

# CARE CONNECTIONS CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL



Season's Greetings from the South Coast Regional Early Learning Hub (SCREL)  
and CARE Connections CCR&R Staff!



As the weather gets colder, things are really warming up for CARE Connections. We have more than doubled our staff size in the last few months, which means that we will be able to provide more trainings, technical assistance, and individualized support for Early Educators in 2020! Please see the next few pages of our newsletter to get to know our new staff members a little better. They are looking forward to getting to know you and providing support to help you achieve professional goals and continuous quality improvement. We hope you have a Happy New Year!

# New Employees!

Please join us in welcoming the newest members to the CARE Connections team!



**Kallie Mill**  
Baby Promise Infant Toddler Specialist  
Especialista en Infantes y Niños Pequeños para Baby Promise

Hi! My name is Kallie Mill and I am so excited to be the Infant Toddler Specialist for Baby Promise! I have had many years working with infants and toddlers including the child care center at a teen parent program for 9 years and as a home visitor for Healthy Families Oregon for the past 6 years! Working with families that desperately need child care made me very interested in this position! I am honored to be a part of this project! I recently received an Infant Toddler Mental Health Certificate from Portland State University it has motivated me to continue the work in the ITMH field. I am a native to Coos County and love being involved in this community. I love singing, dancing and my happy planner!!

Hola! Mi nombre es Kallie Mill y estoy muy emocionada de ser la Especialista en Infantes y Niños Pequeños para Baby Promise! He trabajado por muchos años con infantes y niños pequeños incluyendo en el centro de cuidado infantil de un programa para padres adolescentes por 9 años y como visitadora del hogar con Healthy Families Oregon por los últimos 6 años! Trabajar con familias que necesitan desesperadamente cuidado infantil fué lo que me interesó de ésta posición! Me siento honrada de ser parte de éste proyecto! Recientemente recibí la certificación como Especialista de Salud Mental para Infantes y Niños Pequeños de la Universidad del Estado de Oregon y eso me ha motivado para continuar trabajando en éste campo. Soy nativa de Coos County y me encanta estar envuelta en la comunidad. Me encanta cantar, bailar y mi happy planner!!

Hello!!!

My name is Ana Lugo-Ferrin, completely new in my position as a Quality Improvement Specialist but very excited about all the new things I am learning and eager to put them into practice. I have a Bachelor Degree in Art with emphasis in Learning Disabilities from the University of Puerto Rico. I worked as a PK teacher assistant in Germany for two years. Later on, I worked for 6 years as a PK teacher in Texas. In 2007, I moved to Coos Bay and started working with SWOCC as an English Language Learners teacher. I worked in that role for 8 years. During that time, I started working at the Family Center as a substitute and became a Master Trainer, title that allows me to offer trainings to parents, child care providers and teachers. In 2016, an opportunity to work with Healthy Families Oregon for 3 years, a job that I enjoyed and taught me so much. Today, I am learning many new things and very soon, I will be able to assist Early Educators across Coos and Curry Counties. Hope to meet you soon!!

Hola!!!

Mi nombre es Ana Lugo-Ferrin, completamente nueva en ésta posición como Especialista en Mejora de Calidad pero muy contenta por todo lo nuevo que estoy aprendiendo y con mucho deseo de ponerlo en practica. Tengo un Bachillerato en Arte con una concentracion en Dificultades de Aprendizaje de la Universidad de Puerto Rico. Trabajé como asistente de maestra de prescolares en Alemania por dos años. Luego, trabajé por 6 años como maestra de prescolares en Texas. En 2007, me mudé a Coos Bay y comencé a trabajar en SWOCC como maestra de Ingles como Segundo Idioma, trabajé en ese rol por 8 años. Simultaneamente, comencé a trabajar en el Family Center como sustituta y me hize Master Trainer, título que me permite ofrecer entrenamiento a padres, proveedoras de cuidado infantil y maestros. En el 2016, tuve la oportunity de trabajar con Healthy Families Oregon por 3 años, trabajo que disfrute y me enseñó tanto. Hoy estoy aprendiendo muchas cosas nuevas y muy pronto voy a poder asistir a Educadores de Temprana Edad en los condados de Coos y Curry. Espero conocerte pronto!!



