

From: Diane Getzinger

Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 2:49 AM

To: Diane Getzinger <DGetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org>

Subject: ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Happy Teacher Appreciation Week and SO MUCH MORE!!

Hi everyone,

I do have a TON of very timely information to share with you, but want to start by wishing you all a wonderful Teacher Appreciation Week and happy Provider Appreciation Day (Friday, May 7th) from the entire staff at ELRC Region 18.



Please take a minute to check out (and share) these opportunities to celebrate all of the special work that you do every day:

- ABC's Good Morning America put together a [great list of "freebies, deals and discounts"](#)
- Hip2Save offers [Best Teacher Appreciation Week Freebies & Deals of 2021](#)
- NAEYC sponsor Walden University invites you to give back and celebrate excellence by thanking a colleague on Walden's Living Gratitude Wall. [Share a message of thanks HERE!](#)
- StemFinity would like to recognize and show their appreciation for the many teachers who put in countless hours shaping young minds. As a thank you for all you do, they are giving away a \$250 gift certificate to use for your classroom! [Enter by May 7 for your chance to win](#)

Okay, now I really do have a TON of timely information to share with you...

ELRC 18 Updates

CRRSA (also known as CARES Round 4)

The CRRSA grants will be distributed on Thursday, May 27th. When your attestation is processed, you will receive an e-mail confirming the amount of your payment. We had hoped to get these out to you sooner and know how very important this funding is to you and your business. I am truly sorry for the delay.

Opportunity for STAR 1 or 2 Providers

A provider who previously received a Rising STARS Support Grant recently closed their business. The following items are available: a buggy, refrigerator and commercial microwave. If you are interested, please visit <https://form.jotform.com/211239511148045> for additional information and to indicate your interest. On Friday, May 7th, ELRC 18 will select (at random) a different provider to receive each of the items. NOTE: You must meet the eligibility guidelines for the Rising STARS Support Grant (which are included on the JotForm) and be willing to coordinate an immediate pick-up with the provider.

New Income Guidelines

The income guidelines for subsidized child care eligibility have been updated as a result of the new Federal Poverty Income Guidelines (FPIG). As a result, some parents may experience a co-payment decrease effective May 3rd. These co-payment decreases have been processed and new enrollment summaries have been generated. [Attached](#) is a copy of the updated co-payment guidelines chart. This is being shared for general information only. Please remember that the ELRC remains responsible for determining families' weekly co-payment amounts based on documentation submitted by the parents.

Provider Agreement Updates

The mailing (and e-mail) to collect your holidays/closures for the upcoming fiscal year (starting 7/1/2021) has been delayed, but should be going out later this week. Here are a couple of reminders in advance:

- If you participate in PELICAN Provider Self Service, you must enter your closures online and will NOT receive a paper Appendix B to complete. The paper Appendix B will only be mailed/e-mailed to all non-PSS providers.
- While this is technically the "annual" provider agreement mailing, your ELRC regulated provider agreement renews automatically does not need to be renewed each year. We are anticipating that there will be changes to the regulated provider agreement and will absolutely share additional information once we have it.
- Additionally, we only collect rates when instructed to by OCDEL (typically for the Market Rate Survey). Please keep in mind, though, that you can update your private pay rates at any time. Based on the communication that went out about the Maximum Child Care Allowance (MCCA) increase:
 - If you update your rates in PELICAN PSS, you must still submit the [Appendix C1](#) with a copy of your published rates;

- Documents received after 3/31/2021 will become effective the first of the month following receipt by ELRC. For example, rates submitted from 5/1-5/31 will be effective 6/1/2021.

Join the ELRC 18 Provider Conversation Series - Including All Children

How do you create an inclusive early learning program that supports children of all abilities as well as their families and the staff? What resources are out there to help you meet children's needs, maintain a positive climate, prevent expulsion of children and meet requirements of Certification and Keystone STARS? Join us to hear from experts, ask questions and discuss. This series is for everyone in early learning programs: center directors, classroom staff, group and family childcare providers. Each topic is scheduled twice to provide flexibility. Please register for the times that works best for you by emailing sbadanes@caringpeoplealliance.org

Conversation #1: Quality is Inclusion - Thursday Afternoon, May 6, 1:00-3:00 pm

Hear from the Philadelphia Inclusion Innovation Initiative (PIII) about key resources and free training. Explore high-quality inclusive practices. Discuss challenges and successes you have encountered.

Conversation #2: Partnering with Families and Getting Support : IECMH and Early Intervention - Monday Evening, May 10, 6:00-7:30 pm OR Thursday Afternoon, May 13, 1:00-3:00

What is really going on when a child is "challenging?" Learn from the Infant/ Early Children Mental Health Consultants (IEMHC). When is it time for a referral to IECMH and/or for an evaluation for Early Intervention services? How can you encourage parents to partner with you in this process?

#3 Introduction to Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Monday evening, May 24, or Thursday afternoon, May 27th

#4 Creating Inclusion Policies and Meeting STARS Standards Thursday afternoon, June 3 or Monday evening, June 7th

To register, send an email to sbadanes@caringpeoplealliance.org with the following information:

- Participant's Name
- Are you from a Child Care Center, Group or Family Child Care Home
- Conversation Topics/Dates that you want to attend
- Your Email address
- You will receive a link to attend.

Questions?

Email sbadanes@caringpeoplealliance.org

COVID Reminders

With COVID cases on the rise, some timely reminders:

- Many of the adult cases in child care are centering around lunchtime behavior (too close, not cleaning properly), carpooling and spending time together outside of the facility.
- Be mindful of coverage crossovers – additional cleaning, increased distancing, vigilant hand-washing and mask wearing. Consider using quarantined staff as floaters.
- Check the Health Department Twitter account for “day of” vaccination events
- Email COVID.schools@phila.gov to talk through situations, questions, etc.

Reporting positive exposures – OCDEL requires that you notify all positive COVID-19 exposures to both Certification and the Department of Public Health. In Philadelphia, the easiest way to do this is to use the centralized reporting form:

<https://form.jotform.com/203145664181149>.

Discussion about COVID-19 Vaccine for ECE Staff -

A recording of the *Conversation about the COVID-19 Vaccine for Childcare* is now available for wider distribution. The link (thank you First Up!) on YouTube is below. Note there are time stamps in the description for those wishing to view specific topics. Link: [A Conversation About the COVID-19 Vaccine for Childcare](#).

PDPH Tools and resources for mitigating COVID-19 in Child Care and Schools

- [Click here](#) for a resource guide for schools and child care operators during COVID-19.
- [PDPH website](#)
- EXCELLENT RESOURCE - PDPH’s blog post about teachers/childcare getting vaccinated is now up! <https://www.phila.gov/2021-03-10-how-philadelphia-is-vaccinating-education-and-childcare-providers/>
- [Click here](#) for additional COVID-19 coronavirus resources from the City
- Greater Philadelphia Coronavirus Helpline: 1-800-722-7112.
- Text COVIDPHL to 888-777 to receive free alerts with information and updates from the Health Department.

Subsidy invoicing for COVID-related closures/absences – Current OCDEL policy allows us to pay you for 14 consecutive business days of COVID-related closure/absence (as long as you have reported it to OCDEL/PDPH – see the first item in this section above). In order to make sure that you’re paid correctly and that these days do NOT count toward children’s annual absences, please remember to mark your invoice accordingly:

- Paper: Write CA for “COVID absence”

- Online: Mark the absence with an A, but indicate in the child comment that the “absence was COVID-related” (click on the case number hyperlink to open the child detail screen to find the comments field)

Remember, too:

- Do not enter the closures in PELICAN PSS.
- Anything beyond 14 consecutive business days will result in the suspension/re-enrollment of children.
- DO NOT charge parents co-payments during a full week of COVID-related absence.

Mindfulness Training: Be on the Leading Edge of Teaching the Whole Child While Enhancing Your Own Well-being!

ELRC 18 in coordination with The Mindful Experience LLC is offering a virtual training opportunity this spring in Mindfulness Education. Participants will be able to confidently teach mindfulness in their classrooms and to enjoy greater peace, clarity, emotional well-being and many other mindful benefits for adults and children! All those attending will receive a **Mindfulness Teaching Kit** especially designed for children 3 to 8 years old. Through ELRC assistance, lifetime access to this online, multimedia, mindfulness education program (a \$300 value) will be provided to you for a \$25 fee. The Kit includes a user-friendly welcome guide, many mindfulness practices and games for kids, self-care for teachers, videos and mindful music, as well as send-home resources for families. More information is available online at www.themindfulexperience.com

The 3-hour training program via Zoom is a PA Keys workshop entitled “**Stress Management and Mindfulness for Teachers, Parents and Children**” led by Peter Moses of The Mindful Experience. **This virtual workshop is free of charge.** The schedule below will outline training options for teachers and staff from Preschool, K-through-2, and Family & Group Providers Philadelphia.

