

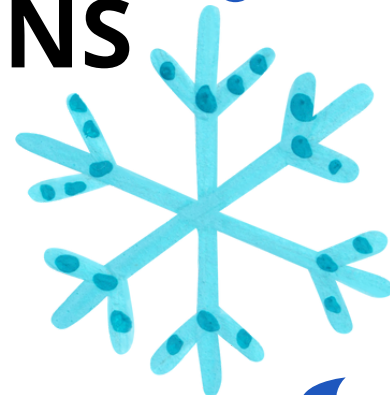


CARE CONNECTIONS

Child Care Resource & Referral

CARE Connections CCR&R is excited to announce the addition of 2 new staff members to help expand our services in Coos and Curry Counties (see pages 2-3)! This means that we will also be able to offer more professional development opportunities in 2023. We hope that you have a wonderful holiday season & a happy new year!

-The CARE Connections Team



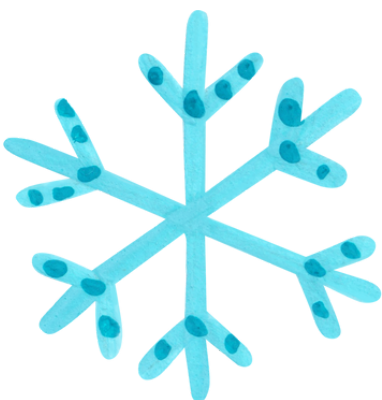
**VISIT US ON
FACEBOOK:**

<https://www.facebook.com/CARE-Connections-CCRR-CoosCurry-105433120792959>



INSTAGRAM:

[Look us up!](#)
care_connections_socc



CARE CONNECTIONS HAS A NEW
BABY PROMISE GRANT COORDINATOR:

Cari Pickett



“ I am very excited for this transition, and am looking forward to learning all of what my new position entails! Here is a little about me; I enjoy cooking, (almost) anything outdoors, gardening, fishing, officiating volleyball (which we desperately need officials in ALL local sports- reach out if you are interested!!), kayaking, and traveling/seeing new places and all of the things those places have to offer!”

Welcome to the CARE Connections team Cari!

CARE CONNECTIONS HAS A NEW
EARLY EDUCATION EXPANSION
SPECIALIST

Jaimee Rice



"I am extremely happy to return to early education as CARE Connection's Early Education Expansion Specialist. I have two teenage sons that are the light of my life; they always keep it real and forever amaze me with their big hearts as brothers and as individuals. I also have a baby girl who is about 5 months old is our surprise family blessing; she is as precious as it gets and brings out a side of her brothers that makes me a proud mom every day. As a family, we love pizza movie nights, family game time and all things outdoors."

Welcome to the CARE Connections team Jaimee!



ELD Update

COMPLETE THE FOUNDATIONS FOR LEARNING TRAINING BEFORE END OF YEAR

The required training called “Foundations for Learning” is available to early care and education (ECE) providers. This free, two-hour training on child development is available on the “Learning with OCCD” website in English, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, and Traditional Chinese. The deadline to complete this course is December 31, 2022. To access this training, visit occd.educadium.com

UPDATED COVID-19 GUIDANCE NOW AVAILABLE

As Oregon continues to focus on COVID-19 prevention, ELD and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), has updated Oregon’s Child Care Provider COVID-19 Requirements and Recommendations, effective Nov. 9, 2022.

Some key updates to COVID-19 guidance include:

- Removal of requirement to quarantine if exposed and not symptomatic. Providers are still required to exclude any child or staff who has COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status.
- Removal of requirement to notify Local Public Health Authority (LPHA) for every COVID-19 case. Instead, providers will be required to report elevated levels of absenteeism due to respiratory illness.
- Added recommendation: When returning to care after isolation, individuals 2 years and older should wear a mask for an additional five days. Individuals who cannot or do not wear a mask should continue to be excluded for an additional five days, for a total of 10 days.
- Updated vaccine and booster recommendations

For questions about COVID-19, please contact your LPHA or email OHA at COVID.19@dhsosha.state.or.us. Additionally, you can contact the Office of Child Care at 1-800-556-6616 or email ProviderContact@state.or.us.

COMING JANUARY 2023! A webinar video series on the new school-age rules.