Ana Lugo-Ferrin  
Quality Improvement Specialist  
Especialista en Mejora de Calidad

Hello! My name is Laura Reyes-Cortez and I am so happy to be the new Baby Promise Grant Coordinator!

I moved to Coos Bay just this summer and joined the CARE Connections team at the beginning of November. I have over 10 years of local government experience providing guidance, evidence-based evaluations, and recommendations to government programs, non-profits, and small businesses. Before that, I worked in child care and in retail customer service. I have a master's degree in accounting from San Diego State University and a bachelor's degree in French from California State University, Sacramento.

In my free time, I enjoy re-reading Harry Potter, walking my dogs, eating good food, and doing fitness classes-especially barre, yoga, and Zumba! I love learning and helping others, and am so excited for the chance to do that and more with Baby Promise. My hope for this role is to help strengthen and grow the network of vital services you all provide for this community.



Laura Reyes-Cortez  
Baby Promise Grant Coordinator  
Coordinadora para el Programa de Baby Promise

Hello! Mi nombre es Laura Reyes-Cortez y estoy tan contenta de ser la nueva Coordinadora para el Programa de Baby Promise!

Acabo de mudarme a Coos Bay apenas este verano y me uni al equipo de CARE Connections a comienzos de Noviembre. Tengo sobre más 10 años de experiencia en gobierno local proveyendo guía, evaluaciones basadas en evidencias, y recomendaciones para programas gubernamentales, sin fines de lucro y pequeños negocios. Anteriormente, trabajé en cuidado de niños y en servicios al cliente. Tengo una de maestría en contabilidad de la Universidad Estatal de San Diego y un bachillerato en francés de la Universidad Estatal de California, Sacramento.

En mi tiempo libre, disfruto releer Harry Potter, caminar a mis perros, comer exquisita comida, y tomar clases de barra, yoga y Zumba! Me encanta aprender y ayudar a otros y estoy tan emocionada por la oportunidad de hacer eso y más, gracias a Baby Promise. Mi esperanza para ésta posición es ayudar a fortalecer y hacer crecer la red de servicios vitales que todos brindan a ésta comunidad.

# Important Updates!

## **Annual Updates**

CARE Connections will be taking over the enrollment updates for child care providers through 211 in Coos and Curry Counties. We will be checking in with each of you to see if you have had changes in the past year, or vacancies. If you have an update you would like to make about openings or change in hours before we call you, you can reach us at 541-888-7957 to make these changes sooner.

## **CBR Fee Waived!**

Did you know the Central Background Registry fee has been waived? If you or a staff member working in your facility needs to renew the CBR, it is now **FREE!** For more information please visit <https://oregonearlylearning.com/providers-educators/providers-educators-cbr/>

## **CARE Connections Winter Break**

**CARE Connections will be closed December 20<sup>th</sup> through January 5<sup>th</sup> for the holiday. We will be back in the office January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

**Have a wonderful rest of 2019!**

# Upcoming Professional Development

Are you looking for some training hours this winter? CARE Connections is offering the following workshops and series for you!

To register please call 541-888-7957

## January

### • Kindergarten Success Begins Early

8 Week Series Tuesday evenings, Beginning January 21<sup>st</sup> - March 10<sup>th</sup> (1 hour HSN, 6 hours HGD, 1 hour LEC, 8 hours UGB)

For families and child care providers with children 0 -6. Kindergarten lays the groundwork for your child's feelings of success and competence in school and in life. How can you help your child to be ready for the new "Common Core Curriculum?" Parents make the difference in helping children to feel capable and competent in the new full-day Kindergarten.

For more information and to register please call 541-888-1588

### • Zero to Three

Thursday evenings, Beginning January 30<sup>th</sup> - May 5<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm-9:00pm

Trainings will be held at the Family Center, for more information please call Kallie Mill, Infant Toddler Specialist, 541-888-7097

## February



### • Ignite the

February 12<sup>th</sup> (1 hour PPLD) 6:00-7:30

Have you been hearing about Oregon's Quality Rating and Improvement System, Spark, and want to get a better understanding of what goes into getting a star rating? Join us as we discuss with local early educators who have submitted their portfolios and gotten star rated how much it will benefit not only you, but your community!



