

# *Family Child Care Newsletter*

*January/February 2021*



Happy Spring!

Can you believe it has been a year since our building has been closed? Thank you all for being patient and learning how to navigate a new way to do business with us. We are still learning, and a lot of good things have come out of this trying time, such as grants and an easier way to attend trainings. As always, our door is always open, even if it literally isn't. Please let us know if there is anything you need or have a question about.

Also, don't forget that our annual April Footprints to Professionalism series will be happening 4/15, 4/22 and 4/29. This series' topic will be lesson planning. Register by contacting me at [sfenick@bccap.org](mailto:sfenick@bccap.org). The more evenings you attend, the more materials you can order from Becker's.

--Sue

## ***TRAINING with KRISTIN***

Mark your calendars! The Institute of Childhood Preparedness will be virtually delivering a "Site Security, Crisis Communication and De-escalation Techniques for Childcare Professionals in the Era of COVID-19" training on **Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>** from **6:30 pm to 8:30 pm** through Zoom. Ron Roszak, Senior Safety Advisor for the Institute for Childhood preparedness, will deliver a training that will cover basic concepts of site security, crisis communication and de-escalation techniques. The course will teach childcare professionals how to increase program safety and security. If you are interested in attending, please login to your NJCCIS account and use **Event ID# 126895** to find the training. Space is limited, so please do not hesitate to register!

Don't forget to view BCAP's monthly training calendar, which is always available at [www.bccap.org](http://www.bccap.org). Contact me at 609-288-3631 or at [kmayes@bccap.org](mailto:kmayes@bccap.org) for assistance with finding and/or registering for a training.

## ***HELPFUL HINTS from VIVYAN***

During this challenging time, if you or a member of your home contract Covid-19 or any other contagious medical condition:

1. Contact the Department of Health at 609-265-5548
2. Contact me ([vsaloka@bccap.org](mailto:vsaloka@bccap.org)), as this will assist with any complaints that may come out of this situation. It is better to be ahead of the situation.
3. Have yourself tested.
4. Write a letter after testing notifying the parents of your results.
5. If your results are positive for Covid-19, do not take in any children until you have quarantined 14 days and after you are tested again.
6. If anyone else in the household gets sick, continue to follow the listed instructions.
7. Make sure that you and the children are frequently handwashing, wearing a mask and physically distancing to the best of your ability. Be observant of any medical changes with the children and notify the parents right away.

Please take good care of yourself, follow any doctor's instructions, and use this time to rebuild your body.

## ***IMPROVING with KATHRYN***

Spring is on its way! My name is Kathryn and I am the Infant Toddler Specialist for the Infant Toddler Specialist Network (ITSN) in Burlington County. I am also the acting Quality Improvement Specialist for Grow NJ Kids (GNJK). Both systems are designed to assist child care providers with improving their programs and offer coaching, mentoring, and consultation, as well as program assessment. Since site visits are on hold due to Covid-19, I am offering most services virtually. I am also offering virtual training directed at infant and toddler programs and overviews of the Grow NJ Kids program. I encourage enrollment in Grow NJ Kids and taking advantage of any and all training, grants and scholarships available. Registration for all training is done on NJCCIS.com. I am available to assist you and answer any questions that you may have regarding infants and toddlers in your program. I encourage all providers and directors to make sure their information is updated in NJCCIS, including personnel lists. If you would be interested in a partnership with the ITSN, or would like to enroll in GNJK, please contact me at [kasimone@bccap.org](mailto:kasimone@bccap.org) or call 609-261-6834 ext. \*5140.

## ***ENGAGING with JUDITH***

We continue to encourage parents to join our monthly Parent Meetings. Last month one of our very own parents taught us how to make a delicious and healthy Shepherd's Pie. This month, on March 25th, our very own Kathryn Simone will teach us ways to manage infants' and toddlers' difficult behaviors, with a focus on biting. On April 21st, Elmorina Thomas, early childhood expert of Southern New Jersey Perinatal Cooperative, will be presenting "Spring into Reading with Kids". If you or your families are interested in attending these meetings, please reach out to me at [jubyrne@bccap.org](mailto:jubyrne@bccap.org) for the zoom link and to answer any questions you may have.

