
a MESSAGE FROM the President

My second quarter as your President has been just as fulfilling as the first. It is good when one can speak out on issues that we need heard. I encourage our members to make our association more interactive. Ours is a lonely business but by networking we can share our knowledge and expertise with one another. By working more closely with each county's members, we can combine our resources and offer more sessions on topics like problem solving tips and workshops on tax advice and record keeping, legal seminars etc. or any topic depending on the number of providers requesting it. So please feel free to call your association number 908- 713-8682 with ideas or suggestions - what you can do for the association or what you would like us to do for you. After all, each member including all the Board Members are Family Child Care Providers just like you, volunteering their time and efforts to make this the great association that it is.

Our first interesting news was an article in the newspapers. While on my quest to raise public awareness for NJFCCPA and Provider Appreciation Day, a feature editor became interested in the workings of a Family Child Care home. I was pleasantly surprised to see a wonderful article in the Trenton Times with pictures of the children and me; and information about NJFCCPA and Provider Appreciation Day. This is a feather in NJFCCPA's cap!!

The Provider Appreciation Day dinner held at the PNC Arts Center was a grand success. I had the pleasure of a brief meeting with Tom Gregor, President of the PNC Bank. He was pleasantly surprised to learn of the number of registered family child care providers in NJ and the role of the NJFCCPA.

Regarding the bill that was re-introduced that would allow FCC providers to care for 10 children: We are now working collaboratively with the Family Child Care Organization, the National Family Child Care Association and members of the NJ Child Care Advisory Council.

More great news!!! This year, as your President and representative of NJFCCPA, I attended the National Family Child Care Conference in Kansas City MI in July.

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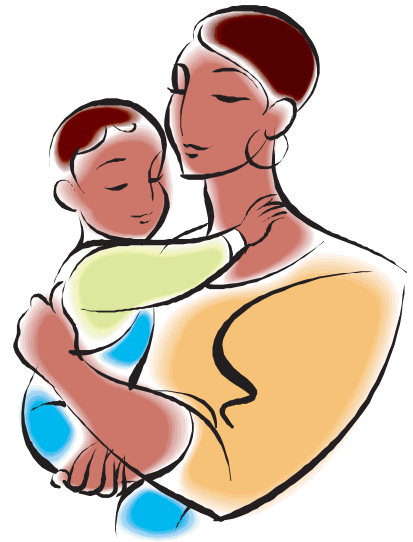
Denise Millard, Somerset County Provider, Julie Payne, Somerset County Rep and, and Lorraine Farr enjoy the festivities on Provider Appreciation Day, 2004

This was made possible by a scholarship from AT&T, funds from the Family Day Care Organization and joint funding from NJFCCPA and its Executive Board members and County Chapters. I let all the other state associations know what a strong association we are and I have returned with fresh ideas.

Finally, I'd like to share these words from a frame that one of my parents presented to me.

**"A hundred years from now, it will not matter,
What my bank account was, or the type of car I drove,
But the world may be different
Because I was important
In the life of a child."**

Thank you,
Tan Coelho
President, NJFCCPA



Announcements from the NJFCCPA Board of Directors

Congratulations to Lisa Mani, of Morris County who has been appointed as Recording Secretary, and to Danielle Syracuse, also of Morris County who has been appointed as Northern Region Representative. We look forward to their participation on the Executive Board!!!

Thank you Thank you Thank you to Darlene Blanchard of Hunterdon county for her valuable service as Recording Secretary. We will miss Darlene's participation on the Executive Board. She will continue, however to serve on the NJFCCPA board as Hunterdon County Representative.

Are you organized, good with numbers? Would you like to expand your professional development and become more involved with the NJFCCPA? The Executive Board position of Treasurer is up for nomination for the term beginning in January, 2005. If you are interested in this position please send your resume to
Roselle Coye, Nominations Committee Chair
1008 Rock Ave.
Piscataway, NJ 08854
or e-mail coye614@aol.com

All resumes should be received by December 1, 2004. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Roselle at 732-968-0381.

