succimarra
CACFP Coordinator
17 years

Dawn Haecker
Putnam County Day Care Services Assistant
16 years

Carol Hand
Day Care Registrar
16 years

Darla Fulmer
Professional Development Coordinator
12 years

Jennifer Brainard
Registration Supervisor
7 years

Megan Weber, RN
Health Care Consultant
7 years

Adeline Arvidson
Resource & Referral Counselor
Legally Exempt Coordinator
4 years

Kathleen Murphy
Business & Grants Coordinator
4 years

Cyndie Hackett
Infant Toddler Mental Health Consultant
3 years

Rebecca Shaffer
Day Care Registrar
3 years

Wendy Cooper
Day Care Registrar
2 years

Nicole O'Leary
Putnam County Day Care Services
2 years

Tiffinie Helweg
Infant Toddler Specialist
1 year

Lori Wall
Day Care Registrar
1 year

Brianna Vigliotti
Day Care Registrar
1 year

Kim Ciardullo
Resource & Referral Counselor
Grants Coordinator
2 months



CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP)

Where Healthy Eating Becomes a Habit



CHILD & ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM

Do you care for children in your home while their parents are at work or school? Would you like help serving healthy food to children in your care?

This food program helps you pay for meals and snacks served to children up to age 13 enrolled in your care. Most day care home providers are eligible and joining is free.

What are the benefits of CACFP?

Children are served nutritious meals and snacks and develop healthy eating habits that will last a lifetime.

Parents know their children are eating safe, healthy meals and snacks. Parents don't have to pack food to bring to child care.

Providers receive regular training and guidance about many nutrition, mealtime, and child development topics. The reimbursement helps providers buy healthier foods.

Communities benefit through CACFP. Studies show that children enrolled in CACFP have healthier diets and are not sick as often as other children. CACFP payments to providers help reduce child care costs for working families.

**If you would like more information or to join CACFP call
Lorraine Scuccimarra at 845-473-4141 ext. 220**



The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. offers OCFS approved training for child care providers and staff.

We offer:

- monthly trainings on a variety of topics, covering the OCFS required topic areas
- monthly First Aid/CPR trainings (on Saturday mornings)
- Babysitting Class for youth ages 10-16 (on Saturday mornings – usually 2-3 times a year)

Do you prefer to have training at your site? We can do that too! Tell us what topic you want and we can bring the training to you.

Choose one of these topics or one of your own:

- Active Play for All Ages
- Active Supervision
- Activities for Young Children (art, science, etc.)
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
- Behavior Management
- Business Trainings
- Child Abuse/Mandated Reporting
- Classroom Management
- Developmentally Appropriate Practice (any age)
- Guiding & Supporting School-age Behavior
- OCFS Regulations
- The Importance of Play

Onsite training fees:

- 5-10 participants = \$150.00
- 11-15 participants - \$250.00
- 16-20 participants = \$350.00
- More than 20 participants = \$15.00 extra per person

Don't have a minimum of 5 staff for an onsite training? Buddy up with another program(s)/provider(s) to share the cost of a training.

Check out our calendar online or sign up to receive our emails for trainings being offered in our Dutchess office. For more information or register for a training, contact Darla Fulmer at (845) 473-4141 ext. 216 or via email at dfulmer@childcaredutchess.org.



Do you have Infants or Toddlers in your program?

Are you looking for support?

We can help you!



The Infant Toddler Specialist

will assist providers in maintaining quality environments, learning materials for infants and toddlers, early childhood development, and teacher and administrative standards in childcare centers.

Tiffinie Helweg: thelweg@childcaresdutchess.org - (845) 473-4141 x217

The Infant Toddler Mental Health Consultant

works in partnership with providers to strengthen children's Social Emotional Development while addressing challenging behaviors early on before intervention is needed.

Cyndie Hackett: chackett@childcaresdutchess.org - (845) 473-4141 x223

**Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.
Child Care Program Grants and Business Services**

Child Care Program Business Trainings and Services:

- CORE Business Series
- Sustainability Planning
- Business Basics
- Basic & Intensive Technical Assistance
- Business Administration Scale (BAS)
- Coming Soon: "Strengthening Business Practices for Child Care Programs"

For More Information:

Kathleen Murphy, Grants and Business Coordinator
kmurphy@childcaresdutchess.org 845-473-4141 ext. 224



**LOOKING FOR CHILD CARE
PROVIDER SUPPORT?**

Call the Child Care Council Resource and Referral Line

845-473-4141 ext 221

One Stop Child Care Provider Support

- Maintain Current & Accurate Program Information
- Updated Market Rates
- Child Care Provider Resources
- Child Care Assistance / Parent Financial Aid
- Child Care Statistics



Thank you to The Champions of Child Care Committee:

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Arlington Wine & Liquor
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Lakeshore Learning
LegoLand
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Thirty One



Hayley Adoptante and Staff at The Poughkeepsie Grandview



Thank you, YMCA of Central & Northern Westchester staff members!

We appreciate your exceptional work and dedication to providing the best possible care for the children in our programs. Your patience, creativity, and warmth have made their time with us enjoyable and educational.

Despite the challenges of working in childcare, your positive attitude and enthusiasm have created a safe and supportive environment for our children to learn and grow.

Thank you for being an important part of our team and making the YMCA of Central & Northern Westchester a great place to work.



We salute childcare
workers in the
Hudson Valley

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MidHudson Regional
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The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.

We recognize and appreciate our providers. Your fortitude, sacrifice and dedication during the COVID-19 pandemic did not go unnoticed. Because of you and your commitment, you ensured the children and families of our communities the continuity of care needed.

YOU are essential!

We see you and continue to support you and your programs!