This series will provide an overview of the rules, explain key features and how rules are organized, and highlight any changes in rules or new rules. The Office of Child Care is here to support you, your staff, and your program. If you have any questions, contact your Licensing Specialist or call 1-800-556-6616.



ELD Update

FINANCE TRAININGS AVAILABLE TO EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION (ECE) PROVIDERS

First Children's Finance (FCF) is partnering with ELD to offer training opportunities for ECE providers to support financial management and grant reporting. This month and next, FCF will host sessions specifically about separating your family child care finances from your personal finances. During this two-hour training, family providers will learn basic tools to separate personal and business finances. Attendees will also learn to use computer and file systems to organize financial documents and discover how to develop a business budget.

Session 1 (English)

6 to 8 p.m., December 15

REGISTER NOW BY SCANNING THIS QR CODE →



Session 2 (English)

6 to 8 p.m. December 19

REGISTER NOW BY SCANNING THIS QR CODE →



Session 3 (Spanish)

6 to 8 p.m. January 11

REGISTER NOW BY SCANNING THIS QR CODE →



Another resource that is available to providers is free consultation time. Providers can reach out to Kari Stattelmann karis@firstchildrensfinance.org for more information or to schedule a consultation. Consultation is available in Spanish.

LAST TUESDAYS WITH

Lakeshore[®]

Establishing Relationships with Families

Research shows that the more families and teachers share relevant information with each other about a child, the better equipped both will be to help that child. It is imperative that we gain the trust of families, so that we can be a partner with them to support their child's learning and growth. Each moment that teachers and children interact is an opportunity to develop positive relationships. In this session, we will explore effective communication strategies to build positive relationships with children and their families to promote the success of each child.

**Tuesday, 1/31/23****6 - 7:30 pm****1.5 hours Set 2
FCS**

Training will be held via Zoom.
Pre-registration is required.

To register:

LAST TUESDAYS WITH

Lakeshore®

DEVELOPING A NURTURING
ENVIRONMENT TO PROMOTE
CHILD DEVELOPMENT
1.5 HRS SET 2 ~ HGD



February 28, 2023



6:00 - 7:30 PM

» REGISTER
NOW!



ASSISTING CHILDREN WITH
SPECIAL NEEDS
1.5 HRS SET 2 ~ SN



March 28, 2023



6:00 - 7:30 PM

» REGISTER
NOW!



Trainings will be
held via Zoom.
Pre-registration
is required.

INFANT/TODDLER:
ADDRESSING CHALLENGING
BEHAVIORS
1.5 HRS SET 2 ~ UGB



April 25, 2023



6:00 - 7:30 PM

» REGISTER
NOW!



LITERACY AS A TOOL
TO PROMOTE
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION
1.5 HRS SET 2 ~ DIV



May 30, 2023



6:00 - 7:30 PM

» REGISTER
NOW!



Rating Renewal Updates

Spark has some exciting new options for renewing your star rating certificate!

Initial star ratings last for 3 years and can be extended in one-year increments. Previously, programs could extend their certificate by completing a Spark Program Update Report (SPUR). After determining that the SPUR did not fully capture all of the activities that programs were engaged in to maintain the level of quality represented by their Spark rating, it was decided to create a more robust and meaningful process.

Programs now have 5 options to share their continuous quality improvement efforts and extend their Spark certificate for one year. These options allow programs to choose which activities are most relevant and share the outcome of their efforts.

Option 1 – Complete a Spark Renewal Portfolio

The Spark Rating Renewal Portfolio consists of 9 Spark standards. The Renewal Portfolio can be submitted electronically, or printed and sent in via email or postal mail.

Option 2 – Resubmit your Spark Portfolio for a higher star rating

Have you been thinking about resubmitting your portfolio for a higher star rating? This is a great time to do it and we are happy to help. Reach out for the most current version of the Spark portfolio, and your previous Summary Score Sheet, if needed.

Option 3 – Request an on-site observation

Invite a member of the Spark Assessment team to do an on-site observation with your program. The assessor will use either the CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) or the ERS (Environment Rating Scale) tool to evaluate your program environment and interactions. A detailed summary will be shared with you, highlighting strengths and offering opportunities for growth.

Option 4 – Participate in collaborative CQI efforts

Are you currently part of a Focused Child Care Network, or working with a coach or mentor? If so, you can share your experiences, goals and continuous quality improvement efforts to renew your Spark certificate.