## ***GATHERING with CORINNA***

**"If winter has the courage to turn into spring, who says you can't bloom the same?"**

The month of April is not just going to bring longer days, warmer temperatures and a more colorful scene. The training team also has some great workshops and trainings in store for you. We continue our collaboration with the Montclair SEFI team to deliver the final segment of the KBCM training series. Also, we will be offering Footprints workshops for all providers. I am looking forward to seeing all of you and to able to exchange valuable knowledge and experiences as well as expand everyone's professional horizon. Please do not hesitate to contact me via email [coharris@bccap.org](mailto:coharris@bccap.org) with any questions, suggestions, or concerns. I am always thankful for training ideas from you since I want to make sure to address all your needs.

## ***The Land of Subsidy with Chris***

As we say goodbye to Winter it is time to look at our programs and do some Spring Cleaning. Time to freshen up our programs and give them some new excitement. While you are making any adjustments, please make sure you send me your provider profile. It is so important that I have your program's hours, rates, meals, curriculum, and policies all up to date in my database. This is the time of the year when families will be calling for Summer Referrals and Fall placements. Be prepared for those phone calls. Don't forget to advertise... referrals are great, but you can't rely on them.

The IVR Transition has been extended to the end of June. Please talk to your families and remind them that they do not need to call in their attendance until that time.

Did you hear about the new BCAP Book Club? Please contact me if you would like me to read to your children via Zoom. I am always just a call away if you need me. 609-835-4329 ext.5144. Or via [chmorrison@bccap.org](mailto:chmorrison@bccap.org). Have a fantastic month.

## ***PLC***

Thank you for your continued support of the PLC (*Professional Learning Community*)!! Your participation at the meetings, webinars, and support of new and exciting projects has benefited us all. I'm looking forward to more growth and inspiring events to come. Make sure you read our new newsletter, "PLC Notes". It is filled with so many helpful resources. And, if you have not attended a meeting, please come out and network!! We have a few new programs. Our *Substitute Provider Sharing Program* was created to ensure that everyone has a substitute to help with your program. The *Business 101: Training Thursday* provides webinars three times a year for credit up to 3 hours. We also have a *Swap Exchange* which provides items from books to curriculum that we share or exchange with each other. Take advantage of the *Home Visit/One-on-One* in April and October with the PLC Leader to receive consultation from business to creating a conducive space for the families you serve. And last but not least, the *Secondary Skill Share*, where you advertise to share your side business, skill, YouTube channel, Facebook group and more in the newsletter. As you can see the *Professional Learning Community* has been very busy!! Come out and network with other FCC Providers!! We look forward to seeing you at our Zoom meetings. Look for email announcements about meetings with newsletters, agendas, minutes, on Tuesday and Thursday. We meet the third Thursday of each month. See you then!!!!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions!!!

Michelle Burress, Leader, Professional Learning Community, 609-553-8031,  
familychildcareplc@gmail.com

## ***UPCOMING EVENTS***

Keeping Babies and Children in Mind (part 6 of 7): Culturally-Informed Practices

**Tuesday, March 23**—6:00 pm

**Contact Kristin Mayes for registration**

Challenging Behavior in Infants and Toddlers: Biting

**Thursday, March 25**—6:30 pm

**Parent Support Meeting**

Social Emotional Learning (SEL): What Is It All About?

**Tuesday, March 30**—6:30 pm

**Event ID 125658**

Site Security, Crisis Communication and De-escalation Techniques for Childcare  
Professionals in the Era of COVID-19  
**Wednesday, April 14**—6:30 pm  
**Event ID 126895**

Footprints to Professionalism—Putting the Plan into Practice  
**Thursdays, April 15, 22, 29**—6:30 pm  
*Contact Sue Fenick for registration*

Keeping Babies and Children in Mind (part 7 of 7): Reflection-informed Practices  
**Tuesday, April 20**—6:00 pm  
*Contact Kristin Mayes for registration*

Spring into Reading with Kids  
(presented by Elmorina Thomas of Southern New Jersey Perinatal Cooperative)  
**Wednesday, April 21**—6:30 pm  
*Parent Support Meeting*

**PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY**

**Thursday, March 18**—6:30 pm  
*Zoom link will be emailed*