Choose one training option:

- Preschool Group – **Wednesday May 5 and Friday May 7 (1:00 to 2:30 pm on both days)**
- K-through-2 Group – **Wednesday May 19 and Friday May 21 (1:00 to 2:30 pm on both days)**
- Family & Group Providers – **Saturday May 22 (1:00 to 4:00 pm)**

Children's Village & ELRC 18 Present: Virtual Early Childhood Education Business Series

Early Childhood Education providers are invited to participate in this series of virtual business workshops. Participants are eligible to receive PQAS credits upon completion.

Beginning Business Series

- For Directors of Child Care Centers
 - [5/25/21 - 6/22/21, Apply by May 24th](#)

Intermediate Business Administration Series

- For Family Child Care Providers
 - [5/10/21 - 6/14/21, Apply by May 7th](#)
- For Center Directors
 - [6/2/21 - 6/30/21, Apply by June 1st](#)

Submit all questions and completed applications to huanc@childrensvillagephila.org

Conversations to Support Continuous Quality Improvement

Throughout May 2021, the Office of Child Development and Early Learning's (OCDEL) Bureau of Certification Services is sponsoring a series of virtual conversations with center, group and family child care administrators. These conversations will create a forum to envision opportunities that support the continuous quality improvement (CQI) of early childhood education in Pennsylvania. The foundation of quality early childhood education begins with a commitment to practices that ensure the health and safety of young children. Each virtual conversation will be guided by a combination of live poll questions and conversation starters. In support of your attendance, OCDEL is offering mid-day **and** evening virtual sessions for center, group child and family child care administrators.

Please feel free to join **one** of the conversations.

Pre-registration is required.

Wednesday, May 5, 2021

- [May 5 12:30 -1:30 PM CLICK TO REGISTER](#)
- [May 5 6:30 -7:30 PM CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

- [May 12 12:30 -1:30 PM CLICK TO REGISTER](#)
- [May 12 6:30 -7:30 PM CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

Wednesday, May 26, 2021

- [May 26 12:30 -1:30 PM CLICK TO REGISTER](#)
- [May 26 6:30 -7:30 PM CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

Resilience Wellness Sessions - Weds 1:30 -2 pm - May & June

Who is this for? This Resiliency Series is specially offered by the Health Federation of Philadelphia and the Department of Public Health. The stress of caring for others can affect our bodies and minds. This free virtual series is here to support our workplaces and community and is open to anyone. All five sessions are virtual and held on Wednesdays in May and June from 1:30 - 2:00 PM. Register Here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/may-june-wednesday-resiliency-series-tickets-150586659753>

Awareness of Breath and Body: 5/5/21

This session introduces Mindfulness tools and outlines how regular and consistent practice of these skills can support well-being and expand our resilience as providers in the helping profession. We will explore simple techniques to center our awareness in the present moment using breathing practices and simple movements.

The Nature of Thoughts: 5/12/21

In this practice session we will explore patterns of thinking and learn some tools to support less over-identification with our thoughts and be able to stay connected to the present moment.

Working with Discomfort in the Body-Mind: 5/26/21

In this session, we will explore the body-mind connection and how regular mindfulness practices may help us work more skillfully with discomfort or dysregulation.

Planting Positive Seeds: 6/2/21

In this session we will explore mindfulness practices, like cultivating loving-kindness, that build positive states of mind by planting seeds for appreciation, forgiveness, and acceptance.

Exploring Daily Activities: 6/16/21

In this session we will practice integrating mindfulness into everyday life by focusing on daily activities with greater attention, focus and kindness. This practice expands our ability to slow down and stay centered in the present moment and brings greater appreciation for our everyday experiences.

Let's Get Moving

Join First Up and the Philadelphia Department of Public Health to Inspire Physical Activity and Health!

Announcing a spring series of professional development sessions on the following Tuesdays in May & June! Pre-register on the PA Keys Registry for one session or the series all from 1:00-3:00pm:

Let's Get Moving (Part 1) - May 11th & June 8th

Highlights include...Learning about different types of physical activity and benefits to both children's and our own health, and recommendations from the Philadelphia Board of Health!

Let's Get Moving (Part 2) - May 18th & June 15th

Highlights include...A look at physical activity indoors, outdoors and across curriculum!

Let's Get Moving (Part 3) - May 25th & June 22nd

Highlights include...A dive into hydration and nutrition!

During each 2-hour session look for...

- Active movement breaks and songs
- Self-care and mindfulness check-ins
- \$25 gift card raffle

Join the **May** session(s) on Zoom [here](#).

Join the **June** session(s) on Zoom [here](#).

PQAS and ACT 48 credit hours available!

Register now - Budgeting and Accounting PD-TA Series

Do you know if your business can make it through the end of the year?

Do you know how much money you'll bring in and spend each month?

Are you interested in using QuickBooks accounting software?

Register for the Fiscal Hub's Budgeting and Accounting PD-TA series and get a FREE one-year subscription to QuickBooks online!

This series, for **NEW** QuickBooks users, will help child care owners and directors learn foundational budgeting and accounting terms, practices, and procedures and to use QuickBooks accounting software effectively within your program.

The **Budgeting and Accounting PD-TA series** includes five trainings and technical assistance to support providers who are new to QuickBooks.

To be eligible to participate, you must:

- be any STAR level or business type,
- be a child care center or family/group provider and be able to attend all trainings during the times detailed below,
- and not currently have a QuickBooks license.

Providers will receive a **FREE** one-year subscription to QuickBooks online.

Trainings

All trainings will be held virtually, and participants must attend all sessions.

- **Budgeting 101 - May 12 (1-4 PM)**
- **Logging into QuickBooks - June 2 (noon-1 PM)**
- **QuickBooks training #1 - June 3 (10-11 AM)**
- **QuickBooks training #2 - June 29 (10-11 AM)**
- **QuickBooks training #3 - July 22 (10-11 AM)**

One-on-one technical assistance (maximum of 5 hours) is available to assist with QuickBooks implementation and additional budgeting goals.

[CLICK HERE](#) to register by **May 7, 2021**

Space is limited. After registration closes, you will receive an email confirmation with further details if space is available. Should you have any questions, please contact FiscalHub@phmc.org.

“Connecting the Dots: Trauma Informed STEM Career Enrichment”

Wednesday, May 12th 10a-11:30a Virtual [REGISTER HERE](#)

Sunrise of Philadelphia presents a professional development seminar exploring the intersection of STEM and trauma informed approaches in OST curriculum.

You are invited!

In partnership with United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey, Sunrise of Philadelphia would like to invite you to participate in a professional development session designed to provide new perspectives on Trauma Informed Approaches and STEM programming in OST!

Part of Sunrise’s new Trauma-Informed OST Initiative, this hands-on learning session aims to present a new academic framework to integrate trauma-informed care (TIC), STEM components, and career readiness principles into the creation of safe and developmentally appropriate OST programming.

Join us on **Wednesday, May 12th, from 10am - 11:30am** for a seminar led by members of Sunrise’s curriculum development team as we explore the intersection of trauma informed approaches, STEM education, and career exploration within Philadelphia’s OST ecosystem. Participants will have the chance to win a \$50 Amazon gift card!

Powerful Partnerships: Schools and Afterschool and Summer Programs Together for Student Recovery and Success

Wednesday, May 12, 2 pm ET [REGISTER HERE](#)

Co-hosted by the Afterschool Alliance with the School Superintendents Association

With new support from the American Rescue Plan, schools have an opportunity to leverage support from afterschool and summer programs to help students re-engage, re-connect, and recover. Join us to explore what’s possible, how to quickly form effective partnerships, and how to maximize an investment in community-based partners for student recovery.

Pennsylvania’s FFY 2022-24 CCDF Draft State Plan – Public Comment and Hearing

The Department of Human Services released their draft Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Plan for public comment. The draft plan can be found [here](#), as well as details on how to submit comments. The public hearing will be held virtually on **Tuesday, May 18, 2021**, from 11:00 am

to 2:30 pm. PennAEYC and other partners will be submitting comments. The Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) document on [Opportunities to Advocate for Equitable Child Care Policies through the State CCDF Planning Process](#) may be helpful as you review the draft plan.