Cooperation Today: Cooperation Tomorrow

by Christina Chapan

Games are an outlet for fun. They teach problem solving, cooperation, social development, and oral language skills. They are a wonderful addition to any physical fitness program for children. First, they can be used at many skill and age levels. Second, they require little or no equipment. Third they can be played primarily inside a gym or outside on a small field. Fourth they teach positive social habits that last for a lifetime. Cooperative games can eliminate the need for feelings of failure or incompetence.

Beginning or Warm-up Activities

Silver and Gold Friends

Players quickly form small groups. The leader tells them to look at each other and find other team members wearing similar shoes, hair color, eye color, etc. The object of the game is to see who has the most similarities in any given small group. Students may want to write down the similarities on a sheet of paper and discuss the results with the whole group.

Webrings

Materials: ball of yarn

Everyone is seated in a tight circle. The first person asks a question to another person in the group. They give the string to that person who in turn answers the question. The person with the string asks a question to another team member and tosses the string to that player. After everyone has had a turn asking and answering at least one question, wind up the string by problem-solving who will get the string next. Then roll up the ball. Continue to roll up the string until there is not any more loose string, and the ball is in its original position. This game teaches players to ask questions of others that they do not normally associate with. The goal is to find new friends.

Anytime games

Cooperative Musical Chairs:

Materials: chairs, music for musical chairs

This is just like musical chairs except more than one person may sit on a particular chair after the music has stopped. This game teaches community and creativity as the players learn how to sit on the same chair without squishing their partner(s).

Incredible Shrinking Island

Materials: masking tape, chalk, or gym lines.

This game operates on the same premise as Cooperative Musical Chairs. Outline a large square on the floor with either masking tape or chalk. This area is the safe island and the area surrounding the square is the ocean. When the music begins children "swim" around the island. The stopping of the music indicates that sharks are coming and all players must retreat to the safety of the island. With each round, the lines are altered making the island smaller and smaller. Players must work together to make sure everyone has a safe place to get away from the sharks and fit on the "island". Chairs also serve well as boundaries for the island if there is space for the people to get into the area.

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Rollifric

Materials: ball

Form a circle. Sit down on the floor with feet towards the center of the circle, bodies touching. Place a ball on someone's lap. The object of the game is to move the ball around the circle as quickly as possible without using hands. The ball moves from one person's lap to another. Variations: Add more balls, add different size balls, add signals such as "Stop" or "Go," and reverse directions at the sound of a whistle.

Monarchy Madness

Materials: foam or soft play ball

Play in a large area, with boundaries. One player starts with a lightweight ball. Anyone he hits joins the monarchy family. After one person is hit, the person with the ball cannot run, though those without the ball who are part of the monarchy can run. People in the monarchy must use teamwork and pass the ball to catch those who have not yet been hit by the ball.

Tail Tales or T.T.

Materials: bright scarf

Players form one long line or train by holding onto the waist of the child in front of them. The child in the front becomes the head of the group. The child in the rear is the tail, and a colorful scarf is attached into his back or side pocket. A belt loop in the back of the child may also be used to hold the scarf. The "head" or first person in the group is to try to catch the scarf flapping behind the "tail." The front person may use their hands to catch the scarf. All players must learn to work together to catch the tail without losing any of the players by running too fast or allowing players to accidentally break from the group.

Drive, He Said

Players form pairs. One person in front is the car and the person in back is the driver. The car must put his arms up in front of himself in a relaxed fashion. The car closes his eyes and the driver then guides the car carefully around obstacles such as chairs, tables, or other "cars," etc. After a few minutes, both players are asked to stop and the car and driver switch roles. The second player is the car and the first is the driver. This teaches trust as the car has no idea where his driver will take him.



