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The Provider



The Provider is a publication of the
New Jersey Family Child Care Providers' Association

Volume 17, Issue 3
November 2010

NJFCCPA - "Professionals at the Heart of Child Care"

A Message from THE EAFCC PRESIDENT

Professionals at the Heart of Child Care Conference 2011

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It's exciting to be approaching the fourth statewide Family Child Care Conference on April 9, 2011.

Many of the major NJ child care entities—NJFCCPA (NJ Family Child Care Providers' Assoc.), FCCONJ (Family Child Care Organization of NJ), NJACCRA (NJ Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies) & EAFCC (Educational Association for Family Child Care, Inc.) all have donated funds, time and effort to make this remarkable event happen. Truly a collaboration to be proud of and a model held up for other States to follow. It's going to be a wonderful and rewarding experience.

Those that attended last time described it as fun and informational: door prizes galore!, vendors, trainings, networking, new friends, old friends, exchanging stories and ideas and so much more.

This is THE day for all New Jersey Family Child Care providers.

So please come out, invite other providers, gather together a table of ten, create phone chains, set up car pools. Make the most of this event!

All new NJFCCPA members that join now and current members that renew their membership now receive discounted registration rate to attend AND enhanced membership valid through March 31, 2012. If you join today, that would be like getting five months free for new members, and a payment plan for renewing members, with both enjoying a discounted registration rate of only \$40 for the Conference. Join or renew both NJFCCPA and NAFCC and save even more \$\$.

See **EAFCC** on page 2

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A Message from THE EAFCC PRESIDENT

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NJFCCPA is now working with Resource & Referral Agencies (R&Rs) to identify providers who have leadership potential. ***Our goal is to establish NJFCCPA county chapters in each of the 21 counties.*** Recently, we've been delighted to announce the NJFCCPA has met all requirements and is now an ***Affiliate Member of the National Association for Family Child Care***, with enhanced member benefits and National recognition. As an association, we're poised to make room for new potential leaders to take NJFCCPA to greater heights!

If you want to create change, and realize your potential as a leader, join an existing NJFCCPA chapter, or lead the effort to set up a new chapter in your county.

*The next move is yours...*For more information, please contact me by email tan5tlc@gmail.com or phone 609-936-8991, visit our website at www.njfccpa.org to learn more and see photos of other board members. I'd like to add your photo to this growing list of active board members.

This business can be very isolating—working at home can sometimes make your world very small. The advantage of an Association is that it makes your world bigger. The larger our numbers, the stronger our voice!

I am looking forward to seeing you at the conference on April 9, 2011. Watch for conference brochure with hand holding logo early in 2011 to register and plan your day of fun and learning. Visit our web site www.njfccpa.org for up-to-the minute conference news, membership forms, and other information.

Sincerely,

Tan Coelho

President, EAFCC

2011 Conference Co-Chair

Legislative News - Mandatory Registration?

A bill was introduced to the New Jersey Senate on November 8, 2010 by Senator Shirley K. Turner. Bill S2382 calls for mandatory registration for Family Child Care Providers in New Jersey along with criminal history background check. Previously introduced in 2008-2009 Legislative Session, Bill A4073 would also require mandatory registration.

[6/11/2009 Introduced, Referred to Assembly Human Services Committee]

To read these bills, visit:

Bill S2382 http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2010/Bills/S2500/2382_I1.PDF

Bill A4073 http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2008/Bills/A4500/4073_I1.PDF



State Level Advocacy

The NJFCCPA sends a representative to various meetings each month to represent family child care providers throughout the state, including:

- ◇ **NJ Council for Young Children - by special appointment**
- ◇ **Family Child Care Organization of NJ**
- ◇ **Professional Impact NJ Policy Advisory Board**

The NJFCCPA is often called upon to provide the views of family child care providers At Large and we are involved in a myriad of state initiatives. We continue to gather information about public policy and advocate for providers everywhere. If you would like to become more involved, please contact us.