Supporting Preschool Families Through Inclusion

Tuesday, May 18, 2021, 3–4 p.m. ET

[Register Online Now!](#)

Including preschoolers with disabilities or suspected delays in group care settings depends on strong partnerships with families. Supports and services for preschoolers with disabilities or suspected delays are most effective when families and educators work together to support the child across all inclusive learning environments. In this [Teacher Time](#) webinar, discover ways to connect with preschool families, promote the family's sense of belonging, and partner toward consistent learning experiences across virtual and in-person learning environments. This webinar will have English and Spanish captioning.

Key Topics

Topics for the webinar include:

- Discussing the importance of partnering with families to promote preschool development and learning
- Exploring ways to connect various supports and services to promote continuity of care across settings
- Learning strategies to connect with families and support their feelings of inclusion and belonging in the preschool learning environment

Target Audience

This webinar will benefit:

- Teachers and family child care providers
- Education managers, coaches, and child development specialists
- Disabilities services coordinators
- Support staff

How to Register

Select the link to register:

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2996854/D0AE2FB0266368F2A78174BD0191EB17>

Certificates of completion are available for this webinar.

Watch all of the Teacher Time webinars on-demand:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/teaching-practices/teacher-time-series/teacher-time-series>

Related Resources

- [SpecialQuest Multimedia Training Library](#)
 - [Preschool Inclusion Series](#)

- [Building Relationships with Families](#)
- [Collaboration with Families and Other Partners: Essential Features of High-Quality Inclusion](#)

Share this Opportunity

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this invitation? Stay up to date by subscribing:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

Join [MyPeers](#) to connect with Head Start and early childhood colleagues around the country on this and other topics. The **Teacher Time** community currently has more than 1,300 members who are networking, sharing, and learning from each other. Find it under "All Communities" and select the blue "Join" button.

Questions?

To learn more, contact the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning at ecdctl@ecetta.info or (toll-free) 844-261-3752.

AFEL Sesame Project Community Launch - May 20

Action for Early Learning and Sesame Street in Communities invite you to join us **Thursday, May 20, 2021 at noon** for *“Creating a Circle of Support for Children and Families through Social Emotional Learning”*

Drexel Action for Early Learning Initiative in partnership with Sesame Street in Communities will host a virtual Community Launch of the **AFEL Sesame Project** on Thursday, **May 20, 2021 at 12 pm**. The launch will include a presentation from Sesame Workshop on the “Abby’s Ambassadors” Train the Trainer Program as well as a discussion on the value of **social emotional skills** in helping children reach developmental milestones, featuring **Dr. Nefertiti Poyner**, Early Childhood Specialist for Devereux Center for Resilient Children. Please feel free to share this invite and registration link with others!

Please register by **May 13** here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mvLTRCMQTCu8szxGvys2Bg

Being Safe, Kind and Respectful Online: What Educators Need to Know

May 20 | 3 – 4:30 p.m. EDT [REGISTER HERE](#)

This interactive presentation will explore some of the complexities of educating, supporting and connecting with youth in today’s world. The presenters will navigate the areas of cyberbullying, online safety and digital citizenship, and provide practical strategies and usable resources for primary and secondary educators. Approved for Olweus Bullying Prevention Program Trainer recertification, Act 48 and NASW credits. This is part of the Center for Safe Schools’ Third Thursday webinar series.

Calculating Your Cost of Care During COVID-19

First Up presents this event which will allow providers a chance to hear an overview of the child care finance system, discuss the challenges of providing care during the pandemic, and sign up for a consultation to calculate their program's true cost of care. The virtual event will take place on **May 20 at 6 pm**. [Click here to register](#)

Children's Work Group Early Childhood Conference

Friday, May 21, 2021 from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM EDT [REGISTER HERE](#)

Join us for this exciting discussion on new tools and investments for children.

Dr. Carmela DeCandia is the Principal developer of **NEST**- a new neurodevelopmental screening tool for use by staff working with homeless and housing insecure families. She has specialized in working with children and families impacted by trauma and adversity for over 30 years. A Clinical Fellow of the Harvard Medical School, she trained at Boston Children's Hospital and then worked for the past 20 years in community practice primarily serving homeless and highly vulnerable children and families.

We will also announce a new investment in the family homeless housing system that incorporates the joy of play as nurturing and healing, and the new funds coming to Pennsylvania for early learning community that should benefit young children experiencing homelessness.

2021 Terri Lynne Lokoff Child Care Teacher Awards

May 22nd at 7:30p

It's almost that time again! Time to honor outstanding child care teachers for their excellence, dedication, and the invaluable contributions they make, everyday, in the lives of young children and their families. **What** children learn before age eight will shape **how** they learn forever, so **who** is teaching them matters tremendously – which is why the Terri Lynne Lokoff Teacher Awards have recognized hundreds of outstanding child care teachers since 1994. Join us for this year's virtual Terri Lynne Lokoff Teacher Awards ceremony on Zoom! [Register today!](#)

PACCA HR Webinar

Tuesday, May 25 2021 | 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM EDT

*Join us for a live webinar to hear an important announcement and release of a **new service** from PACCA Business Partner **FocusHRO!***

Sam Boore with FocusHRO will share the details on how this new model will help with your human resource questions, give you additional training and tips, and how the service works.

Registration: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3425472815980557070>

For more questions, please contact Maureen Murphy at maureen.murphy@pacca.org

PHLConnectED Pre-K Expansion

PHLConnectED has officially expanded to Philadelphia pre-K households! Pre-K student households qualify for PHLConnectED if they meet the existing program eligibility criteria listed below:

- Do not have internet access; or
- Have mobile phone internet access only; or
- Are experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity; or
- Have students who participate in remote learning in locations without internet access.

If households already have internet in their homes, they qualify if they:

- Participate in public benefit programs with income qualifications like Medicaid; or
- Have students designated as English Learners; or
- Have students who receive special education services.

Please share this expansion with your families. Please check out the [attached communications toolkit](#) which includes the press release, sample communications, social media messaging, and links to updated collateral materials. Families should dial 2-1-1 to learn more about the program and to get enrolled. For language services on the hotline, families should press 8. The PHLConnectED 211 hotline is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and available in over 150 languages.

IECMHC Virtual Office Hours

The PA Key Infant-Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Team is excited to share a new service: Virtual Office Hours! Through Virtual Office Hours, early learning professionals in ELRCs 11-19 will be able to speak directly with IECMH Consultants via telephone or video conference. Virtual Office Hours is a short-term, collaborative, problem-solving conversation to help ECE professionals find next steps for: Child Social-Emotional Concerns, Child Behavioral or Developmental Concerns, Emotional Well-being of Teachers and Caregivers, and Partnering with Families. **This service is a pilot program for early learning programs in ELRCs 11-19.** Virtual Office Hours are available by appointment. See the [attached flyer](#) for details! We look forward to seeing you at Virtual Office Hours!

PHMC Health and Safety Supports

PHMC, with funding from the William Penn Foundation, is able to support ECE providers in Philadelphia with their Health & Safety goals through one-on-one technical assistance with a Child Care Health Consultant. Our health consultants are experienced medical professionals who can assist programs with all their health & safety needs. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn how to request assistance for your program.

Goldman Sachs is Gearing Up for Cohort 24

Shared by Damaris Alvarado-Rodriguez of Children's Playhouse

We are hard at work setting up Cohort 24 for this Summer, and we are actively recruiting for the Fall cohort. Visit the 10KSB link for more information or to

apply: <http://www.10ksbapply.com/>. Several child care providers have participated in this program over the last several years. It's a great opportunity for those who are interested in expanding their business!!

Teach Plus PA 2021-22 Teaching Policy Fellowship: Apply Today!

In summer 2021, Teach Plus will launch a Teaching Policy Fellowship in Pennsylvania. This highly selective leadership opportunity is for 30 outstanding teachers looking to deepen their knowledge of education policy and amplify the voices of teacher leaders in Pennsylvania. Policy fellows, who will receive a \$1,500 stipend for their commitment, will expand their influence without leaving the classroom and elevate teacher voice on important student equity issues. **Early childhood educators are particularly encouraged to apply!**

[Learn more and apply here](#)

[Nominate a teacher here](#)

NOTE: This is a brand new opportunity and not associated with the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Scholarship Program.

Format Change for FBI Clearance Result Letter

As of April 17, 2021, ChildLine has changed the format of the FBI Clearance Result letter. The major change observed in the new format is the consolidation of result boxes. Instead of the four checkboxes previously used on the letter, all result letters now display only two boxes and either "ELIGIBLE" or "INELIGIBLE" will be checked. Any agency that receives these result letters and wishes to verify the validity may contact ChildLine at 717-783-6211 or 1-877-371-5422. Childline cannot discuss the specific outcome for the applicant(s) with third parties, but can verify receipt of the new letter template. Information regarding clearances and fingerprinting can be found on the [Department of Human Services website](#).