Closing or ending games

Squeezies

The group stands in a circle, holding hands. The "squeezie" is passed around the circle with a hand squeeze. For a variation try two squeezes in opposite directions. Finally, try the latter with eyes closed. Another variation can consist of also putting a person in the middle (with his eyes open) and have them try to find out who is passing the squeeze.

Copy Cat

Players sit in a circle. The leader starts by making a funny or unusual face and "passes" the goofy face to a person next to them who must copy the funny face. The second person makes a new silly face to pass to a third person, next to them. Everyone gets a turn making and passing the funny face.

Games can foster creativity while teaching students to work together. Cooperative games teach mutual acceptance, create encouragement, fun, sharing, kindness, consideration and respect for others. Studies show that children who regularly participate in cooperative games are three times as often more cooperative with others during free play. What a wonderful lesson to teach for life.

Suggested References:

Cooperative Games at University of Wisconsin
<http://www1.uwex.edu/ces/news/>

The Educational Value of Cooperative Games
<http://www.usafa.af.mil/dfe/educator/S02/milis0502.htm>

Fire starter Activity Guide
<http://www.freechild.org/Firestarter/facilitating.htm>

Le Fevre, Dale, Best New Games. Human Kinetics. Illinois. 2002.

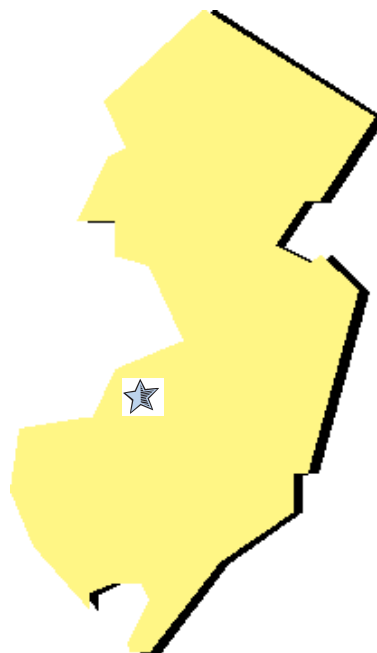
Responsive Classroom <http://www.responsive-classroom.org/newsletter/>

NJPDCECE Opens New Office in Camden

The New Jersey Professional Development Center for Early Care and Education (NJPD-CECE), through the generosity of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation has established a southern New Jersey satellite office in collaboration with the Rutgers-Camden Center for Children and Childhood Studies. The office will conduct Professional Development outreach, provide accreditation support and offer technical assistance for program directors in the City of Camden and act as a scholarship liaison for all of Southern New Jersey.

The NJPDCECE has named Ingrid Campbell as the Project Director and Gabrielle Hurtt as Program Assistant. For further information you may contact the office at (856) 963-1792.

The main office of the NJPDCECE is located at Kean University in Union, NJ. You may contact that office at (908) 737-5900.



Christina Chapan is an ACE certified personal trainer, fitness author, education conference speaker and elementary school teacher. She also works in the after school care program at her school. In her spare time, she works as a youth sponsor at her church. If you are interested in learning more about Christina, please visit her websites:

Fit 4 Fun- <http://cchapan.tripod.com/> Fit 4 Fun Kids Fitness -
<http://worknotes.com/IL/Chicago/Fit4FunKidsFitness/>



Are You Required to Report a Parent Who Is Drunk?

By the Redleaf National Institute



If you suspect that a parent is under the influence of drugs or alcohol when he or she comes to pick up the child in your care, be very careful of how you handle the situation. You don't want the children to be in danger, and you also want to protect yourself from liability.

Recently a provider called RNI to ask for help with a situation. A mother, coming to pick up her two children, admitted to the provider that she was drunk. The provider knew it was wrong for the mother to drive drunk, especially with her children in the car.

