

ECU CCRR

*The Official Newsletter of the
Southcentral Child Care Resource & Referral Program
at East Central University*

OKLAHOMA PARTNERSHIP FOR SCHOOL READINESS



ECU CCRR staff attend the CCRR-OPSR statewide meeting on March 8th. From left to right, Lindsay Christian, Angel Patterson, and Georgiana Sullivan.

**LEAH LYON,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**ANGEL PATTERSON,
BUSINESS CONSULTANT**

**GEORGIANA SULLIVAN,
CHILD CARE SPECIALIST**

**PAMLA ARMSTRONG,
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**

**BETHANY WALLING,
PROJECT SPECIALIST**

**LINDSAY CHRISTIAN, CC
SPECIALIST, INFANT TODDLER**

WORDS TO LIVE BY

by Dr. Seuss

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.”



REGIONAL RECONNECT

On May 20, ECU CCRR will be hosting another Regional Reconnect Training Event.

If you attended last year, you will remember all attendees went home with three hours of FORMAL training and over \$200 worth of resources. Several lucky winners won prizes worth over \$500. This year will be no different.

This FREE event will give you three hours of FORMAL training, breakfast, lunch, resources, prizes, an opportunity to talk with licensing specialists and a fun day with fellow providers and CCRR staff.

Watch for more details coming on our Facebook page and via email.

Early registrants are guaranteed to get a t-shirt and a cool bag. You won't want to miss this event.

Help us spread the word!



LAST
YEAR'S
EVENT





welcome!

ECU CCRR welcomes all new providers in our area!

We are so happy to serve you:
 Washington FB Before & After School, Washington;
 Monnie's Kids, LLC;
 Grace to Grace, Ardmore;
 Deborah Gregg Home, Shawnee;
 Raven Harrell, Stratford; and
 Little Badgers Play & Development, Elmore City

ECU CCRR has so many fun FREE bulletin board kits available. To see all the kits offered, visit www.facebook.com/ECUCCRR/photos_albums/! If you want one made that is not offered, send your idea or photo to parmstrong@ecok.edu. We are always looking for inspiration and new designs!



10 THINGS EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PLAY

by Laurel Bongiorno, naeyc.org/our-work/families/10-things-every-parent-play

1. Children learn through their play. - Children learn and develop: cognitive skills – like math and problem solving in a pretend grocery store; physical abilities – like balancing blocks and running on the playground; new vocabulary – like the words they need to play with toy dinosaurs; social skills – like playing together in a pretend car wash; literacy skills – like creating a menu for a pretend restaurant.
2. Play is healthy - Play helps children grow strong and healthy. It also counteracts obesity issues facing many children today.
3. Play reduces stress. - Play helps your children grow emotionally. It is joyful and provides an outlet for anxiety and stress.
4. Play is more than meets the eye. - Play is simple and complex. There are many types of play: symbolic, sociodramatic, functional, and games with rules.
5. Make time for play. - You can make sure they have as much time to play as possible during the day to promote cognitive, language, physical, social, and emotional development.
6. Play and learning go hand-in-hand. - They are not separate activities. Think about them as a science lecture with a lab. Play is the child's lab.
7. Play outside. - Remember your own outdoor experiences of sledding in the winter or playing with other neighborhood kids. Make sure your children create outdoor memories too.
8. There's a lot to learn about play. - There's a lot written on children and play. David Elkind's *The Power of Play* (Da Capo, 2007 reprint) is a great resource.
9. Trust your own playful instincts. - Remember as a child how play just came naturally? Give your children time for play and see all that they are capable of when given the opportunity.
10. Play is a child's context for learning. - Children practice and reinforce their learning in multiple areas during play. It gives them a place and a time for learning that cannot be achieved through completing a worksheet.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