Philadelphia Family Child Care Lead Certification Requirements Info Sheet

As you may know, lead testing and certification requirements for residential child care facilities have been made effective after January 1, 2020. Child Care operators are required to show proof of lead free or lead safe certification in order to obtain or renew a child care license with the city. An information sheet (in English and Spanish) detailing the Family Child Care lead certification requirements has been developed with support from the Philadelphia Department of Public Health and can be found live on the [PHMC ECE Business Support website](#).

Playground Equipment Available

Lynda Calvano from Care-A-Lot shared the following: *If you know of any center who may want to dismantle the playground equipment that I have to install at their center, they are welcome to take it on Memorial Day Weekend.*

An e-mail containing pictures of the playground equipment is [attached](#). If you are interested, please e-mail Lynda at carealot1944@verizon.net.

Daycare Center located in Northeast Philly for Sale

Capacity 76. Fully furnished and stocked. Ready for new owner to apply for licensing. If interested please call or text 215-609-8282

Job Openings

- [Fab Youth Philly is hiring more staff!](#) As part of our Play Captain Initiative, we collect street level data on the Playstreets to assess how well our Play Captains are integrating a playful learning and the impact of those activities. Our partner Playful Learning Landscape Action Network (PLLAN) usually hires all of the Data Collectors (DCs), but they are at capacity this summer. However, we need additional DCs so we are looking to hire two Data Collectors that will be part of the overall team, trained by PLLAN but hired by FYP. We would LOVE to hire someone from 19104. No experience required, but a strong willingness to be training to collect data a plus, as well as a willingness to be outdoors in ALL kinds of summer weather.
- **Little Dinos Learning Center** is looking to hire 3 new team members ASAP. Must have experience and complete file as per PA regulations. We are looking for two toddler teachers as well as a Director. If interested please call the center at 215-533-3466.

That's all for now!

Take good care,
Diane

From: Diane Getzinger
Sent: Saturday, May 15, 2021 12:28 AM
To: Diane Getzinger <DGetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org>
Subject: ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Lots of important updates and opportunities

Happy Weekend, everyone!

As usual, I have so many exciting things to share with you, but I'm going to start with the one that makes me do the happy dance!

ELRC 18 will begin hosting Provider Networking Meetings starting in June!

ELRC 18 is going to start facilitating monthly ECE Networking Meetings in June. All will be virtual (to start) and held from 1-3p (except one evening meeting...see below).

- First Thursday – Northeast Directors (**June 3rd**)
- First Thursday – Night Owl Networking from 7p-9p (**June 3rd**)
- Second Thursday – Northwest Directors (**June 10th**)
- Third Thursday – North Directors (**June 17th**)
- Fourth Thursday – South/West Directors (**June 24th**)
- Second Saturday – Family and Group Child Care (**June 12th**)
- Third Saturday – Teachers/classroom staff (**June 19th**)

Each meeting will consist of ELRC updates – eligibility, finance and provider/STARS, followed by time for you to ask questions, share what your needs are, meet with one another, etc. As we identify interests and needs for each group, we will bring in guest speakers for future meetings. At the end of the meetings, quality coaches and other ELRC 18 staff will be available to speak with smaller groups using breakout rooms. While all providers are welcome attend any meeting, the idea is for you to be with a smaller group of like-minded providers. We're going to keep participation simple - no pre-registration needed. Just mark it on your calendar and click on the link above when it's time for the meeting to start.

This is just a starting point, and my hope is that these meetings will evolve to meet the individual needs of those providers who attend. If you have any questions or suggestions, please send me a note (dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org)!

Other ELRC 18 Updates/Reminders

- **Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSA) – CARES 4**
 - All Attestations have been processed for payment on May 27, 2021. We did have a few providers who were ineligible, and their denial letters were mailed on Monday, 5/10/2021. If you did not receive a denial letter and you did receive an initial confirmation that we received your Attestation, you are scheduled to receive a payment on 5/27/2021.

- We are in the process of sending out the award letter e-mails now. I apologize for the delay, but felt that it was more important to ensure that your Attestations were prepared for our finance team to process them for payment on May 27th.
 - Although your award letter e-mail will confirm the amount of your payment, I understand that you may be very anxious to know how much you will be receiving. [Here is a link to the information on the PA Key website](#). Scroll to the bottom of the page for the chart. Find your provider type and licensed capacity in the left column. Your grant amount will be in the right column (ignore the “stuff” in the middle). (NOTE: School-age programs are only those whose Certificate of Compliance reflects a licensed capacity of 999.)
 - Please know that we continue to work as hard as possible to keep you informed about the status of your CRRSA grant. However, the multiple calls and e-mails to check on your progress is significantly delaying our ability to complete the task. Thank you, in advance, for understanding, and again, my apologies for any delay.
- **Pandemic Relief Award**
 - OCDEL has extended the deadline to pay out the \$600 PRA grants to your staff to June 30th.
 - Funds must be processed through payroll and are subject to applicable taxes (processing through IRS 1099 is prohibited). Processing of the funds must adhere to IRS guidelines for employers and be responsible for any employer portion of taxes as awards are distributed.
 - If a staff person is no longer in your employ, they remain eligible for the PRA. You may either pay your former employ the PRA or return their PRA to ELRC. You cannot issue it to a different employee in their stead or use it for any other purpose.
 - If you must return funding for any of your Pandemic Relief Awards, please make the check payable to CARING PEOPLE ALLIANCE-ELRC#18 and send it, along with your MPI number and notification of which staff awards you are returning, to the following:
 - Attn: Pandemic Relief Award
 - Finance Department
 - Early Learning Resource Center of Region 18
 - 2361 Welsh Road
 - Philadelphia, PA 19114
 - Monitoring of a 5% random sample of PRA grants will take place from June 1- August 30. Providers selected for this monitoring will be notified soon. If you are NOT chosen for monitoring, you do not need to send in documents to close your grant, but you must keep them for six years.
- **Provider Agreement Updates**

The mailing for collecting holiday closures for the upcoming fiscal year (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022) will go out early next week. In the meantime, we are providing the

[official OCDEL letter](#) and [Appendix B form](#) here for your review. Please note the following IMPORTANT items:

- If you use PELICAN Provider Self Service, you must update your closures online. DO NOT return an Appendix B. If you need help navigating PSS, please contact a provider specialist at (215) 382-4762 or by sending an e-mail to ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org. Please update your closures by Friday, May 28th.
- If you do not use PELICAN Provider Self Service, you will need to complete and return an **Appendix B no later than May 28th**. If you do not return your closures timely, you will automatically receive the State's default days listed on the Appendix B as paid closures and they cannot be changed (unless you sign up for PELICAN PSS and update them online). You can only add additional paid closures with two weeks' advance notice.
 - Note your program name and PELICAN provider number on the Appendix B. (If we receive an Appendix B with just holidays, we have no way to know that it came from you.)
 - You can return your Appendix B using any of the following methods, but **ONLY RETURN IT ONE TIME**. Sending in multiple copies to several e-mail addresses and fax numbers creates chaos and confusion.
 - E-mail to ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org. (You will receive an e-mail acknowledging receipt.)
 - Fax to (215) 904-0226 (Call the provider services department at 215-382-4762 to confirm receipt.)
 - Mail to ELRC18, 2361 Welsh Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114
 - Drop off at either our Chestnut Street or Welsh Road offices Monday through Friday from 8a to 5p.
- **Join the ELRC 18 Provider Conversation Series - Including All Children**
How do you create an inclusive early learning program that supports children of all abilities as well as their families and the staff? What resources are out there to help you meet children's needs, maintain a positive climate, prevent expulsion of children and meet requirements of Certification and Keystone STARS? Join us to hear from experts, ask questions and discuss. This series is for everyone in early learning programs: center directors, classroom staff, group and family childcare providers. Each topic is scheduled twice to provide flexibility. Please register for the times that works best for you by emailing sbadanes@caringpeoplealliance.org

#3 Introduction to Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Monday evening, May 24, or Thursday afternoon, May 27th

#4 Creating Inclusion Policies and Meeting STARS Standards Thursday afternoon, June 3 or Monday evening, June 7th

To register, send an email to sbadanes@caringpeoplealliance.org with the following information:

- Participant's Name
 - Are you from a Child Care Center, Group or Family Child Care Home
 - Conversation Topics/Dates that you want to attend
 - Your Email address
 - You will receive a link to attend.
-
- **Lesson Plans: Linking the Early Learning Standards for Family Child Care**
Thursday, May 27th from 6:30-8:30p [Please pre-register on Zoom here](#)
ELRC 18 and First Up would like to invite you to this virtual session designed to help family child care providers create lesson plans that use the Early Learning Standards as a resources to support planning and documentation of a child's developmentally appropriate learning through play (E.C. 2.2)
PQAS and Act 48 credit hours available!
Contact Ashley Haneiko, Ashley.haneiko@firstup.org with questions or for assistance.