## *Kindergarten Success Begins Early*

January 21, 2020 - March 10, 2020

Tuesday evenings 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Family Center - 2040 Newmark Ave

Join us at the Family Center on Southwestern Oregon Community College campus for 8 weeks of fun and knowledge. These workshops are open to anyone involved in the life of a child ages 0-6.

- It is never too early to start preparing for Kindergarten. Find out what parents and caregivers can do at home to help their babies, toddlers and preschoolers be more successful in school.
- Learn useful tips and tricks from other parents going through the same stages.
- Parents make the difference in helping children to feel empowered, resourceful and creative.

These workshops will be held every Tuesday evening for 8 weeks. Please call **541-888-1588** to register, or for more information.

Participants will receive free books and Kindergarten Kits with school supplies and activities!



# Retreat by the Lake 2020

2020 Vision: The Future of Early Learning

## SAVE THE DATE

June 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> , 2020

- Multiple training tracks, including Spanish
  - Over 20 sessions to choose from
- Over 10 hours of professional development
- Door prize for all participants in attendance
- Friday Keynote Address: Heidi McGowan

Our future's so bright you've got to wear shades!



# Infant/Toddler Resources

Looking for ways to support the babies in your program? Our Infant/Toddler Specialist has you covered!

## **Space to Grow: Silence Promotes Vocabulary Development** **By Amanda Holliday via NAEYC**

Silence can be uncomfortable for some people. When we are in a conversation, there is a certain flow between the talkers. Comedians are known for their timing, which can make or break a joke. There's a tempo to our words. Culture plays a large role in how fast or slow a conversation takes place.

But what happens when we try to fill all the airspace when we talk with infants? Often adults will talk continuously to a child or ask rapid-fire questions without giving her space to respond. It's a problem most people don't recognize because it feels wrong to have silence. Babies are inundated with speech and are given little to no time to process what they are hearing. Their brains are just starting to understand the sounds used to form words—including how the pitch of your voice goes up when you ask a question—and before they can process what was just said, they are faced with more adult talk.

When you spend most of your day talking and singing to your little one, you are positively promoting his vocabulary development. Telling him a story, reading your grocery list, singing as you change his diaper, and reading books are all great ways to help your baby develop his oral language. But pauses to give your baby a moment to respond can also help him. Try this with your infant: ask one question. Anything. "How are you today?" "Do you need to poop?" It doesn't matter what the question is—just ask one question and then be silent. Count to 10 slowly in your head. Watch what happens next.

Most babies will respond when there is silence! They may coo, babble, or say "aaa." That is their way of answering your question. The reason to leave silence is to give their hardworking brains time to process all the information they are receiving from you before they can formulate a verbal response. While it is important to talk and sing to them throughout the day, it's also important to leave silent space for your little one to respond.

When you sing songs over and over to your baby, she begins to look for pattern in the sounds she is hearing. Her brain will expect certain sounds to follow each other. If you leave out the last word of the tune, she will help finish your song.

For instance, after singing "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" over and over to your baby, sing "Twinkle, twinkle, little star. How I wonder what you \_\_\_." Don't say "are," just be silent. Many older infants will make a sound in this silence because their brains are thinking, "Wait, that's not the pattern. There's another sound missing. I'll make it." It may sound like a coo or babble to you, but to them it is the end of your song!

Conversations with your infant that include silent pauses actually help to grow their vocabulary development. While they are still a while away from chatting in full sentences, their brains are laying all the foundations needed for future speech. Keep talking with them, keep singing with them, and keep loving them as they grow!

# Including Families in Child Care Programs: Family Meetings

Strong family partnerships are a core element of a quality child care program. Children do best in programs that reflect their home lives and that work together with families to coordinate care. There are many strategies to build and strengthen connections with families. One effective way is through family meetings. These are regular gatherings offered to the families of children in your care that focus on gathering input for program and policy decisions. For programs participating in Spark, family meetings are an important step to becoming a 5-star rated program.