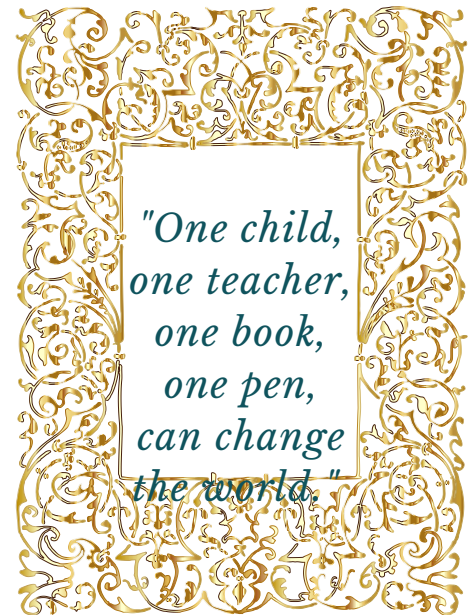


Leah has been at ECU for almost 17 years, serving as Director, Office of Sponsored Programs and Research since July, 2015. She has served as Executive Director of the South Central Child Care Resources and Referral Project since 2018, and also serves as ECU's Research and IRB Committee Administrator. Leah 36 years of work experience, 28 of which include grantmanship and are federal grants/contracts related, 12 years of which are specifically in the higher education arena, and 14 of which have been in a supervisory/administrative capacity. Prior to coming to ECU, Leah taught elementary school for three years and worked at EPA's Kerr Research Lab for 14 years. Leah and her husband have four adult daughters and one granddaughter. In her spare time, Leah cooks competitively, runs a mobile kitchen, entertains, reads, and travels.

HOW CAN WE HELP?

Georgiana and Lindsay are available to help in any way needed in your home or center. Topics they are available to help with are:

- lesson/activity planning
- transition planning
- classroom engagement
- parent engagement
- active supervision
- room arrangement and setting up centers
- on-site observations
- outdoor learning and physical activities
- new teacher training
- routines and scheduling
- nutrition
- implementing the Pyramid Model
- behavioral and guidance issues
- trauma
- social-emotional development
- language development
- brain development



Angel is here to assist the with the business side of your center or home daycare. She can offer support aimed at improving quality to providers through coaching and professional development in areas such as:

- Marketing
- Enrollment/Intake Family Engagement
- Budgeting/Strategic Cost Modeling/Financial Management
- Rates/Fees & Collections/Revenue
- Leadership/Time Management
- Human Resources
- TA with Brightwheel for participating programs

STAFFED FAMILY CHILD CARE NETWORK PROGRAM UNDERWAY

With two successful training/network events behind her, SC CCRR Business Consultant Angel Patterson is busy planning the April 22, 2023 SFCCN training event. Established in January 2023 by OK DHS Child Care Services and the Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness, regional Child Care Resource & Referral Business Consultants began working with home child care providers to create the Staffed Family Child Care Network Program in each region.

Monthly SFCCN training events are held on the ECU campus in the CCRR office with three hours of free formal training, great food, resources and networking offered. Not only do SFCCN members enjoy the monthly training opportunities, but they receive a free membership to the National SFCCN organization if they meet qualifications, a one year free subscription to Brightwheel (a software system for child care homes and centers) and participation in the Oklahoma statewide SFCCN program.

Angel is assisted by home provider Jaclyn Lide, who is serving as the South Central Regional Ambassador. The Regional Ambassador is a liaison between the SC CCRR team and all South Central home providers.

If you are a home provider and have not joined this group, contact Angel at apatterson@ecok.edu or call her at (580) 559-5629.



*You just found the Easter Eggs!
Send an email to parmstrong@ecok.edu
noting this page and that you found the Easter egg
to be entered into a drawing to win a prize!
Deadline to enter is April 20th.*



Don't forget to follow
ECU CCRR on Facebook.
Search ECU Child Care Resource and
Referral on Facebook or click below
to be taken to our page.



RESOURCE ROOM

For a full list of FREE bulletin board kits available and photos of each go to our Facebook page or our website at ecok.edu/current-students/student-services/centers-programs/child-care-resource-and-referral-agency. If we don't have a kit you want, send us a photo or topic and we will put a kit together for you.

We also have over 200 die cuts available and will be glad to cut and send to you or you are welcome to come cut them yourself. Let us know colors and number needed.

LENDING LIBRARY

We have 51 theme boxes and many activity boxes and general inventory items for indoor and outdoor play, STEM activities, social-emotional activities, sensory items, books, learning kits, music and rhythm activities, infant/toddler items, games, manipulatives, DVDs and CDs, training items and much more. Remember, we pick up and deliver!



Congrats to the contest winners this quarter! Remember to check the ECU CCRR Facebook page and your email for more opportunities to win!

Crafts for Kids May Day Baskets



Make these adorable May Day baskets with the kiddos! Click the photo above to be taken to the instructions.



LAMINATING

Laminating is FREE! You are welcome to come do it yourself or let us do it for you. You can email what you want laminated or drop it by to us.

CALL US TODAY!

Call us at 580-559-5303 or email parmstro@ecok.edu to place an order for any services from the Resource Room or the Lending Library. Our office hours are 8-5, M-F; however, call before stopping by as we are sometimes on the road. If you need a weekend appointment that can be arranged.