Updated PDPH COVID Guidance

PDPH has updated its guidance related to childcare and schooling. It can be found here: <https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/guidance/guidance-documents/schools-guidance/>

Additional COVID reminders/resources:

- **Reporting positive exposures** – OCDEL requires that you notify all positive COVID-19 exposures to both Certification and the Department of Public Health. In Philadelphia, the easiest way to do this is to use the centralized reporting form: <https://form.jotform.com/203145664181149>.
- **Discussion about COVID-19 Vaccine for ECE Staff** - A recording of the *Conversation about the COVID-19 Vaccine for Childcare* is now available for wider distribution. The link (thank you First Up!) on YouTube is below. Note there are time stamps in the description for those wishing to view specific topics. Link: [A Conversation About the COVID-19 Vaccine for Childcare](#).
- **PDPH's blog post about teachers/childcare getting vaccinated** is now up! <https://www.phila.gov/2021-03-10-how-philadelphia-is-vaccinating-education-and-childcare-providers/>
- [Calculating Isolation and Quarantine Period](#)
- [Click here](#) for additional COVID-19 coronavirus resources from the City
- Greater Philadelphia Coronavirus Helpline: 1-800-722-7112.
- Text COVIDPHL to 888-777 to receive free alerts with information and updates from the Health Department.

2021-22 Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts Request for Applications

Application Deadline June 10, 2021

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) is announcing a competitive [Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts Request for Applications \(RFA\) Guidance](#). This RFA is intended to support providers in preparing to serve and enroll children by September 2021. The RFA is being released in May 2021 to give providers time to conduct outreach to families; recruit, hire and train staff; and plan for implementing the program pending grant approval. **Applicants must submit Letters of Intent to [RA-PAPreKCounts@pa.gov](mailto:RAPreKCounts@pa.gov) by 3 PM on June 10, 2021. Only applicants that submit a complete Letter of Intent by the deadline will be permitted to apply for funding.**

INTRODUCTION

Pennsylvania is committed to ensuring that all children begin school ready to learn and succeed in their schooling careers, as lifelong learners, and productive citizens. Research confirms what most parents already know: all children can tap into their innate potential to learn when they receive high-quality instruction that takes into consideration what is known about brain development and how young children learn. Early childhood education is a proven strategy that ensures a child's readiness for school and school success.

Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts was established by Act 45 of 2007 (and amended in 2008 and 2010). Its purpose is to expand the number of children able to experience a pre-kindergarten program of high quality. The standards for the program ensure a high return on the investment made in preparing young children for school and will help close the achievement gap. Early education through Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts can open the doors of opportunity for every child to do well in school, in the workforce, and in life.

Governor Wolf's proposed 2021-22 state budget includes an additional \$25 million for Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts. With this expansion funding, the state will be able to increase the number of children served in high-quality pre-kindergarten.

RFA PROCESS

OCDEL will use a competitive application process to disperse available state expansion funding to select eligible grantees beginning in FY 2021-22.

The ceiling or limit on the potential number of slots that may be awarded to any applicant will depend upon a county's unmet need percentages and the amount of funding available. Funding is contingent upon approval by the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

Grants are funded via state dollars and, therefore, carryover funds are not permitted. All grant dollars identified in this FY 2021-22 application must be encumbered or spent by June 30, 2022.

Pennsylvania continues to be committed to a mixed delivery system. As such, eligible applicants include existing Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts grantees and new applicants from these five eligible entity categories:

- a. School districts;
- b. PDE Licensed nursery schools;
- c. Head Start grantees;
- d. Child care centers and group child care homes designated at Keystone STAR 3 or STAR 4; and
- e. A third-party entity applying for Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts funding to administer the lead agency responsibilities for entities that are eligible to provide the classroom services under the categories listed above.

Eligible applicants must provide assurance that they operate in full compliance with [Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts Statute, Regulations, and Guidance](#). Applicants should thoroughly review [Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts Statute, Regulations, and Guidance](#) prior to submission of a Letter of Intent to apply to ensure an understanding of the program requirements and expectations of compliance if an application is successful. The application review process will include evaluation of the extent to which the applicant demonstrates knowledge and understanding of the Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts Statute and Regulations.

Applicants must also have the following in place to complete an application:

- REQUIRED Letter of Intent (see below);
- Vendor number (SAP #);
- Administrative unit number (AUN);
- Master provider index number (MPI); and
- Federal ID number or tax ID number.

All information relevant to the application process is available in the [Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts Request for Applications \(RFA\) Guidance](#). Applicants should review all information in that document before submitting the Letter of Intent.

Required Letter of Intent

Because of the need to establish access to eGrants procurement system, applicants must submit a completed [Letter of Intent](#) to apply for funds. The template posted at [PKC How to Apply](#) must be used. The [Letter of Intent](#) represents the applicant's intent to apply for Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts funding and includes the legal name of the eligible agency that will apply, the AUN associated with the applying legal entity, preliminary information about requested funding, program model, provider type, and area to be served. Except for the legal entity and AUN, information submitted in the Letter of Intent may be modified in the final eGrants application.

Programs interested in applying must submit a fully completed [Letter of Intent](#) by **3 pm on June 10, 2021**, to RA-PAPreKCounts@pa.gov. Programs that do not submit the

Letter of Intent will not be able to access or submit a funding application in the eGrants system. Late submissions will not be accepted. Agencies submitting a fully complete [Letter of Intent](#) by the due date will be notified when the Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts application is open in eGrants.

Please watch the PA Early Ed News for additional announcements and the [Head Start How to Apply](#) site on upcoming HSSAP expansion funding opportunities.

Introduction to Quickbooks Online

Start: May 15th, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM (1st class in person at the Beachell Family Learning Center)

All other classes will meet Saturday mornings and Monday evenings (online)

Register Now at - https://drexel.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2ITWff90xvtmbXg

In this class you will learn:

- Everything you need to know about running QuickBooks in a small to mid-sized business
- Discover how to set up a chart of accounts, reconcile your checking account, and create estimates
- Learn to create and print invoices, receipts and statements Understand how to track payables, inventory, and receivables

One Year Free QuickBooks Online for all Participants

Limited seating available. For more information or to register, call (215)571-4056 or email BFLCDornsifeCenter@drexel.edu

If you would like to be added to the Beachell Family Learning Center's email listserv, please contact BFLCDornsifeCenter@drexel.edu

PCCY Rally: 60 Years Later, Still Miles to Go Before we Rest

A rally for education equity on the anniversary of Brown v Board of Education

Monday, May 17th at noon [Register here](#)

We honor the anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education with a call to make right the racial inequities and massive underfunding in Pennsylvania's education system that denies opportunity to thousands of students. Just as Brown v. Board of Education changed the lives of students of color, we have a chance to make historic change for Pennsylvania's students, especially Black, Hispanic, and low-income children. Pennsylvania ranks 44th in the country in the state's share of funding for public schools; *only about 39% of the costs of public education are covered by the state*. There is a lawsuit underway that may remedy these problems but there's much to do to achieve true education equity. Stand with PCCY and other education advocates as we

demand an end to the systemic inequities in school funding that still exist and that rob our students and communities of opportunity.

[Register here](#) for our lunchtime event and let's honor the work that's come before us by committing to do our part for the future.

BDCC Vaccination and Testing Events

The Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium (BDCC), the City of Philadelphia, the Dell Music Center, WDAS and WUSL will host the VAX-JAWN 2 on Saturday, May 22nd from 11a to 6p at the Dell Music Center. BDCC continues to hold weekly community clinics to offer the Pfizer vaccine to individuals 12 years or older; and Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines to individuals 18 years or older. **NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.** Testing is still a major necessity in identifying one's status. Additionally, BDCC will offer barrier-free COVID-19 testing at all vaccination sites at the dates and times below. To help eliminate vaccine barriers, Uber is providing \$25-free rides (\$50 round trip) to individuals wishing to be vaccinated at any BDCC clinic; use Promo Code: 10MVBDC.