Option 5 – Participate in professional development activities related to Spark Standards

Professional development is a great way to ensure that your program environment, policies, and practices are aligned with the Spark standards. You can renew your Spark certificate by sharing the activities you and your staff have participated in during the past year and how you have implemented what you learned.

Is your Spark certificate due for renewal? You can begin this process by completing a SPUR, which can be found on our website, [here](#). Scroll down to find the Spark Program Update Report which is available in Spanish, Russian, and English. On the form, click on box #2, *I would like an updated certificate showing my rating is current. (If your rating has expired, you may be emailed a Rating Renewal to complete before an updated certificate is sent.)* When we receive your SPUR, you will be sent the information and documents needed to select your renewal method and complete the process. You will also be sent a 3-month extension of your certificate to allow time to complete the process. If you need additional time, just let us know!

For more information about any aspect of the renewal process, please contact the Spark Helpline at 877-768-8290 or grishelp@wou.edu





SUPPORTING LITERACY AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT FOR DUAL LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Are you interested in learning more about supporting dual language learners? This FREE 7 week series will provide 14 hours of Set 1 training.

Session 1: Foundational Concepts

HGD - 2 hours

Session 2: Family Engagement & Importance of Home Language

FCS - 2 hours

Session 3: Building Children's Background Knowledge

HGD - 2 hours

Session 4: Building Vocabulary and Oral Language Skills

HGD - 2 hours

Session 5: Building Alphabet Knowledge and Early Writing

LEC - 2 hours

Session 6: Building Knowledge of Books and Print Concepts

LEC - 2 hours

Session 7: Building Phonological Awareness

LEC - 2 hours

Location: Newmark Center - Classroom 201 (2nd Floor)
Southwestern Oregon Community College

February 2nd - March 16th (Thursday evenings)
6:00pm-8:00pm

Call CARE Connections at 541.888.7957 or email
alugoferrin@socc.edu to register today!



SOUTHWESTERN
AN OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE



CARE Connections



InQueery: Questioning Our Approach to Gender in Early Childhood Education

**Wednesday, March 1st, 2023
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM via Zoom**

Participants will examine LGBTQ+ community vocabulary and question the Early Childhood Education approach to gender identity in order to determine if their program is a welcoming classroom environment for the LGBTQ+ community



Trainer: Natalie Gordon

Set 2

CKC: DIV

Age: IT, PK



To pre-register for this training please scan the QR code or go to:
<https://socc-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUlDOGgqz8uGtVpcMABXyqdalul1YaMHR2Z->





Reimbursement Money Available!

There are funds available that you may qualify for! You can be reimbursed for the cost of training, lead testing, and cost to meet ODHS health and safety guidelines. Below is a list of the reimbursements and requirements:

For License Exempt Providers Participating in DHS Subsidy:

1. Lead Testing Reimbursement: Reimburse the cost of lead testing and correction actions if required.
2. Safety & Quality Enhancement Reimbursement: Reimburse the cost of equipment or facility repairs to help comply with ODHS health and safety requirements.
3. Training Reimbursement: Reimburse the cost of attending trainings, workshops, conferences and/or taking college classes.

For Licensed Providers and Centers:

1. First Aid/CPR training: Reimbursement for *Aide 1* and *Assistant 1* Providers and *Licensed Family Child Care Providers* who completed First Aid/CPR training.
2. Lead Testing Reimbursement: Reimburse the cost of lead testing.

To Apply:

We are excited to announce that there is a new easier way for providers to submit their payment requests through the new [Secure Portal](#)! This user and mobile-friendly site will allow for a faster and more secure submission of payment requests including stipends, reimbursements, Spark Supports, and Focused Child Care Network.

Providers and CCR&R staff will have direct access to download forms, fill them out electronically, and upload them to submit. All forms are available in English, Spanish, Russian, Mandarin, and Vietnamese.

[Click here for detailed instructions on how to use the secure portal.](#)

If you have any questions please email tripayments@wou.edu or call 1-800-342-6712





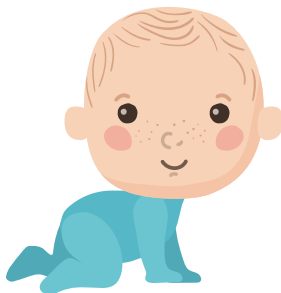
BABY
P R O M I S E

Are you providing developmental screenings in your program?