QRIS
Quality Rating and
Improvement System

Quality Care for Every Child!

THE STARS PROGRAM

APPLY TO QRIS HERE: <https://ccmass.dhs.ok.gov/ascend/home>

Application videos:

Application (request for online profile): <https://youtu.be/YBYbmEgwfO0>

Request for certification: <https://bit.ly/CreateEditCertificationRequests>

Resources:

Family Child Care Homes: <https://bit.ly/FamilyChildCareHomesQRIS>

Child Care Center-based Programs: <https://bit.ly/ChildCareCentersQRIS>

QRIS Videos (FCCH & CCP): <https://bit.ly/QRISVideoTrainingCECPD>

Request for coaching: <https://bit.ly/RequestforCoaching>


SOS	Counties
Bree Dies (580) 216-1372 Brianne.dies@okdhs.org (NW)	Alfalfa, Beaver, Blaine, Canadian, Cimarron, Custer, Dewey, Ellis, Garfield, Grant, Harper, Kay, Kingfisher, Logan, Major, Noble, Oklahoma County [73003, 73008, 73012, 73013, 73020, 73025, 73034, 73045, 73049, 73054, 73066, 73084, 73103, 73105, 73107, 73111, 73112, 73114, 73116, 73118, 73120, 73121, 73122, 73127, 73131, 73132, 73134, 73141, 73142, 73150, 73151, 73159, 73162, 73169, 74857], Roger Mills, Texas, Woods, Woodward
Amanda Rietz (405) 837-9199 Amanda.rietz@okdhs.org (SW)	Beckham, Caddo, Cleveland, Comanche, Cotton, Garvin, Grady, Greer, Harmon, Jackson, Jefferson, Kiowa, Lincoln, McClain, Murray, Oklahoma County: [73102, 73104, 73106, 73108, 73109, 73110, 73115, 73117, 73119, 73128, 73129, 73130, 73135, 73139, 73149, 73179], Stephens, Tillman, Washita
Jennifer Mallery (918) 348-6516 Jennifer.mallery@okdhs.org (NE)	Adair, Cherokee, Craig, Creek, Delaware, Mayes, Nowata, Osage, Ottawa, Pawnee, Payne, Rogers, Sequoyah, Tulsa: [74011, 74012, 74014, 74021, 74033, 74037, 74055, 74063, 74070, 74073, 74103, 74105, 74106 A-L, 74107, 74115, 74116, 74126, 74127, 74128, 74132, 74134, 74135, 74136, 74137, 74146], Wagoner, Washington
Amanda Hatcher (405) 567-5462 Amanda.hatcher@okdhs.org (SE)	Atoka, Bryan, Carter, Choctaw, Coal, Haskell, Hughes, Johnston, Latimer, Leflore, Love, Marshall, McCurtain, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Pittsburg, Pontotoc, Pottawatomie, Pushmataha, Seminole, Tulsa: [74008, 74104, 74106 M-Z, 74108, 74110, 74112, 74114, 74119, 74120, 74129, 74130, 74133, 74145]



CONSCIOUS DISCIPLINE VIRTUAL TRAINING

This series is an 8-week series beginning in May. There will be TWO different options for attending. The evening sessions will be from 6-8 pm on Tuesdays. The afternoon sessions will be from 12-2 on Wednesdays. Each topic, on the flyer, is a link that will take you directly to the event registration. Interested persons may register for the series that best fits their schedule. Registration for each session is capped at 75 participants.

See flyers below for more information.




Join us for
CONSCIOUS DISCIPLINE
Virtual training series

Funded by The Oklahoma Clearinghouse
for Early Childhood Success


Wednesday afternoons from 12:00-2:00 pm
Click on each topic to register for individual sessions

- Week 1 (May 3)
Topic: [Self Regulation and Resilience with CD Principles](#)
- Week 2 (May 10)
Topic: [Understanding the Brain through the CD Brain State Model](#)
- Week 3 (May 17)
Topic: [CD: Noticing and Composure](#)
- Week 4 (May 24)
Topic: [CD: Safe Place, Adult Assertiveness, and Visual Routines](#)
- Week 5 (May 31)
Topic: [Connection and Attachment using the Principles of CD](#)
- Week 6 (June 7)
Topic: [Baby Doll Circle Time](#)
- Week 7 (June 14)
Topic: [CD: Problem Solving, Autonomy, and Social Skills](#)
- Week 8 (June 28)
Topic: [Tantrums and Redirection with ACT](#)

*Each session counts as 2 formal training hours through CECPD for a total of 16 formal hours.
*Handouts and Zoom Links for the sessions will be emailed to registrants the day before each training.
*Participants who complete all 8 sessions will receive a free Baby Doll Circle Time kit valued at \$85.