- **Monday, May 17th 9a-11a** at SEPTA Suburban Station, 16th & JFK Boulevard 19102
COVID-19 Testing
- **Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, May 17th, 18th and 20th from 10a-5p** at Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church (East), 2800 W. Cheltenham Ave., 19150
Pfizer (12+), Moderna (18+), Johnson & Johnson (18+) Vaccines
- **Wednesday, May 19th 4p-7p** Salem and Friends KIDSVAXX at Salem Baptist Church, 2741 Woodland Road, Abington, PA 19001
Pfizer (12+), Moderna (18+), Johnson & Johnson (18+) Vaccines
- **Saturday, May 22nd 11a-6p** VAX-JAWN 2 at the Dell Music Center, 2400 Strawberry Mansion Drive, 19132
Pfizer (12+), Moderna (18+), Johnson & Johnson (18+) Vaccines

Next SEPECC Roundtable: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 9:00 – 10:30am

Join us for this Roundtable Discussion focused on Summer Programming: keeping children learning and safe. [Click to register for May 18.](#)

-Please email your questions to [Jackie Groetsch](#) by 5/17/2021

-Materials from May 4 General Meeting: [Meeting Recording](#), [Meeting Slides](#), [Meeting Notes](#)

-Visit www.firstup.org/sepecc for registration links to upcoming meetings and to view materials from previous meetings.

PA's FFY 2022-24 CCDF Draft State Plan – Public Comment and Hearing

The public comment period is ending on Pennsylvania's FFY 2022-24 CCDF Draft State Plan. The public hearing will be held virtually on **Tuesday, May 18, 2021, from 11:00am to 2:30pm**. To view the State Plan, submit a public comment, register to attend the Public Hearing and register to provide testimony please visit the Department of Human Service's website [here](#).

LAST CHANCE!! - Mindfulness Training: Be on the Leading Edge of Teaching the Whole Child While Enhancing Your Own Well-being

ELRC 18 in coordination with The Mindful Experience LLC is offering a virtual training opportunity this spring in Mindfulness Education. Participants will be able to confidently teach mindfulness in their classrooms and to enjoy greater peace, clarity, emotional well-being and many other mindful benefits for adults and children! All those attending will receive a **Mindfulness Teaching Kit** especially designed for children 3 to 8 years old. Through ELRC assistance, lifetime access to this online, multimedia, mindfulness education program (a \$300 value) will be provided to you for a \$25 fee. The Kit includes a user-friendly welcome guide, many mindfulness practices and games for kids, self-care for teachers, videos and mindful music, as well as send-home resources for families. More information is available online at www.themindfulexperience.com

The 3-hour training program via Zoom is a PA Keys workshop entitled “**Stress Management and Mindfulness for Teachers, Parents and Children**” led by Peter Moses of The Mindful Experience. **This virtual workshop is free of charge.** The schedule below will outline training options for teachers and staff from Preschool, K-through-2, and Family & Group Providers Philadelphia. To register, please email Peter Moses at peter@themindfulexperience.com In this email, provide your first and last name, home address and the name of your school or center. Kindly include the date(s) of the workshop you are choosing to attend. Peter will then confirm your participation.

Choose one training option:

- PreK-through-2 Group – **Wednesday May 19 and Friday May 21 (1:00 to 2:30 pm on both days)**
- Family & Group Providers – **Saturday May 22 (1:00 to 4:00 pm)**

PHMC Presents: A Community of Learning – The Pandemic and Childhood Obesity

May 19, 2021 – 10a-11:30a [REGISTER HERE](#)

Please join us to discuss the impacts of the pandemic on Childhood Obesity. We will be sharing resources for prevention and strategies for keeping children active. In addition, we will be discussing the latest updates regarding COVID-19 and guidance for child care programs. Presented in partnership with Early Childhood Education Linkage System (ECELS) and Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia PolicyLab.

NAFCC presents Federal Child Care Law Webinar: What’s in it for Family Child Care? Pt. 2

May 19, 2021 at 8-9p [REGISTER HERE](#)

States, territories and Tribes have a lot of choices to make – but have you ever wondered how much the federal law matters to your family child care program and the success of family child care in your community? (Hint: it is a lot!) The federal law called the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) sets the course for child care policy in each state, territory and Tribe, and sends funding to the states to carry out those policies for subsidy, child care licensing, and more. Join this session to get to know our federal law and how it is used, who it reaches (and who gets left out), and how it matters to *all* of family child care. Lots of exciting new investments and proposals build on this law – and there are important ways we can make it even better, together.

Coaching to Success: Leading Conversations that Empower Childcare Owners and Operators as Business Leaders

May 21st – 1 to 2p [REGISTER NOW](#)

Conversation with DHS Certification: Supervision with Special Guest Facilitators: Early Learning Certification Reps. Gwendolyn Brown & Kimberly Barnes Bennett

The Coaching to Success program offers assistance to Philadelphia-based early childhood education (ECE) providers of all size, structure, and quality level as they seek to navigate these challenging times. A host of supports and interventions will be designed and administered based upon feedback from you – the provider. Through consultation with a coach who knows the industry, ECE providers may access customized activities to help them achieve stabilization, recovery and long-term sustainability goals. *The program is made possible with support from Vanguard Strong Start for Kids Program™.* Learn more at: www.reinvestment.com/coachingtosuccess

SAC/OST and Understanding the American Rescue Plan Dollars

May 21st 10a-11a FREE [REGISTER HERE](#)

Federal funding through the American Rescue Plan includes the use of the money for supporting extra learning opportunities in the out of school time space. This professional development event will provide details on what this means, ways to use the funds and ways to partner with your school district in order to access these funds. Also attached is a [one-pager about the ARP and school-age care prepared by the Afterschool Alliance](#).

Presenter: Steven Williams Director of PSAYDN and Panelists

Core Knowledge Competencies: Support reciprocal communication among co-workers and administration in sharing new program ideas, new professional development offerings, and other resources that may be available for continuous quality improvement of individual and program practices and policies. K8.15 C2

Beginners Business Administration Series Starts SOON!

Join Mary Graham and the PD team at Children’s Village for the last beginners business series for child care providers! Earn 12 PQAS hours for participating in this highly interactive series of Zoom webinars. Provided FREE of charge thanks to funding from ELRC Region 18. Participants in the advanced series will earn 27 PQAS hours. Click on the link below for additional information and the application.

- [5/25/21 - 6/22/21, Apply by May 24th](#)

2021 SPAC (State Parent Advisory Council) Conference

We would like to welcome you to “Moving Forward.....SPACtacularly!”, the 2021 virtual SPAC Conference. After surveying families across PA, we identified topics of interest and the most convenient times to provide great resources. So while this year’s conference may look a little different, it’s full of information that Title I families have requested. Please use the [“Register HERE”](#) link below to register for the FREE 2021 virtual SPAC Conference. Registration may be completed by Title I district staff or by individual families. Don’t wait! Registration closes on **Wednesday, May 19, 2021**. Act 48 Hours are available for educational professionals.

Discuss Data-Driven Academic Integration of SEL!

Wednesday, May 19th at 11a

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Thursday, May 27th at 3p

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Join Rosen Classroom’s discussion with SEL experts to explore why data-driven academic integration of SEL is so crucial in our schools. Our students deserve to be supported with a whole-child framework in a school environment built around acceptance, belonging, and connections.

The discussion will cover:

- Why SEL is critical in our schools
- The federal and state education policies surrounding SEL
- Correlating the research around academic growth and SEL
- Benefits of assessment with CASEL-aligned curriculum for grades K–6
- Selecting the proper assessment tool
- Closing learning gaps through explicit SEL instruction

Panelists include: Dr. Pamela Emery, Dr. Clark McKown and Dr. Richard Hasenyager

ParentChild+ - Asian and Asian American Representation in Children’s Books

May 27th, 7p-8p

[RSVP HERE](#)

As part of their Windows, Mirrors and Doors discussion series and in honor of AAPI Month, ParentChild+ invites you to a powerful conversation to elevate Asian and Asian American characters, experiences and voices in children’s books.

As our country witnesses horrific attacks on the Asian and Asian-American community, exposing deep-seated racism, many parents have been asking a critical question: how can we have conversations with our children about race and diversity, early and often?

For over 50 years, **ParentChild+** has been working to overcome systemic racism by partnering with parents to build school readiness in the homes of young children and their families. By committing to provide all families with reading materials that are diverse, inclusive, and culturally relevant, we are now prioritizing helping children to understand the importance of racial justice, be rooted in their own identity, and develop a strong sense of self and understanding of others.

