# Family Child Care Newsletter

May/June 2020



Hello!

I hope everybody is able to take advantage of the nicer weather and spend more time outside! Can you believe summer is just around the corner?

BCAP has had a couple of staff changes this Spring. Corinna Harris is now our center-based Quality Improvement Specialist, filling the vacancy that Stacy Cooper had left. We are pleased that Corinna's Trainer position was immediately filled by Christin Repas. She comes to us from the same child care center world that most of our staff has, and she comes with a wealth of knowledge and trainings.

#### TRAINING with KRISTIN

I am pleased to announce that the training team has been successfully delivering various virtual trainings for a year! It was a new task that every trainer had to take on and make their own, with implementing many dry-runs, adjustments, and technology improvements to ensure high-quality training content and an overall experience.

As we invite everyone in the childcare field to attend and participate in our trainings, I would also like to mention that the same protocols that are in place for in-person trainings are also in place for all virtual trainings. The number one priority of the BCAP training staff is the safety and well-being of all who attend a training. In respect of everyone's time and to ensure that a training can start on time, please arrive on time, as credit cannot be given if a participant is more than 15 minutes late upon arrival. Cameras must be turned on throughout the duration of the training for attendance purposes. Unfortunately, if you cannot be seen by the trainer, then credit cannot be given. Please try to avoid distracting behaviors and be fully present. We want everyone to receive the opportunity to listen to and acquire the valuable information that is being presented. Lastly, please maintain the same professional courtesies as if you were present for an in-person training.

The "BCAP Virtual Training Disclaimer" is always included in every email that is sent out prior to a training, and it is also reviewed at the beginning of each training. I encourage you all to take a few minutes to review the disclaimer below and to contact me directly at 609-288-3631 with any questions or concerns. The training team is looking forward to providing you all with more high-quality trainings that we hope will benefit you in your profession!

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One of BCAP's primary concerns is the health and safety of all our training participants. Due to some concerning behaviors observed during virtual trainings, the training staff at BCAP advise following these guidelines to ensure your safety and full participation while attending high quality professional development trainings. Cameras must be turned on throughout the duration of the training. Credit cannot be given if a participant's camera is not turned on or is exemplifying distracting or unsafe behavior. Driving while attending a training is prohibited due to safety reasons. It is impossible to watch a webinar and safely operate a vehicle at the same time due to the interactive nature of our webinars. The trainers at BCAP continue to work diligently to make quality virtual professional development available. These trainings should be treated as if they were in-person trainings and require your undivided attention. When choosing a training to attend, please make sure you can dedicate uninterrupted time for the duration of the webinar. We understand that there may be unplanned interruptions, but these should be minimized as much as possible. A participant can be removed from the webinar, based on the decision of the trainer, if they display unsafe and/or inattentive behavior for an extended period of time. A participant will not be let into a training if they arrive in the waiting room 15 *minutes or later after the training has begun.* We appreciate your cooperation with this matter.

## HELPFUL HINTS from VIVYAN

Happy Spring from your FCC Inspector!

Although some mask restrictions are being lifted at this time, we will continue with a COVIDrestrictive inspection. You will receive instructions before your inspection, and I ask that you continue to follow them. We will continue to get through this time together!

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns, at 609-261-6834 ext. \*5149.

## IMPROVING with KATHRYN

Warmer weather is coming soon! My name is Kathryn, and I am the Infant Toddler Specialist for the Infant Toddler Specialist Network (ITSN) in Burlington County. The ITSN is designed to assist child care providers with improving their programs and offers coaching, mentoring, and consultation, as well as program assessment. Services are offered virtually at this time. I am also offering virtual training directed at infant and toddler programs. There will be an overview of The Growing Brain training from Zero to Three in May. The entire 7-unit series will be offered starting in June. Registration for all training is done on NJCCIS.com. I encourage you all to take advantage of this great professional development opportunity! I encourage enrollment in Grow NJ Kids and taking advantage of all training, grants, and scholarships available. You can participate in GNJK and the ITSN at the same time! 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, please contact me at kasimon@bccap.org or call 609-261-6834 ext. \*5140.

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## ENGAGING with JUDITH

I am excited to share that we have new members of our Parent Group and would love to see even more families join. Last month at our meeting we discussed reading to and with our children and how important this is for all areas of development. Our parent group meets monthly, and there's always time for sharing as well as learning.

We kicked-off our first interactive Books, Balls, and Blocks Event where children and their families played and learned together. Our next Books, Balls and Blocks interactive event will take place in July. Please share my contact information with your parents (jubyrne@bccap.org)!

## GATHERING with CHRISTIN

Hi, my name is Christin Repas! I am the new Professional Development Trainer for BCAP, and I am very excited to have joined the CCR&R team as of April. I started my career in early childhood education as a toddler teacher assistant, and later had the opportunity to move into a lead pre-k teacher role. Most recently, I spent the last two years as a preschool director.

Throughout my career, I have seen the joys, as well as many of the struggles, early childhood educators, administrator, parents, and children encounter. I look forward to using these experiences to offer a variety of quality professional development topics and opportunities to share, so all of us may continue to feel empowered in our roles.

My favorite part of teaching was always watching the children have those amazing "lightbulb" and "a-ha" moments as a concept clicked or a science experiment created a reaction. Throughout my roles in education, I have always been passionate about multicultural education, messy art and play, and recognizing each child and family's individuality and unique needs. It is my hope that these passions and excitement come through during trainings and spark a renewed excitement for you and the children in your care. Should you ever have questions or suggestions for a professional development training you feel would be beneficial, please do not hesitate to contact me at crepas@bccap.org.



### The LAND of SUBSIDY with Chris

Happy Summer! Is your program ready for the heat? School Age referrals are looking for full time Summer Care. What kind of Summer Program are you offering this year? Is my database current? As you know, I talk about your programs with the families in our communities every day. I listen to what each family is looking for and I try to match them accordingly with my database. Are your hours, rates, meals, curriculum, and policies all up to date in my system? Good chance the answer is no. No worries! Please give me a call at 609-835-4329 ext. \*5144. I would love to hear from you.

Reminder- the IVR System has been extended till December 30th. This means your families are not calling in their attendance. Payments are still based on agreement and not attendance. And there are no closure dates at this time. I am always just a call away if you need me, 609-835-4329 ext. \*5144. Or via chmorrison@bccap.org. Have a fantastic Summer!

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Zero to Three: The Growing Brain Training Overview Wednesday, May 19—6:30 pm Event ID 12743

Social Emotional Learning (SEL): What Is It All About? Thursday, May 25—6:30 pm Event ID 125658

Grow NJ Kids Overview for Centers and Family Child Care Programs Wednesday, June 2 —1:00 pm Event ID 127635

> The Growing Brain: Unit 1 – The Basics **Tuesday, June 8**—6:30 pm **Event ID** 127624

The Growing Brain: Unit 2 – The Factors Affecting Brain Growth and Development Tuesday, June 15—6:30 pm Event ID 127625

> Health Equity Training Wednesday, June 23—<mark>6:00 – 9:00 pm</mark> Event ID 127623

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY **Thursday, June 17**—6:30 pm Zoom link will be emailed