For questions, contact Margaret Shirley
mshirley@sunbeamfamilyservices.org




Join us for
CONSCIOUS DISCIPLINE
Virtual training series

Funded by The Oklahoma Clearinghouse
for Early Childhood Success

Tuesday evenings from 6:00-8:00 pm
Click on each topic to register for individual sessions

- Week 1 (May 2)
Topic: [Self Regulation and Resilience with CD Principles](#)
- Week 2 (May 9)
Topic: [Understanding the Brain through the CD Brain State Model](#)
- Week 3 (May 16)
Topic: [CD: Noticing and Composure](#)
- Week 4 (May 23)
Topic: [CD: Safe Place, Adult Assertiveness, and Visual Routines](#)
- Week 5 (May 30)
Topic: [Connection and Attachment using the principles of CD](#)
- Week 6 (June 6)
Topic: [Baby Doll Circle Time](#)
- Week 7 (June 13)
Topic: [CD: Problem Solving, Autonomy, and Social Skills](#)
- Week 8 (June 27)
Topic: [CD: Tantrums and Redirection with ACT](#)

*Each session counts as 2 formal training hours through CECPD for a total of 16 formal hours.
*Handouts and Zoom Links for the sessions will be emailed to registrants the day before each training.
*Participants who complete all 8 sessions will receive a free Baby Doll Circle Time kit valued at \$85.



For questions, contact Margaret Shirley
mshirley@sunbeamfamilyservices.org



CONTACTS & RESOURCES

Center for Early Childhood Professional Development (CECPD)
1 (888) 446-7608 www.cecpd.org

Locating Quality Child Care -
1 (800) 438-0008

Oklahoma DHS Child Care Services -
1 (800) 347-2276
www.okdhs.org/childcare

Oklahoma Professional Development Registry
www.okregistry.org

Child Care Services County Offices
Carter County - (580) 490-3600
Garvin County - (405) 238-6461
Johnston County - (580) 618-6256
Love County - (580) 490-3600
Marshall County - (580) 618-6256
McClain County - (405) 238-6461 or
(405) 248-8069
Murray County - (580) 618-6256
Pontotoc County - (580) 310-7050
Pottawatomie County - (405) 301-5874 or
(405) 962-8394
Okfuskee County - (918) 777-8029
Seminole County - (405) 301-5874

Office of Background Investigations
1 (800) 347-2276

QRIS (Stars)
Amanda Rietz
Amanda.Rietz@okdhs.org
Tiffany McPherson
Tiffany.McPherson@okdhs.org

Scholars for Excellence in Child Care
www.okhighered.org/scholars
Statewide contact – Bailey Maxey
1 (866) 343-3881 or (405) 225-9395
Murray St College—Heather McLean
(580) 387-7412
Seminole St College—Lynetta Robins
(405) 382-9751

Pathway to CDA –
Bailey Maxey - 1 (866) 343-3881

Warmline- 1 (888) 574-5437 (KIDS)
Free telephone consultation for child care providers covers behavioral health related topics.
<http://warmline.health.ok.gov/>



CALL CENTER

The Child Care Services call center is open Monday-Friday, 9 am to 4 p.m. The phone number is (405) 521-6177. Email: ChildCareGrantsHelp@okdhs.org



OKLAHOMA WARMLINE

(BECAUSE KIDS DON'T COME WITH INSTRUCTIONS)

The Warmline for Oklahoma Child Care Providers offers free telephone consultations, M-F, 8 AM – 6 PM to child care providers on numerous topics of concern. Consultants refer providers to appropriate services and resources within their communities.

A consultant can help clarify a problem, provide information, help generate ideas and solutions, offer guidance on developmentally appropriate practices, provide referrals to meet individual needs and requests, direct providers to relevant resources to assist with a concern, and provide follow-up when needed.

Call: 1 (888) 574-5437 (KIDS)

Email your questions to: warmline@health.ok.gov

Go online: <http://warmline.health.ok.gov/>



SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Scholars program promotes scholar success by empowering scholars to take responsibility for achieving their academic and professional goals.