As part of ParentChild+'s virtual series ***Windows, Mirrors & Doors***, we invite you to join Asian children's book authors and illustrators for a compelling, nationally relevant discussion on the representations of Asian characters in children's literature. The discussion will shine a light on the impact representation has on the well-being and social-emotional development of Asian children — and all children, the importance for children and families of experiencing books by Asian authors and illustrators, and the ways in which representation and book selection can be a powerful step toward building a stronger, more equitable world.

Moderator: Shuli de la Fuente-Lau, found of Asian Lit for Kids

Panelists:

- Kat Zhang, author of *Amy Wu & the Perfect Bao*, *Amy Wu & the Patchwork Drago*, *The Hybrid Chronicles*
- Joanna Ho, author of *Eyes that Kiss in the Corners*, *Playing at the Border* and *One Day*
- Julia Kuo, illustrator of *I Dream of Popo*, *I am an American: the Wong Kim Art Story*, *The Sound of Silence*

Celebrating Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Our neighborhood is stronger together

[AAPI Heritage Month Playlist](#)

Sesame Workshop is proud to celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month. We recognize and appreciate the historical and continuing contributions of our Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander family, friends, and community.

DEADLINE 5-31-21 for Payroll Protection Program Loans/Grants

May 31st is the final day to apply for the PPP incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on payroll and to cover some operational costs. First Draw PPP forgivable loans are available to both Family and Center-based child care businesses. If you've already received a First Draw PPP Loan, see whether you qualify for a Second Draw PPP forgivable loan. Don't wait! Download applications, see requirements and find an approved lender in your state. Visit SharedSourcePA to [Read More](#).

Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) Program

June 7, 9, and 11, 2021

[REGISTER HERE:](#)

Individual = \$199 per person

Group of 2-3 = \$179 per person

Group of 4 or more = \$159 per person

The Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) Program is a strength-based assessment and planning system designed to promote resilience in young children, 4 weeks up through 5 years old. The DECA Program is implemented using a five-step approach, which includes: (1) collecting information on individual children, the home and the group care environment, (2) administering the DECA strength-based assessments of social and emotional development, (3) summarizing assessment results, (4) developing and implementing plans for children who have concerns and plans for building quality environments in homes, group care settings and/or classrooms, and (5) evaluating progress.

You're invited to this upcoming webinar series, where participants will learn specific strategies to promote young children's social and emotional development and to enhance the overall quality of early childhood programs. Strategies for effectively involving families and for building the resilience of adults caring for young children are also addressed. This training is appropriate for those who work with infants and toddlers only, preschool children only, or those that work with children birth through five years old. We invite all to attend, whether you are brand new to the program, somewhat experienced with it, and even if you consider yourself a pro already! Attending this, even with a good familiarity with the DECA Program, can serve as a great review of the five important steps.

Cheyney University of PA: Pennsylvania Educator Diversity Consortium Virtual Summit

The Pennsylvania Educator Diversity Consortium (PEDC) presents: Reaping What We Sow: Enriching the Soil to Cultivate and Sustain Culturally Relevant and Anti-Racist Educators in Pennsylvania.

The purpose of the Pennsylvania Educator Diversity Consortium Summit is to engage members and educational stakeholders in important dialogues about the future of educator diversity in Pennsylvania and to elevate a shared vision, new opportunities, and tools needed to mobilize, prioritize, and take actionable steps towards increasing the number of Black, Latinx, and culturally-relevant and sustaining educators in Pennsylvania.

Virtual Summit Dates: **June 22 & 23, 2021, 8:30am - 2:30pm**

[CLICK HERE](#) for more details.

NAFCC Annual Conference – Save-the-Date

This year's NAFCC Annual Conference will offer 50 in-person workshops in New Orleans and 25 virtual workshops. Save the Date for **July 7-10** and visit NAFCC.org for more information!

How would you spend \$1.2 billion?

Start Strong PA is gathering input from child care programs and the families they serve in order to better inform the campaign's recommendations to the Wolf Administration for the use of the \$1.2 billion in American Rescue Plan funds coming to Pennsylvania. We have created a survey for those who want to offer ideas and suggestions on how to spend the money. [This survey](#) will allow us to collect additional information from those who attended forums, as well as those that were unable to join us. We also want to ensure that while these are labeled "rescue" dollars, our industry needs more than just one time support. We need on-going, permanent increases in funding. Your participation in this 10 question survey will help ensure the voices of child care providers and families are included as funding decisions are made! **If you share your name, phone number and email address at the bottom, you will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 gift card.**

National Afterschool STEM Program Survey by Million Girls Moonshot

Million Girls Moonshot (MGM) is an afterschool equity initiative that seeks to reimagine who can engineer, who can build, who can make. PSAYDN, as part of MGM, is helping to support out-of-school time programs as they increase the quality of STEM learning opportunities for all young people, especially for underserved and underrepresented youth. This survey will help PSAYDN to better understand how we can best support afterschool and summer programs statewide. Everyone who completes the survey will be invited to an exclusive webinar on hands-on engineering activities kids can do at home. Plus, 10 respondents will receive a \$100 gift card.

PCCYFS provides resource guide on youth trauma services

As agencies prepare to develop or enhance their approach to the needs of children and youth who have experienced trauma, the PA Council of Children Youth and Family Services developed a resource guide for these efforts – including an overview of trauma models, their target areas, pros and cons and access to cost information. Special thanks to Mel Beidler and Lisa Lowrie who initiated the paper and to Danielle Hornung, social work intern for PCCYFS for her additional research and final writing of the document. Download the guide [here](#).

Safe Routes Philly is LIVE!

[Safe Routes Philly](#) (SRP) is now LIVE! SRP is Philadelphia's transportation safety education program for youth that provides training, resources, and support to Philadelphia schools. The newly launched series of resources for educators and families - lessons, out of school time resources, and parent materials – are available here: [PreK](#), [Elementary School](#) (K-5), [Middle School](#) (6-8) and [High School](#)! Training will be available through City of Philadelphia's Office of

Transportation, Infrastructure, and Sustainability (OTIS). Please explore the resources and share widely!

City, School District partner to provide summer programming

Welcome families! After a year of virtual learning, we understand that more than ever, our students will be seeking academic support, opportunities to connect with their peers over the summer, and help in preparing to return to in-person learning in the fall of 2021.

We have designed our summer programming to meet the challenges we know our students face right now. By partnering with the [City of Philadelphia's Office of Children and Families](#), [University of Pennsylvania](#), [William Penn Foundation](#), [Read2Succeed](#), and the [Philadelphia Youth Network](#), teachers, and principals, we've created a well-rounded range of academic and enrichment experiences. We are excited to welcome students entering grades K -12 when summer programming begins on June 28, 2021.

Summers matter! Here's why.

Summer learning programs are proven to maintain and advance students' academic and social growth. It's likely for students to experience learning loss during summer vacation. This is sometimes referred to as the summer slide. Because they're not engaging in learning every day, students can forget what they learned during the school year. An academic summer program that incorporates enrichment experiences is the perfect way to engage students and make sure they don't forget the critical skills they have already learned, especially given the school year's unique nature.

Which of our students is a good fit for summer programming?

All current School District of Philadelphia students entering grades K-12 are eligible and encouraged to participate! Summer learning programs are proven to reinforce and build new skills, sending young people back to school in September ready to learn. Additionally, summer youth employment programs engage older youth in meaningful activities that help them cultivate new skills, prepare for college, improve grades, and earn money.

When exploring summer programming, please see the information related to the grade your child WILL BE IN when entering school this coming fall. And contact us with any questions.

How do I get started?

Go [here](#) and use the links to access the programming that is available for the grade your student will be entering in the fall. All the important specifics, including how to register, are included for each age group.

Families First – Fast Five for Families

You can now access our complete resource database [HERE!](#) Additionally, please see our upcoming virtual family training and events for Families First and the PICC. Now, on with the links!