Inviting families to a meeting may seem intimidating at first because of concerns they might be overly critical of your program or ask for unrealistic changes. However, you can guide the meeting to focus on positive suggestions and have strategies prepared to problem-solve if issues do arise. Early childhood professionals often work long hours and may feel their efforts go unrecognized. Meetings are an opportunity to hear all the ways that families do recognize your hard work. When preparing to host a family meeting there are some simple steps to help you be successful:

- 1.** Notify families of the meeting well in advance. Programs set meeting dates anywhere from a month to a full year in advance to allow parents to make arrangements. It's helpful to give families several options for meeting times and dates. When you invite families let them know that the meeting is specifically to get their input and hear their ideas.
- 2.** Think about different areas for potential family input. Consider topics families might have ideas or suggestions about such as curriculum activities, ways to meet your program's goals, improvements to the environment, participating in interviews during hiring staff members, field trip suggestions, and interest in enrichment programs such as music or language instruction. Also think about your practices and policies that you want families to know about. Family meetings are a time to share ways that your program is unique and how you are investing in children.
- 3.** Create an agenda. Writing an agenda and sending it to families in advance is a key way to focus their thoughts and to encourage constructive feedback. Providing a variety of different ways to participate during the meeting helps make it more comfortable for all, and helps you get the most out of the time together. Some ways to invite participation during the meeting include posting blank chart paper with questions for families to write answers, distributing surveys on a specific topic or the Spark family survey, discussing topics in small groups, sharing photos of children engaged in their daily activities, and exploring curriculum books or assessment tools.
- 4.** Send a reminder to parents a few days before the meeting. Parents' lives are busy and it can be easy to forget previously scheduled events. Prepare your materials for the meeting in advance so that you are organized and ready to go.

Start the meeting with a smile on your face and a positive attitude. Be ready to hear all the things families love about your program. If issues do arise, be ready to do what you can to address the concerns and explain the reasons for your policies. Having children in group care is a learning experience for many families and early childhood professionals often need to provide support in understanding how child care works. At the end of the meeting take a few minutes to note ideas shared and how you plan to use the suggestions received. Be sure to thank families for their participation and input.

Continuous quality improvement and making a program a great place for children is a part of every early childhood professional's work. Family meetings are a step in this direction and a positive addition to any program.

For additional principles of family engagement, visit NAEYC's article on this topic:

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/topics/family-engagement/principles>



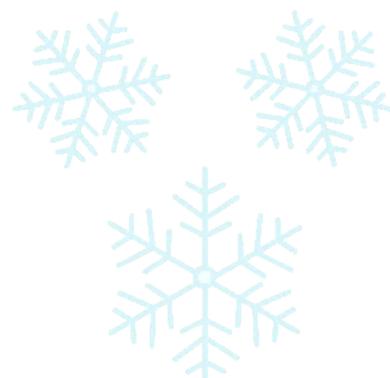
# Childhood Education & Family Studies Program

## Winter 2020

- 30 UGB • **ECE 151 01D Guidance and Classroom Management** - (3 Credit); Online
- 30 LEC • **ECE 152 01D Creative Activities** - (3 Credit); Online
- 10 LEC  
10 OA  
10 UGB • **ECE 163 & 163 B 01D Practicum I Pre-K** - (5 Credit) Prerequisite:ECE 150
- 10 LEC  
10 UGB  
10 OA • **ECE 261 & 261 B 01D Student Teaching Pre-K** - (6 Credit) Prerequisite:ECE 102/102B
- 10 UGB  
10 LEC  
10 OA • **ECE 263 & 263 B 01D Practicum I Infant/Toddler** - (5 Credit) Prerequisite:ECE 150
- 10 UGB  
10 LEC  
10 OA • **ECE 262 & 262 B 01D Student Teaching Infant/Toddler** - (6 Credit) Prerequisite: ECE 162/162B
- 30 HGD • **HDFS 247 01HB & 02D Preschool Child Development** - (3 Credit)  
2 Sections Offered: Hybrid & Online  
8:00-9:50AM; Family Center RM 109; Thursdays
- 30 FCS • **HDFS 140 01D Contemporary American Families** - (3 Credit) Prerequisite: WR 121
- 30 FCS • **HDFS 227 01D Parents as Partners** - (3 Credit); Online
- **ED 202 01HB Art Education for Elementary Educators** - (3 Credit)  
4:00-5:50PM; Family Center RM 109; Tuesdays; Hybrid
- 30 DIV • **ED 258 01D Multicultural Education** - (3 Credit); Online