Our **President, Michelle Melgarejo**, and one of our past Presidents, Justine Foley, have been appointed to the NJ Council for Young Children for a three year term. The NJ Council for Young Children is another way NJFCCPA promotes awareness of Family Child Care at the state level. To learn more about legislative issues, please attend NJFCCPA meetings and upcoming state conference.

Representing Family Child Care at STATE MEETINGS

- ◇ **President** attended Family Child Care Organization of NJ in September and October.
- ◇ **President** attended Governor's Council for Young Children September 21, 2010.
- ◇ **Vice President** attended ACF Region 11 Leadership Summit on Financial Stability for Families with Young Children at the Region 11 Head Start Association Professional Development Conference held November 7 - 9, 2010.
- ◇ **Vice President** attended "Mapping a Career Pathway for Teacher Preparation" November 19, 2010 at Thomas Edison State College, Prudent Hall, Trenton, New Jersey. Guest Speaker Deborah Jordan, Deputy Director, Council for Professional Recognition.
- ◇ **Past President** attended Family Child Care Organization of NJ in September, October & November, presided at NJ State FCC Conference Committee Meeting.
- ◇ **Communications Coordinator** attended Professional Impact, NJ Policy Advisory Board Meeting September 10, 2010; FCCONJ meeting Sept., Oct. & Nov. & Conf. Committee Mtg.

Featuring Tom Copeland Publications -

How to Get an Employer Identification Number (EIN)

In this age of advancing technology, many providers are concerned about their privacy when giving out social security numbers to parent clients. Parents need the taxpayer identification number of their caregiver to claim the child care tax credit or to use a dependent care plan at work. As a self-employed person, family child care providers have traditionally given their social security numbers to parents for this purpose.

The IRS allows providers to obtain an Employer Identification Number (EIN) that can be used in place of a social security number. In the past, IRS rules stated that providers could not get an EIN unless employees were to be hired. Now, the IRS is allowing any providers to get their own EINs.



We strongly recommend that all providers get an EIN number for their business. You will give this number instead of your Social Security number to parents at tax time, which they will use to claim the child care tax credit. You will also use this number on your Schedule C and Schedule SE when you fill out your tax forms. (On all other tax forms, including Form 1040 and Form 1040ES, you should use your Social Security number.) Using an EIN can reduce the chances that your Social Security number will get into the wrong hands and cause you problems with identify theft.

In the past, providers sometimes had difficulty getting an EIN number because previous IRS regulations stated that a taxpayer could only get this number if they were required to by law. This is no longer a problem. Just about any provider can now get an EIN. There are three ways to get an EIN.

1. Obtain a copy of IRS Form SS-4 (Application for Employer Identification Number). You can download this form from the IRS Web site, www.irs.gov. Question #10 asks for the reason you are applying for an EIN. If you are just starting your business, check the box "Started new business" and enter the words "family child care" in the space provided. If you have been in business for a while, check the box "Other" and enter the words "identity theft" in the space provided. Mail in this form to an IRS addresses listed in the instructions.
2. Register for the EIN online. The application process is quicker, with fewer questions, and a simpler format to follow. Once you fill out the application online, you will instantly get your EIN. The new online process asks: "Why is the Sole Proprietor requesting an EIN?" You are asked to choose from one of the following choices: "Started a new business," "Hired employee(s)," "Banking purposes," "Changed type of organization," or "Purchased active business." You should always answer, "Started a new business" to this question, unless you are hiring employees. This may seem like a strange answer if you have been in business for a long time, but the instructions say to choose an answer that is closest to your situation. In the past, if you gave this answer, the IRS may have assumed that you were a new employer and started sending your payroll forms to file. This problem will no longer happen because the online application also asks you if you have employees.
3. If you would like to talk to the IRS directly about getting your EIN, call the IRS at 800-829-4933 and you can get your number over the phone.