This mother was a threat to herself, her children, and the other drivers on the road. The provider tried to wrestle the car keys away from the mother, but was unsuccessful. The mother proceeded to drive home. The mother was stopped by police for driving under the influence of alcohol and was taken to a detoxification center. In most cases like this, the children are taken into protective custody until it is decided where they are to go, perhaps to the other parent, relatives, or a foster home.

In a case like this, the provider should not attempt to take the car keys away from the mother because of the danger of physical harm to the provider or the mother. RNI contacted the police and child protection services, both of whom said that the provider should have called 911 in this situation.

Every state has child protection laws and guidelines stating exactly when you, as a provider, are mandated to report child abuse or neglect. In Minnesota, neglect is defined as "failure to protect a child from conditions or actions which imminently and seriously endanger the child's physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so."

Certainly a parent driving drunk is endangering the lives of his or her children and fits the above definition. In the situation given, the mother admitted to being drunk. While a person can only be declared legally drunk by a Breathalyzer or blood test, if you strongly suspect that a parent is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, go with your gut instinct and call 911. Do what you can without physical violence to keep yourself, the parent and most importantly, the children, safe until police arrive.

You can also adopt a transportation policy to handle situations when you think it is not safe for parents to transport their children. The policy can offer options such as having backup drivers or a cab called to pick up the child.

Child abuse and neglect are issues that you as providers are legally required to report to police, child protection services, or your human service agency. Find out what the rules are in your state by calling your state department of human services and asking for a resource guide for mandated reporters. In some states, if you do not report suspected abuse or neglect, you could be guilty of a misdemeanor or a gross misdemeanor. Neglect and abuse can be defined and interpreted differently from state to state, so it is best that you read the rules for your state. We all want to keep those kids safe. If you suspect the children in your care are in imminent danger of harm, call 911. Better safe than sorry when it comes to the safety of children.

If you have questions about this article, feel free to contact Redleaf National Institute (651-641-6675; rni@redleafinstitute.org; www.redleafinstitute.org). Redleaf National Institute has been the leading educator of and advocate for the business interests of family child care providers since 1992. To support ongoing efforts of advocacy on behalf of family child care providers with the IRS please consider joining the Institute.

Tom Copeland, Director
Mari Millard, Associate Director.



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State registered? yes no

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Group Membership \$45.00

Enclosed is \$_____ check or money order payable to:

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West Milford, NJ 07480

For more info call 908-713-8682

Please note: You do not need to fill out a separate membership application if you plan to purchase insurance or are already an insured member. Membership applications can also be downloaded from our website; www.njfccpa.org.

Family Child Care Regs Change, Are you Ready?

Important Ammendments have been made to the Manual of Requirements for Family Day Care Registration! They are as follows:

Change title to Manual of Requirements for Family Child Care Registration instead of Family Day Care.

4.1(e) Home Inspections -Family Day Care Sponsoring Organization must use Bureau of Licensing checklist.

4.2(a) Pre-Service Training - Increase pre-service training to 8 hours instead of 6 hours.

4.2(b) Pre-Service Training - Add topics to pre-service training: Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse & Neglect; Preventing Shaken Bay Syndrome; Preventing Sudden Infant Death Syndrome;Including Children with Special Needs; Understanding NJ Family Daycare Registration Regulations; Undertanding Family Day Care Sponsoring Organization Operations, policies and procedures.

4.2(d) In-Service Training - Require Family Day Care Sponsoring Organization to offer 8 hours of in-service per year; delete length of each session.

4.2(h) First Aid / CPR - Require Sponsoring Organization to inform providers about first aid and CPR training availability.

4.9(a) Information to Parents - Inform Parents that child may be interviewed.

5.2(h) First Aid / CPR - Require provider and alternate to have first aid and CPR certification.

5.4(a) Regular Certificates - Provider must have children in care to get regular certificate.

5.7(e)1 In-service Training - Increase in-service training to 12 hours over 3 years instead of 6 hours, not counting CPR & first aid training.