Many resources
on this website!



Home
Uncover the knowledge to change a life with Ages & Stages Questionnaires® (ASQ).



ALL ABOUT Developmental Screening

What is developmental screening?

- Developmental screening is a short, easy-to-complete formal test of young children's developmental skills, such as motor, cognitive, language, and social-emotional skills.
- A developmental screener reliably distinguishes children who should be referred for further, more comprehensive assessment from those who don't need to be referred.¹
- Doctors, nurses, and other early childhood professionals use developmental screening to tell if children are on track with developing basic skills, or if they might have delays.²
- A developmental screening tool, such as ASQ®-3, is a research-based instrument that asks questions about a child's development and gathers information.³
- All children should receive developmental screenings.³

Why do we need developmental screening?

- Before the age of 18, about **one in seven** children in the United States will experience a developmental disability or a disabling behavioral problem.⁵
- Before the age of five, as many as **one in four** U.S. children are at risk for developmental delays or disabilities.⁴
- **Fewer than 50%** of these children are **identified before starting school**.⁵
- Identifying delays early and providing help before age five **produces effects that significantly exceed** those of services provided to school-age children.¹



PRESCHOOL P R O M I S E

Environmental Rating Scales

In previous newsletters we have looked at your fine motor and book areas of your classrooms. For this quarter, we will focus on the art area. Mark off each material you have in your classroom:

Art		
General considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> All materials must be accompanied by paper, as needed, or another surface for use when carrying out artwork <input type="checkbox"/> At least one material needed <u>from each category</u> . <input type="checkbox"/> Support diversity through the art materials presented		
<u>Art Possibilities</u>		
Drawing		
<input type="checkbox"/> Chalk <input type="checkbox"/> Chalkboards	<input type="checkbox"/> Crayons <input type="checkbox"/> Dry erase boards/markers	<input type="checkbox"/> Markers <input type="checkbox"/> Colored pencils
Paints		
<input type="checkbox"/> Finger paints	<input type="checkbox"/> Tempera paints	<input type="checkbox"/> Watercolors
3D		
<input type="checkbox"/> Boxes <input type="checkbox"/> Clay <input type="checkbox"/> Modeling compound	<input type="checkbox"/> Pipe cleaners <input type="checkbox"/> Playdough <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Cardboard pieces/tubes/egg cartons <input type="checkbox"/> Wood scraps
Collage		
<input type="checkbox"/> Feathers <input type="checkbox"/> Felt pieces <input type="checkbox"/> Glitter <input type="checkbox"/> Magazines <input type="checkbox"/> Loose parts/recyclables	<input type="checkbox"/> Paper scraps <input type="checkbox"/> Glue/paste <input type="checkbox"/> Pom-poms <input type="checkbox"/> Sequins <input type="checkbox"/> Stickers	<input type="checkbox"/> Stickers <input type="checkbox"/> Yarn/string <input type="checkbox"/> Buttons <input type="checkbox"/> Cotton balls <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Tools		
<input type="checkbox"/> Hole punches <input type="checkbox"/> Playdough tools <input type="checkbox"/> Rollers <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors	<input type="checkbox"/> Rulers <input type="checkbox"/> Sponge painters <input type="checkbox"/> Stamps/stamp pads <input type="checkbox"/> Staplers	<input type="checkbox"/> Stencils <input type="checkbox"/> Tape/masking tape <input type="checkbox"/> Dot markers <input type="checkbox"/> Brushes

Take a look at your current art area and think about the following:

- Are art activities child-led or teacher-led (a pre-cut out activity/mass-produced)
- Can children use art materials in their own way?
- How accessible are art materials to children throughout the day?
- Are there enough materials to rotate?

Inclusive Partners

— Opening Doors For Oregon's Children —

Tip of the Month

Did you know....

There are a variety of materials you can add to your space to make it a more inclusive and trauma responsive environment?

When we provide structure and consistency in our environments, we are supporting all children regardless of age or ability. Here are a few ideas that may be helpful.