Scholar coordinators:

- Provide support services and technical assistance.
- Help scholars navigate through the entire process, from the application for the scholarship, admissions and financial aid to credential completion.
- Provide academic and career advisement to ensure scholars' success.
- Provide guidance in exploring scholars' credential options to ensure compatibility with educational and professional goals.

For more information or assistance, contact the scholar coordinator in your area:

- Carl Albert State College, Poteau, Idabel and Sallisaw, Verna Corley, 918.647.1252
- Connors State College, Muskogee, Bailey Maxey, 405.650.0090
- Eastern Oklahoma State College, Wilburton, Bailey Maxey, 405.650.0090
- Murray State College, Tishomingo, Heather McLean, 580.387.7412
- Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College, Miami, Bailey Maxey, 405.650.0090
- Northern Oklahoma College, Tonkawa, Enid and Stillwater, Jayme Orgain, Scholar Coordinator, 405.762.9141, or Courtney Mikolajczyk, Scholarship Support Specialist, 405.372.2404
- Oklahoma City Community College, Quen Wilczek, qwilczek@osrhe.edu
- Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City, Jeff Rosson, 405.945.9168 or 800.560.4099
- Redlands Community College, El Reno, Karen Huett, 405.422.1286
- Rose State College, Midwest City, Jennifer Bachhofer, 405.733.7449
- Seminole State College, Seminole, Lynetta Robins, 405.382.9751
- Tulsa Community College, Tulsa, Melissa Caviness, Scholar Coordinator, 918.595.8024, or Cacey Cottom, Scholarship Support Specialist, 918.595.8280
- Western Oklahoma State College, Altus, Alejandra Tillman, 580.477.7892
- Career Technology Centers (Pathway), Bailey Maxey, 405.650.0090

CECPD STIPEND PROGRAM

Oklahoma Registry Certificate of Achievement and Stipend Program

The Certificate of Achievement & Stipend Program is funded by Oklahoma Human Services Child Care Services and is designed for providers who work in licensed child care facilities. The Stipend Program is a collaborative effort to validate the achievement and expertise of providers and serve as a symbol of their professional accomplishment.

The specific goals of this program are:

- Recognize and reward the specialized professional development of child care providers
- Encourage Teachers, Directors, and Family Child Care Homes to obtain additional focused, formal professional development to improve the quality of care for children.
- Increase overall positive outcomes experienced by children in child care.

We are currently offering SEVEN different Areas of Concentration for the Certificate of Achievement and Stipend Program!

Infant Toddler Preschool School Age Quality Child Care
Childhood Resiliency Better Business in Family Child Care
Healthy Children in Child Care



Shared Services



SAVING TIME • SHARING COSTS • INCREASING QUALITY

REGISTER FOR SHARED SERVICES

If you have not done so already, please register for [OK Shared Services](#)! The resources are invaluable.

About Shared Services: The Oklahoma Child Care Resource & Referral Association and The Oklahoma Department of Human Services Child Care Services partner to provide the OK Shared Services knowledge hub to early care and education professionals across the state.

Shared Services provides the right tools at your fingertips. From classroom management, and nutrition to policy templates and compliance guidance, Shared Services has all the resources need to make your child care center or home day care a success! Register today by visiting:
<https://www.oksharedservices.org/utility-pages/register/>.



Pandemic Relief child care supports extended

Oklahoma Human Services is excited to announce the extension of some valuable child care supports afforded through federal pandemic relief funds.

Through Sept. 2023, Oklahoma Human Services will continue to:

- Cover 100% of family co-pays.
- Offer free child care for designated essential workers, including child care professionals.
- Offer [kith.care](#) to pay relatives to provide in-home child care for designated essential workers. The [kith.care](#) platform will not be available after Sept. 2023.
- Offer Stabilization Grants, including a doubled payment amount and an additional percentage increase based on the program's new star rating for the final two cycles.
 - Cycle 8 opens April 1 and closes April 30, 2023.
 - Cycle 9 opens July 1 and closes July 31, 2023.
 - See the grants updates section of your latest newsletter for more information!

Through Sept. 2024, Oklahoma Human Services will continue to:

- Add \$5 per child, per day to subsidy rates based on attendance.
- Pay for 11 absent days.
- Cover 50% of family co-pays.
- Offer free child care for child care professionals.

Thank you for continuing to support your community by offering safe, quality early childhood education environments for our littlest Oklahomans.



Mom & Grandma will love these homemade gifts!

Click the picture to the right for 45 wonderful Mother's Day gift and craft ideas for the kiddos to make.