## Spring 2020

- 30 LEC • **ECE 154 01D Children's Language and Literacy Development** - (3 Credit); Online
- 10 HGD  
10 LEC  
10 OA • **ECE 209 & 209 B 01D Practicum II Pre-K** - (5 Credit) Prerequisite:ECE 163/163B
- 10 LEC  
10 OA  
10 HGD • **ECE 161 & 161 B 01D Practicum II Infant Toddler** - (5 Credit) Prerequisite:ECE 263/263B
- 30 FCS • **HDFS 222 01D Family Relations** - (3 Credit); Online
- 30 HGD • **HDFS 229 01HB & 02D Development in Middle Childhood** - (3 Credit)  
2 Sections Offered: Hybrid & Online  
8:00-9:50AM; Family Center RM 109; Thursdays
- 30 PPLD • **HDFS 285 01D Professional Issues in Early Childhood Ed** - (3 Credit); Online
- 10 FCS  
10 PPLD • **HDFS 297 01D Parenting Education/ ECE HV Capstone** - (2 Credit); Online
- **ED 201 01D Music Education for Elementary Educators** - (3 Credit); Online
- 10 DIV  
10 LEC • **ED 134 01D Dual Language Learners** - (2 Credit); Online



What does **HYBRID** mean? A Hybrid course is one that meets face to face and has an online component. Did you know that distance students can join face to face (and Hybrid) classes using ZOOM or SKYPE? If you are a distance student who would like to attend classroom sessions from a satellite campus or your home, email us for more information.

**Childhood Education Director:** Taya Noland / 541-888-7336  
**Childhood Education & Family Studies Faculty:** Dr. Rosengarden / 541-888-1575  
 Please check out our website at: <http://www.socc.edu/childhood>  
 Email us at [ece@socc.edu](mailto:ece@socc.edu)

*Southwestern Oregon Community College is an equal opportunity educator and employer.*

**Registration Open Now!**





# SOUTHWESTERN

AN OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

Email: [qualitychildcare@socc.edu](mailto:qualitychildcare@socc.edu)

Website: <https://www.socc.edu/careconnections>

Southwestern Oregon Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, national origin, age, disability status, gender identity, or protected veterans in employment, education, or activities as set forth in compliance with federal and state statutes and regulations.

## **Childhood Education and Family Studies / Pathways to Positive Parenting**

**Director:** Taya Noland  
541-888-7336 / [taya.noland@socc.edu](mailto:taya.noland@socc.edu)

**Parenting & Family Programs:** Kathy Barber  
541-888-7123 / [kbarber@socc.edu](mailto:kbarber@socc.edu)

## **CARE Connections**

### **Program Manager**

Danaye Gonzalez  
541-888-7086  
[danaye.gonzalez@socc.edu](mailto:danaye.gonzalez@socc.edu)

### **QIS Provider Trainer, Coos**

Natalie Lo  
541-888-7957  
[natalie.lo@socc.edu](mailto:natalie.lo@socc.edu)

### **QIS Provider Trainer, East Coos**

Ana Lugo-Ferrin  
541-888-7957  
[alugoferrin@socc.edu](mailto:alugoferrin@socc.edu)

### **QIS Provider Trainer - Curry**

[qualitychildcare@socc.edu](mailto:qualitychildcare@socc.edu)

### **Infant/Toddler Specialist**

Kallie Mill  
541-888-7097  
[kmill@socc.edu](mailto:kmill@socc.edu)

### **Baby Promise Grant Coordinator**

Laura Reyes-Cortez  
[laura.reyes-cortez@socc.edu](mailto:laura.reyes-cortez@socc.edu)

### **CARE Connections**

Toll-free 1-800-611-7555

### **Child Care Referrals 211info.org**

Email [children@211info.org](mailto:children@211info.org)

### **USDA Food Program**

OCDC 541-770-5893

<http://www.socc.edu/careconnections>