- **Timers:** these tools can help adults stick to the routine without constantly checking the clock. They are also a visual support for children to know when one activity ends and when a transition begins. Transitions should feel authentic, respectful, and natural. Access to timers, that can be regulated by children, aid in cooperative play too. Kitchen timers, small hour glasses, and visual timers like the Time Timer help children to see the passage of time, even if they cannot read a clock.
- **Placemats or trays:** using these tools at the table during meal or activity times helps children to define their own bubble and helps teachers have a clear way of redirecting children back to their own space.
- **Adjustable tables:** using these tools can provide an alternative to sitting for those children who could benefit from standing during meals or activity times.
- **Loop resistance bands:** these tools can be placed around chair legs to give busy feet something to do while sitting.
- **Flexible seating:** providing a variety of seating options can make a big difference. Consider adding armchairs, wobble stools, balance ball chairs, bumpy seats/cushions, Storytime Cushions, or ErgoErgo seats. Providing a diverse assortment of these tools offers children who want to move the option to move and children with anxiety an extra level of comfort.

If you have more questions or want more ideas to enhance your classroom environment, reach out to Inclusive Partners. Call us at 971-673-2286 or email DELC.InclusivePartners@ode.oregon.gov



Early Childhood & Family Studies Program

Winter 2023

30 DIV ● **ED 258 01 Multicultural Education- (3 Credit) Online**

This course introduces anti-bias educational theory and multicultural approaches to teaching, with a focus on how to creatively develop relationships and learning environments that value diversity and help children respect each other as individuals.

30 UGB ● **ECE 151 01 Guidance and Classroom Management - (3 Credit) Online**

This course introduces students to the principles of positive guidance, emphasizes the role of the teacher, and the use of direct and indirect techniques for individual and group guidance and management.

30 LEC ● **ECE 152 01 Creative Activities in ECE - (3 Credit) Online**

A practical curriculum course focusing on understanding and implementing a developmental approach to creative activities.

20 LEC 10 OA ● **ECE 163 01 & 163B 01 Preschool Practicum/Environments - (5 Credit) Online**

Prerequisites: ECE 150; Central Background Registry (CBR) check is required for this course.

The first in a sequence of courses with a practicum co-requisite designed to assist students in gaining experience working with young children in a laboratory or qualified preschool setting.

20 FCS 20 LEC 20 OA ● **ECE 261 01 & 261B 01 PreK Practicum/Student Teaching- (6 Credit) Online**

Prerequisites: ECE 150; Central Background Registry (CBR) check is required for this course.

The first in a sequence of courses with a practicum co-requisite designed to assist students in gaining experience working with young children in a laboratory or qualified infant/toddler setting.

30 FCS ● **HDFS 140 01 Contemporary American Families- (3 Credit) Online**

Prerequisites: WR 121

An introductory course in marriage and family studies that focuses on the diversity of the contemporary American family today as well as giving an overview of relationships and changes in the family environment and structure over time.

30 FCS ● **HDFS 227 01 Parents as Partners in Education - (3 Credit) Online**

Collaborative family partnerships are a key to success in early childhood programs. Course topics highlight formal and informal communication with parents and the community, and how to be culturally-responsive within these relationships.

20 HGD 10 OA ● **HDFS 247 01 Preschool Child Development - (3 Credit) Online**

This course covers the principles of theory and development for children aged conception through eight years of age. Emphasis is placed on physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development of children, including a strong focus on brain development.

Please check out our website at: <http://www.socc.edu/childhood>

Email us at ece@socc.edu

*ORO hours listed are subject to change, please check your Oregon Registry for final hours of credits after submission.

Registration Open Now!



SOUTHWESTERN

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CARE Connections, your local Child Care Resource & Referral serving Coos and Curry Counties, is a non-profit organization funded through the Oregon Early Learning Division. Our mission is to improve the quality of early learning experiences for young children by providing education, information and support to those that care for young children.

CARE Connections links families and Early Educators to each other and to other resources in the community. For early educator training, education, and program information, please call or email:

Coos Office: 541-888-7957

Curry Office: 541-813-1674

Toll-Free: 1-800-611-7555

Website: <https://www.socc.edu/for-the-community/care-connections/>

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CARE Connections



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CARE Connections

Toll-Free 1-800-611-7555

Child Care Referrals 211info.org

Email children@211info.org

USDA Food Program

OCDC 541-770-5893