5.7(e)2 In-service Training -Delete option to repeat pre-service training for providers who have not completed in-service training at renewal.

6.1(a) Maximum Number of Children - Clarify wording from "The provider whall be permitted to care for a maximum of five chidlren at any one time: to "The provider shall care for no more than five children at any one time."

6.2(a) Infant / Toddler Maximum - Change infant age level to 1 year instead of 15 months.

6.5(a)3 Safety Barriers - Add other areas that may subject children to a fall.

6.6(b) Pool Safety - Add other containers of water inaccessible.

6.9(c) Excludable Diseases - Add campylobacter and e.coli to list.

6.10(d) Accident Reporting -Clarify word from "accident" to "incident".

6.13(g) Rest and Sleep - Infants must sleep on back, no pillows / soft bedding.

6.15(b) Labeling Baby Bottles - Clarify wording to require bottles to be identified rather than labeled. Require sipping cups to be identified for each child.

6.17(c) School-Age Activities Provider and parents must discuss child's use of computer.

6.20(b) Discipline Prohibit shaking children.



Strategies for Happiness:

1. Promise yourself that you will talk health, happiness and prosperity as often as possible.
2. Promise yourself to make all of your friends know that there is something in them that is special and that you value that.
3. Promise to think only the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best in yourself and others.
4. Promise to be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.
5. Promise yourself to be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.
6. Promise to forget the mistakes of the past and press on to greater achievements in the future.
7. Promise to wear a cheerful appearance at all times and give every person you meet a smile.
8. Promise to give so much time improving yourself that you have no time to criticize others.
9. Promise to be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear and too happy to permit trouble to press on you.



Accreditation Scholarship and Assistance Program (ASAP)

The Accreditation Scholarship and Assistance (ASAP) administered by the NJ Professional Development Center for Early Care and Education (NJPDCECE) provides financial and technical support to family providers to achieve their goal of accreditation. The NJPDCECE is pleased to announce that ASAP will now assist Family Child Care Providers seeking to renew the accreditation credential through the National Association for Family Child Care. Family Child Care Providers interested in the accreditation process should contact the NJPDCECE at (908) 737-5900.

Morris County Spotlight



The Morris County Chapter would like to announce that Margie Kerwien of Oak Ridge is retiring as a family child care provider. When one door closes another opens and that is the case for Margie. She will be joining the family at Child & Family Resources. Her position with Child and Family Resources will be "Bi-lingual Child Care Specialist". This position will continue to allow her to be a positive influence in the lives of children. We want to congratulate Margie for her many years of service as a provider and wish her the best with her new career!

As a chapter, we will resume bi-monthly meetings in September. Please feel free to call us if you would like to host a meeting. Enjoy your summer and remember to take time for yourselves so you can lovingly take care of your families and business!

Danielle Syracuse (973) 838-4944
Email: dani33@optonline.net
Lisa Mani (973) 283 1182
Email: minimanis4@aol.com



10 Reasons to Buy Liability Insurance

1. Most Homeowners policies specifically exclude or provide very limited coverage for day care business operations.
2. No matter how experienced you are, or how safe your home is, accidents do happen.
3. The cost of defending a lawsuit can be a monumental expense.
4. Daycare insurance protects your family's assets against the financial uncertainty of a claim or lawsuit against you.
5. Daycare insurance provides you with qualified legal council in the event of a covered claim.
6. Daycare insurance provides you with high limits of protection in the event you are found liable.
7. Daycare insurance allows you to stay in business by transferring the financial uncertainty of a claim to the insurance company.
8. Having proper in insurance protection demonstrates your professional responsibility.
9. Having proper insurance distinguishes you from other providers.
10. Having the proper insurance is good for you, the parents you serve, and most importantly, the valuable children in your care.

Prepared by the New Jersey Family Child Care
Providers' Association.

For more information: www.njfccpa.org or call
908-713-8682

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