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Community Partnerships for Children Newsletter

Fall 05

**October/November
Issue**

Welcome, Welcome, Welcome!

CPC Update

CPC is under a new agency. We are no longer funded by the Massachusetts Department of Education.

The New Department of Early Education & Care (EEC) is now our funding source. The new EEC is a combination of the Office for Child Care Services (OCCS) and the Early Learning Services Division of the Department of Education. (DOE)

The creation of EEC represents an exciting opportunity to build a new, coordinated, comprehensive system of early education and care. The new agency will be focused on bringing together the people, services and resources of the two agencies.

CPC program is adapting to the new guidelines implemented by the new department and we are looking forward to a successful partnership with our new funding source. We ask that you please bear with us while we are under construction!



A Word of thanks to our Legislators

WOW! Here we are, another year at CPC.

We would like to thank our local Senators and Representatives for their continued support.

The last couple of years when our funding was being threatened, you rose to the occasion and became a great ally for the working class families of Massachusetts. Due to their support we have been able to help thousands of families by supplementing their child care fees, thus making it possible for them to work and make better lives for their families.

So, our hats are off to you!!!

We are looking forward to working with the local Legislators again this year.

Maybe Senator Brian Joyce will come in and read another book to the children or Representative Kathleen Teahan will bring her knitting needles in to show kids how to knit a sweater.

Thank You!

Thank You!

Thank You!

Can you believe it? We are quickly into the new school year already.

This is our first of four bi-monthly newsletters that CPC sends out during the school year. Whether your child is repeating in our program or is brand new, we would like to say

WELCOME!

Just a brief overview of what CPC is all about.

YOU!

The CPC staff is dedicated to providing quality services to you and your family. Whether we provide you with a scholarship support services or assistance over the holidays, our goal is to meet the needs of each and every one of you to the best of our ability.

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Upcoming Workshops/Events



Parenting 9-1-1

Hold on to your hats, the Parent Support Team is on the way! Don't give your kids up for adoption just yet! This new and innovative workshop will help you be better prepared for life's daily challenges.

- Learn effective strategies
- Learn how to be consistent
- Learn the importance of routines & rituals

Call: Karen Mitchell at
508-559-1666 x 115 for more info!

See Calendar for Location & Dates

Parenting! The Ultimate Team Sport!



Are you and your partner on the same page when it comes to raising your children? Do you often disagree on how to discipline? Do you have difficulty communicating? It's a proven fact that children raised in households where parents work as a team, grow up to become responsible and more successful adults. Come and learn to work as a team when parenting your children.

Call: Gina McGarrigle at
508-559-1666 X 123 for more info!

See Calendar for Location & Dates

Music & Movement

Looking for something to do with your preschooler? Want to get rid of some of that built up energy? This activity is for you! CPC's very own diva, Marsha Wright will be hosting this fun parent & child activity.

Children will make their own instruments and sing and dance with all the best children's songs! Come and explore the wonderful world of music!



Call: Marsha Wright at
508-559-1666 X 124 for more info!

See Calendar for Location & Dates

Positive & Productive Free Choice Times For Providers!

Many childcare providers report that some of their children's most difficult behavior issues occur during free choice time, inside & outside. The goal of this workshop is to help providers set up free choice times that are positive and productive for children & staff. Learn how to help children acquire the skills that they need to participate positively in free play, the impact of room arrangement, activities, toys and scheduling.

This Workshop is for Providers!

Call: Nancy Swirka at
508-559-1666 x 116 for more info!

See Calendar for Location & Dates

Tantrum Troubles!

Does your child have temper tantrums? Do they pick the most inopportune time to start screaming, kicking, hitting? (Like in the grocery store?)

Would you like learn how to identify what triggers tantrums?

Come to Tantrum Troubles and learn how to prevent tantrums and learn how to handle outbursts with confidence.

Call Gina McGarrigle at
508-559-1666 x123 for more info!

See Calendar for Location & Dates

Transitions That Work For Providers!

Transition times (moving from one activity to another), can be trying for children and providers. Come and discuss strategies on how to structure positive transitions throughout the day!

This workshop is for Providers!

Call Nancy Swirka at
508-559-1666 x 116

See Calendar for Location & Dates

VISIT OUR
WEBSITE:

[selfhelpinc.org/
CommunityPartnerships.html](http://selfhelpinc.org/CommunityPartnerships.html)

Joy to the Children

For the past 5 years the CPC program has been assisting families that need help over the holidays. Applications will be mailed to CPC and waitlist families the first week in October. If you are in a position to sponsor a child, please contact either Gina x123 or Karen x115 at 508-559-1666 as soon as possible.

If you are a family in need of assistance, please fill out the Joy to the Children application that you receive from us in October. **Please keep in mind that these are hard times for many people this year and our resources are very limited.**

All applications are subject to approval by administration.



