

Family Child Care Newsletter

November/December 2019



As the weather has been changing lately, so has BCAP. First off, our name has changed to Burlington Community Action Partnership (BCAP). Our contract with the Division of Family Development has changed to add two new positions, an Infant Toddler Specialist (we now have the First Steps contract) and a Family Engagement Specialist (Strengthening Families has changed). Kathryn Simone is our new Infant Toddler Specialist, and Judith Byrne is our new Family Engagement Specialist. Lastly, my title has changed from Family Child Care Education Coordinator to Quality & Education Coordinator, to encompass the changes to our contract.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for responding to our requests for entering and updating information in NJCCIS.

I hope everyone stays warm and has a great holiday season.

-Sue

TRAINING with KRISTIN

Effective as of January 1, 2020, workshop confirmations from the NJ Workforce Registry will no longer need to be printed and sent to the office. If you are in need for Registry assistance, to register for a workshop or to find a specific training, please contact me at 609-261-6834 ext. *5145.

HELPFUL HINTS from VIVYAN

Friendly Reminders:

- Please make sure you check your Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms. If you hear chirping, that means you need batteries or it's not working properly.
- If it is too cold to go outside, bring the outside inside with various activities.
- Supervision is at all times. The children should be within sight and hearing.
- No children are to be left in car seats sleeping, even at the parent's request. This can restrict the child's breathing, and may cause a death.
- No children should be sleeping on sofas, as there is a danger for falls, and it is unsanitary.

· Every home should have a daily schedule posted and shared with parents.

Any questions or concerns around inspections feel free to call or email me.

GROW NEW JERSEY KIDS

If you are a Family Child Care provider who has been registered for at least one year AND have children ages birth to preschool enrolled, you are eligible to enroll in the Grow NJ Kids program! You would have access to new training and one on one coaching at your home while having your program assessed using the FCCERS-R tool. You can work toward achieving a 3, 4 or 5 star rating for your program!

IMPROVING with Kathryn

The NJ First Steps Infant Toddler Initiative, funded by the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development assists educators of very young children in providing the very best care for infants and toddlers. The New Jersey First Steps Infant/Toddler Initiative has two predominant goals:

- To improve the quality of infant/toddler early care across the state
- To increase the availability of quality early care programs for families with infants and toddlers

As the Infant/Toddler Specialist, I offer professional development, technical assistance and consultation. I offer resources and materials to enhance your program. I encourage forging community partnerships. I can help you assess your program and see where improvements can be made. I also encourage enrollment in Grow NJ Kids and taking advantage of grants and scholarships available.

GATHERING with JUDITH

Early exposure to literacy is key for children's language arts development.

On November 6th, 2019, BCAP welcomed speakers from the Burlington County Library for our fall Community Gathering. These guests shared their knowledge about accessing library cards and library services, ways to enhance a love for reading, and the discounted services a library card membership can offer. The evening culminated with networking, sharing resources and snacks, and awarding a raffle prize. Our next Gathering will take place in 2020 and more details about this will be provided at a later time. We hope to see you there!

I am also excited to announce that I have accepted the position of Family Engagement Specialist. While I will still be part of the Professional Development Team here at BCAP, my focus will be

on helping families through events and resources which support them and their children, to be the best they can be. One of the upcoming events, called Books, Balls, and Blocks, will offer child development assessment for children ages birth to five. The goal of this event is to strengthen families, prevent child abuse and neglect, and to provide opportunities for optimal child development to take place. I look forward to the many exciting experiences this position will provide.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY (PLC)

The Family Child Care Professional Learning Community is an exclusive FCC group that meets once a month to network and share information to help each other create a more professional environment within our Child Care businesses. We have been meeting for six productive months now, and have learned about planning our business for success, developing communication with parents, networking as an important key to our professional growth, and building relationships with each other, that has proven to be wonderful mentoring opportunities on our journey as a PLC and entrepreneurs. Our next meetings will be November 21 in Cafe 1 and December 19 in Lecture Hall A, from 6:30p to 8:30p-potluck style. Check your email for agendas, flyers, minutes and other helpful resources. Also, look for more information about our PLC topics in future newsletters. We look forward to planning and sharing more ideas and events for 2020. Come out and support fellow FCC Providers and be a part of a growing community of professionals!!

Michelle Burress
FCC PLC Leader
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UPCOMING EVENTS

MONTHLY WORKSHOPS

Accidents Do Not Have to Happen! Child Safety and Injury Prevention
Wednesday, December 11—6:30 – 8:30 pm

CPR/FIRST AID

Thursday, November 21—3:00 – 9:00 pm at the Human Services Building
Saturday, December 14—10:00 am – 4:00 pm at the Willingboro Library

PLC MEETINGS

Thursday, November 21—6:30 in Café 1 at the Human Services Building
Thursday, December 19—6:30 in Lecture Hall A at the Human Services Building