1. **Webinar: Book Event for Oscar’s Tower of Flowers**

Join Home Grown, Parent Child+, and The Book Vine for Children for a discussion of the newly released book, Oscar’s Tower of Flowers on Tuesday, **May 25th, 2:00-2:45 pm ET**. Oscar’s Tower of Flowers by author-illustrator Lauren Tobia is a wordless picture book featuring Oscar and his caregiver, Nana. When Oscar’s mom has to go away for a while, Oscar and Nana sow seeds and grow flowers everywhere, which they share with their community. Home-based child care providers who register for the event are eligible to receive a free copy of the book. [Click here to register.](#)

2. **7 Scientific Benefits of Reading Printed Books**

In recent years, print books have seen a resurgence, and for good reason—they can be better for your brain and health, according to science. Here are just a few of the reasons why. [Click here to read.](#)

3. **Sesame Street: Racial Justice**

All kids need a strong individual and group identity, but racism hurts the healthy development of both. Racism hurts our entire society. Whether you and the children in your care are directly affected by racism or you’re allies of those who are, engaging honestly and directly with little ones is the beginning of building racial literacy (the skills needed to talk thoughtfully about race and to identify and respond to racism). Here are resources to develop children’s understanding, curiosity, resilience, and empathy—and to prepare for the task of building a better world by standing up, standing tall, and standing together. [Click here for the series.](#)

4. **Raising Socially Conscious Kids: Self Care for Parents**

Jill and Chris are back with a brand episode of their show this time focused on [Self Care for Parents](#). The series is about helping parents of young children use their privilege to serve others. Check out some of their earlier episodes below:

- a. [Talking to Children About Skin Color](#)
- b. [Books and Resources To Teach about Diversity and Anti-Bias](#)
- c. [Work Ethic and Social Responsibility](#)

5. **Chinatown Scavenger Hunt - Summer Edition**

Discover Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month in neighboring Chinatown through the Chinatown Scavenger Hunt - Summer Edition! From May 10 to July 3, 2021, you will be able to take in all that Chinatown has to offer in this free activity that is open to all ages. This open-air event will guide you through the history and vibrancy of Chinatown as not only a foodie destination but also as one of culture and community. You can register to participate in the event by visiting the Franklin Square Ticket Window during regular operating hours. You may also register online (see below).

Dates: May 10–July 3

[Register here.](#)

Families of young children: Sign up for SNAP!

P-EBT for children age 0-5 will only go to families who are enrolled in SNAP and there's still time to sign up! Please encourage families to apply for SNAP benefits. Ways to apply:

- Call the BenePhilly hotline at 1-844-848-4376. You can share BenePhilly flyers in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)
- Call the Coalition Against Hunger's SNAP Hotline Monday – Thursday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Friday from 9:00 am to 4 pm at 215-430-0556. You can also fill out a form to request application help: <http://www.hungercoalition.org/snaphelp>
- Apply through PA's Compass Website: www.compass.state.pa.us

Sign up for Summer! Check out PlayItSafePHL for Summer Activities and News

The City of Philadelphia and partners are proud to announce the return of fun, safe, and enriching summer activities for all Philadelphia children, teens, and families. [PlayItSafePHL is your family's guide to this summer's activities and events!](#) Find camps, summer jobs, ways to get involved, and more at phila.gov/PlayItSafePHL

Parent Cafes: Parenting Education and Support Groups

[Click here](#) for a link to Parent Cafes in 10 different neighborhoods throughout the city. Parent Cafes are safe spaces where parents can share a meal and learn from each other.

Act Now to Claim the Child Tax Credit!

Most Philadelphia families with children qualify for a new monthly payment of \$250 or \$300 per child starting in July. This new benefit is part of the American Rescue Plan and could mean hundreds or thousands of dollars in direct payments for families to help pay for rent, utility bills, diapers, clothes, or anything else that will help them thrive. If every eligible Philadelphian gets the credit, it could lift an estimated 75,000 Philadelphians out of poverty! In order to do that, we need your help to spread the word. **The good news is that it's really easy to receive! All families need to do is file their taxes, even if they don't normally file or have no income.** If you don't have a Social Security Number but your kids do, you may still be eligible to claim the Child Tax Credit.

Eligibility

To qualify for the credit, families with children must be:

- single with income under \$75,000,
- single and file taxes as a head of household with income under \$112,500, or
- married with a combined income under \$150,000, or even if your income is \$0.

You can get \$3,000 each year for children between the ages of 6-17, and \$3,600 for children under 6. If you have a higher income, you may still be able to get smaller payments.

How to File for Free

Most Philadelphia families can file their income taxes for free with Campaign for Working Families, a safe and trusted partner of the City of Philadelphia.

Visit cwfphilly.org or call 215-454-6483 to get started now! [Download a 1-page fact sheet to learn more.](#)

Job Openings

- Need part-time work? **AFEL is hiring Family Ambassadors** who live in 19104 and care for a child ages 0-8. Must be passionate about early childhood education. Email actionece@pec-cares.org for more information.
- **Precious Babies** is hiring at all of our six locations for Non Degree with 2 years experience, CDA'S and Degreed candidates. Please call 215-694-0916 or email resume to kencurrypb@gmail.com

An Open Letter from KellyEducation:

Dear Center Director,

As the director of a busy center, you have a lot on your plate and finding capable qualified substitute teaching staff can be a challenge. Handling employee absences due to COVID-19 or other illnesses, vacations, temporary leave, and other absences can be extremely difficult. This is especially true as we are coming out of a pandemic resulting in an even bigger staffing crisis. We can help.

Teachers On Call, a Kelly Education Company, has been partnering with leading Early Childhood Education Centers in the Twin Cities area of Minnesota with temporary teachers and aides since 1999. We have grown from a few centers to over 200 today and work with a wide variety of centers including large groups, small independent centers, Head Starts, and church-based centers across multiple states.

As a result of our success, Kelly Education is expanding into the greater Philadelphia and Pittsburgh areas of Pennsylvania and would like to introduce ourselves to you. [The corresponding flier](#) provides further information and highlights the ways we can take the challenge of finding substitutes off your plate. We help by providing DHS qualified staff so you can ensure your ratios are compliant at all times. We are providing services to licensed DHS centers, not in-home family care.

Our anticipated launch of services for Philadelphia and Pittsburgh is September 2021. At this time, we are gaining customer interest, contracting, and building up a substitute pool so we are prepared to launch in September. We will enroll clients based on our substitute pool so act fast!

I would love to start a conversation and provide additional details about our services. Please visit our website at www.kellyeducationalstaffing.us or contact me directly at ececenterofexcellence@kellyservices.com or 952-223-8398 to learn more.

Best wishes,

Emily Penz

Manager, Early Childhood Education, Center of Excellence

ececenterofexcellence@kellyservices.com

Direct: 952-223-8398

Daycare Center for sale

North Philadelphia STAR 3 center with a capacity of 108. Center is fully operating in 7400 sq.ft. of leased space in a central location with a separate parking lot. Email sunbeltnetworkpa@comcast.net for more information or call/text (267) 518-8171. *(Important note: Child care licenses are non-transferrable and as a new owner you would be responsible for securing your own Certificate of Compliance from OCDEL.)*

Mental Health Awareness Month

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and this year's campaign will once again feature many virtual events with opportunities to hear speakers and explore resources. The Pennsylvania Care Partnership has created an online [Mental Health Awareness Month 2021 Resource Page](#) that includes upcoming events, guides, and archives of previous events/webinars.

PA.gov offers an online resource guide for mental health that includes COVID-19 specific resources and Pennsylvania specific mental health resources/improvements. Discover more at pa.gov/guides/mental-health

Boost Your Mood!

The [Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services](#) (DBHIDS) is launching a new public awareness campaign that offers a behavioral health booster for the mind while people are getting their COVID-19 vaccination to protect their bodies.

The campaign, titled [Boost Your Mood](#), brings information on how to easily access mental health services and care directly to people at COVID-19 vaccination sites throughout the city. The campaign brings behavioral health resources — including wellness tips and emergency and non-emergency mental health phone numbers — directly to people through signage and flyers. Those seeking additional support for children, adults, families, and communities also will have the opportunity to access online tools such as expert blogs, a free mental health self-screening, an extensive packet of [downloadable information](#).

“At DBHIDS, we are committed to reducing the stigma of seeking mental health and

substance use treatment services,” DBHIDS Commissioner Jill Bowen, Ph.D., said. “As hopes rise with expanded efforts to distribute the COVID-19 vaccine, we recognize the impact on mental wellness and the importance of raising awareness about the need to take care of your behavioral health.”

While the campaign is most visible at vaccination sites, the message — that it’s OK to not be OK in these difficult times and that help is out there — extends beyond COVID-19 and speaks to the multiple layers of trauma impacting Philadelphians every day. The past year of overwhelming stress and anxiety is not limited to the isolation and toll associated with the coronavirus. It also includes the growth of poverty as jobs disappeared and businesses shuttered. It includes parents turning their homes into schoolhouses while trying to make ends meet. And it includes months of civil unrest in the city, along with the plague of increased gun violence, the ongoing overdose crisis, and more.

In the year since COVID arrived in Philadelphia, we all have experienced a prolonged trauma of stress, anxiety, isolation, and loss. But it’s important to remember: It’s OK to not be OK. You’re not alone. [Help is out there.](#)

That’s all for now. I hope you have (had) a wonderful weekend and that you’ll plan to join us for one of the networking meetings starting in June!

Take good care,
Diane

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