CPC Welcomes

Lisa Donovan has joined the staff at CPC as the new Coordinator for the CDS and Schem Partnerships. Lisa's mother, a former family childcare provider now operates a childcare center in her hometown of Franklin and has been a member of CPC for several years.

Lisa recently graduated from Regis College in Weston, Ma. where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management with a minor in Communication.

This past semester, Lisa interned with us here at CPC. She worked on several projects and did a presentation at a Hockomock Council Meeting. Lisa also visited the State House where she lobbied for affordable childcare for parents.



Lisa Donovan

Program Standards Where Do I Start? by Carol Carver/CPC

IN REGARDS TO THE DOE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM STANDARDS & GUIDELINES FOR PRESCHOOL LEARNING EXPERIENCES?

Guiding Preschool Learning in the Arts could be a good place to begin. Take a look at this survey and see where you stand. To promote challenging and stimulating art experiences, teachers should be able to say "yes" to the following four questions.

- Are the children able to experiment freely with the art materials and explore what happens?
- Will each child's work look different from the others?
- Is the goal of the activity the children's enjoyment rather than a product to please adults?
- Will the child's effort lead to something that is satisfying to the child at his or her level of development?

If you answered "yes" to all four questions, you're already on your way. Let's start with these basics and then build from there. Look for more information in future newsletters regarding "Where Do I Start" with the DOE Early Childhood Program Standards and Guidelines for Preschool Learning Experiences. We will continue to support you through this educational journey!

Did you realize that you might already be documenting how you use the DOE Guidelines for Preschool Learning Experiences?

By Barbara Maged & Sherri Macomber
 Home Health & Child Care

1. Everyone writes lessons plans: The DOE Guidelines is a resource for appropriate learning experiences, some that you may be doing and some new fresh ideas that you may want to try. Write down the ideas that are right for your preschool children as you create your plan. Does your planning form allow you to record the learning areas of your focus? Is there room for individualizing the plan? Does the experience offer something for the range of ability and interests of the children?

2. You share & explain the curriculum to your families. You can update your parent handbook with explanations that are consistent with what you are doing to implement the Guidelines and you can describe their activities in terms of the learning detailed in the 6 Content Areas. Do your Preschool Progress Reports go beyond benchmarks and record the children's Experiences in the 6 Curriculum Areas found in the Guidelines? Does your Parent Board have the newer language?

3. You are an advocate for high quality child care and education in your community. What are you saying in your newsletters and Press Releases? Make it a habit to describe your classroom activity and centers with the newer language. Is "Technology/Engineering" a natural part

of your curriculum thinking as Language and the Arts? Careful, accurate Documentation will help all of us who are invested in the Preschool Experience to better articulate what we do and provide connections in understanding what the community will recognize. The key to accurate documentation is in becoming fluent in the new language. By making references to the Learning Guidelines and including the new terminology as you write your goals and lesson plans, you will become more effective in evaluating and communicating your curriculum!

As you know the NAEYC Academy has made important changes over the past year to increase the reliability and accountability of NAEYC Accreditation and to promote higher program quality. These improvements include: Implementing a new five year term of accreditation; strengthening annual reporting requirements; making unannounced visits to randomly selected programs; scheduling validation visits within a 15 day window with one business day notice; field testing online scheduling and compensating validators.

In April 2005, another crucial element in the accreditation reinvention was finalized: the new NAEYC Early Childhood Program Standards and Accreditation Performance Criteria were approved by the NAEYC Governing Board. They will take effect September 2006, replacing the current ("1998") Accreditation Criteria. New self-study materials based on the new standards and criteria will be released in December 2005 and the new NAEYC Accreditation system will be fully operational in 2006.

RANDOLPH CCK PROVIDERS ONLY! are responsible for partial payments towards their NAEYC annual reports/fees/materials and CDA renewals. Reimbursement will be given for other NAEYC/CDA fees after the \$50 provider co-payment. Please submit copies of the front and back of the cancelled check to Pamela Smith, Accreditation Specialist at the Community Care for Kids. For additional info, visit <http://www.naeyc.org/> For support and/or consultation with the self study process please contact Accreditation Specialist Pamela Smith at Community Care for Kids, 617-471-6473 x 102, or E-Mail at psmith@qcap.org.



780 West Main Street
Avon, MA 02322

Phone: 508-559-1666
Fax: 508-583-3808
Email: cpc@selfhelpinc.org

WEBSITE:
WWW.SELFHELPINC.ORG

SELF HELP INC.
CPC

**We're on the
Web!**

Community Care for Kids

Is currently recruiting parents in the Randolph area. If you know any working parents with preschool aged children who live in Randolph and need help paying for childcare, please have them call Molly Lawson at: 617-471-6473.

Council Meeting Dates All Meetings at 6:15 pm

Sachem, Wed., ...Oct. 19, ...Avon CPC Office

CDS, Thur., ...Oct. 27, ...Avon CPC Office

SHARE, Tues., ...Nov. 29, ...Avon CPC Office

Hockomock, Wed., ...Nov. 30, ...Foxboro Library

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