This article was originally produced by Resources for Child Caring (www.resourcesforchildcare.org) for the National Association for Family Child Care—October 2007 (www.nafcc.org). For additional family child care business publications, contact Resources for Child Caring's publishing division, Redleaf Press, at 800-423-8309 or visit www.redleafpress.org

Seasonal Fun



TURKEY POKEY

Tune: "Hokey Pokey"

You put your right wing in, you take
your right wing out,
You put your right wing in and you
shake it all about.
You do the Turkey Pokey and you
gobble as you shout,
"That's what it's all about."

Continue with putting in, left wing, right leg, left
leg, head, And finally your whole self.

Adapted Traditional

WE ARE THANKFUL

Tune: "Frere Jacques"

*It's Thanksgiving, It's Thanksgiving.
Let's give thanks, let's give thanks
For our friends and family,
For our home and food.
Let's give thanks, let's give thanks.*

*Sing the song again, naming other things
you and your children are thankful for.*

By Elizabeth Scofield

TURKEY BASTER TRANSFER GAME

Place two pans on a table. Fill one half way with water. Give your child a large turkey baster. Show her how the baster works. Tell her the game is to transfer the water from the one pan into the other pan. To liven up the water, you could add a few drops of food coloring. Squeezing the bulb of the turkey baster can help young children develop finger and hand muscles essential for beginning writing skills.

SUNCATCHER GOBBLER

Supplies:

- ◇ Coffee filter
- ◇ Washable markers
- ◇ Brown construction paper
- ◇ Scraps of yellow, red and orange construction paper
- ◇ Small amount of water

1. Using the markers, color the entire coffee filter as desired. Fold the coffee filter 4X so it resembles a wedge.



2. Dip the tip of the folded coffee filter into a small amount of water [very briefly.]



3. Remove from the water and hold it upward so that the water can wick throughout the filter.



4. Unfold the filter and allow it to dry.



5. Using brown construction paper, cut a turkey body similar to the one shown. Glue the body to the dried filter.

6. Draw eyes and glue on a beak, a wattle and feet.

7. Once assembled, display in a window.

Allow children to be creative. Let them color their filter as they desire, even if it is entirely one color or hardly any color at all. Allow older children to trace and cut the body and features. It might not be perfect but it will be theirs!

New Jersey Family Child Care Providers' Association Board Members

President - Michelle S. Melgarejo

Past President - Tan Coelho

Vice President - Roselle Coye

Communications Coordinator - Michele Gregorio

Membership Co-Chair - Jackie Schmitt

Membership Co-Chair - Lisa Brunell

Newsletter Editor - Bridget Williamson

Recording Secretary - Julie Payne

Spanish Liaison (*Servicios Para Miembros*) - Patricia Bonilla

Sunshine Chair - Debra DePinho

Technology Chair - Michele Gregorio

Treasurer - Georgina Marchese

Northern Region

Sussex County Representatives - Jackie Schmitt & Lisa Brunell

Warren County Representative - Mia Rogers

Central Region Representative - Roselle Coye

Middlesex County Acting Representative - Gail Kessler

Monmouth County Representative - Michele Gregorio

Monmouth County Acting Co-Representative - Louise Doino

Somerset County Representatives - Julie Payne & Michelle Misuira

Union County Representatives - Dianne Simpson & Patricia Bonilla

Southern Region

Burlington County Representative - Pat Waites

Camden County Representative - Kimberly White

Gloucester County Reps. - Edy Heitzenroeder & Bridget Williamson

Salem County Representative - Kathleen Collins

New Jersey
Family Child Care
Providers' Association
<http://www.njfccpa.org/>

New or Prospective FCC Providers are welcome to attend!

Please call to RSVP and get directions:

NJ Family Child Care Providers' Association Board Meeting

Saturday, January 8, 2011

from 8:30am to 12 noon at Piscataway Public Library
Piscataway, NJ

RSVP to Michele Gregorio by Phone 609-989-7940
or 732-616-8394

Or email mgregorioNJFCCPA@aol.com



"Professionals at the Heart"
