

June 2024 | Child Care Connection of Central Illinois

Capitol Connections



Amidst a sea of voices championing early childhood education in Springfield, three staff members from SAL Child Care Connection of Central Illinois attended the Early Childhood Advocacy Day. With smiles as bright as their determination, they joined educators, policymakers, and community leaders at the state capitol, representing our CCR&R with pride and purpose. Their enthusiastic participation not only showcased our unwavering commitment to the well-being of our youngest learners but also highlighted the crucial role communities play in shaping policies that promote high-quality education and care for all children.

Parent News

If you are looking for a summer program for your school aged child(ren), we can help! Our Referral Specialist, Jessi, can create a customized search for you based on your family's needs.

The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) also helps families! Families may qualify if they are currently not involved in any activity such as work or school but would like to begin searching for employment or enroll in school.

In addition, we support families who are employed, attending school, teen parents and caretakers **of military deployed parents**.

Community News

Pekin Community Fun Fair
Sponsored by Tazewell -Woodford Head Start and Pekin Public Schools
Thursday, May 2, 2024



Our Infant Toddler Specialist, Christy and our Quality Specialist, Heather shared resources about CCR&R services and interacted with many community children and families.

Contact Us

SAL Child Care Connection of Central Illinois
Resource and Referral Service
3425 N. Dries Lane, Peoria Il 61604 | 309-686-3750 | 1-800-421-4371
Email: Hello@salccc.org General Inquiries
CCAPHELP@salccc.org CCAP Documents Only
SmartStart@salccc.org Questions on Smart Start Workforce Grants

Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm



S-A-L COMMUNITY SERVICES

Child Care Resource & Referral of Midwestern Illinois

Newsletter

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Projects

Projects based on the children's interests and ideas are a way of creating extended exploration of a topic. This is different than adult-directed themes based on calendar events and pre-determined topics.

Deeper Exploration. Projects allow children to fully explore ideas and to unpack concepts.

Children's Voices. Projects allow for children's ideas, voices, and interests to be built into the curriculum in a meaningful way.

Understand Children's Ideas. With ongoing discussions and repeated play opportunities, projects allow caregivers to understand children's ideas so they can support more meaningful learning opportunities.

Research. Projects allow children to develop an understanding of how to find answers to questions through research.

Meaningful Skills. Projects allow children to developing meaningful skills while exploring the project topic, such as by drawing, reading, roleplaying, or singing.

Workforce Grant

Our office has been working with our licensed providers during our monthly meetings to keep everyone updated regarding the Smart Start Workforce Grant. While information is still being collected from the state, providers can see what where the grant stands right now to see if it would be a good fit for their program.

Up-to-date information can be found at the official Gateways website: https://www.ilgateways.com/smart-start/smart-start-workforce-grants

Likewise, any grant questions can be submitted directly to our office here: SmartStartMoline@salcommunityservices.org

Pyramid Model

Check out our Training Calendar for June Pyramid Model (Infant/Toddler) trainings:

June 5th – *Module 3: Responsive Routines, Schedules & Environments*

June 6th – *Module 4: Understanding Behavior*

June 13th – Module 5: Teaching About Feelings

June 20th – Module 6: Promoting Positive Peer Interactions

June 26th – Module 7: Individualized Teaching

June 27th – Module 8: Challenging Behavior

Training: Navigating the CCAP Application

This training will familiarize child care providers and families with the State of Illinois' Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), the program's application document, the program's required supporting documentation, and program-specific terminology. The training will also cover common errors in completing the application process, which can result in a Request for Additional Information (RAI) being issued and the application's processing being delayed.

Date: 06/18/2024 (registration deadline 06/17/2024, 8:00pm)
Time: 6:00pm to 8:00pm
Location: Zoom