Child Care Council of Orange County

December Highlights 2023
From the Desk of the Executive Director

The year has come to an end and what a productive year it has been. We are busier than ever, we just completed working on sending out Holiday Cards to our programs and we had a live face-time give away of a basket, prizes, and memberships. Congratulations to all the winners. The Council has increased their membership this year and we thank all of our members for their contribution to the work that we do. The Council understands the value of their programs and we want to provide quality services. We will be contacting you in January to join us in Advocacy in Albany in February. The Council continues to let our Legislators know that Childcare is a priority in New York and we will continue to be the voice for our programs.

We sincerely wish you and your family a Healthy, Enjoyable Holiday and New Year!

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The Child Care Council of Orange adopted a family for Christmas. The Family received much needed items and a few special items to make a special holiday for the family.
Council Happenings
Adopt-a-Family Program

This picture below is our Wrappers and Shoppers who used an Angel's generous donation of 1000 dollars to give a family of 4 (the council's second adopt a family) a very happy holiday! Tara, Sally Ann, and Rita wrapped, Beverly, and Lauren shopped.
Council Staff Holiday Party

On December 11th the Child Care Council of Orange County had its annual holiday staff party at DeStefano's Olde Erie in Middletown.
Hummus

Hummus with Tahini
http://www.inspiredtaste.net/
1 (15-ounce) can chickpeas, drained and rinsed
1/4 cup fresh lemon juice (1 large lemon)
1/4 cup well-stirred tahini
1 small garlic clove, minced
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for serving
1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
Salt to taste
2 to 3 tablespoons water

Dash ground paprika, for serving
In the food processor, combine the combine and process for 1 minute, scrape the sides and bottom of the bowl then process for 30 seconds more. This extra time helps making the hummus smooth and creamy.

Hummus Without Tahini
http://www.thewholesomedish.com/
1 can chickpeas, drained and rinsed
2 to 4 tbsp. water
2 tbsp. extra virgin olive oil
1 tbsp. lemon juice
1 garlic clove, minced
3/4 tsp. ground cumin
1/4 to 1/2 tsp. salt

Add the garbanzo beans, 2 tablespoons of water, the olive oil, lemon juice, garlic, cumin, and ¼ teaspoon of salt to a food processor. Process until smooth and creamy. If needed, add additional water to thin out the hummus. Store in the fridge.

Hummus-Covered Pretzel Rod
http://www.eatingwell.com/
1 pretzel rod
½ tablespoon hummus
1 teaspoon shredded carrot

Coat upper third of pretzel with hummus. Sprinkle carrot on the hummus.
Activities

Winter Sensory Play - Playing with Salt
http://www.creativeplayhouse.

Salt is a cheap and lovely sensory material that can easily be colored and glittered. Salt has endless opportunities for play; pouring, scooping, drawing in, stirring, digging... add water to it becomes like damp sand and is moldable and you can make mini sand castles (it also vacuums up really easily!) Have you ever noticed that salt also has a natural sparkle, just like snow?

Freeze!

Choose some music and turn up the volume. Ask the children to dance until the music stops. When it does, they must freeze. To make the game more challenging, ask the kids to freeze in specific poses: animals, shapes, letters or even yoga postures.

Balance Beam

Use masking tape to make your own balance beam. Put on some music, and one at a time the kids can take their turn walking one-foot-over-the-other across the straight line of tape. Make the game more challenging by having the kids walk backwards or balance with one foot on the line.

Freezing Bubbles

water
light corn syrup
water
dish soap
container and stirrer for mixing solution
tablespoon and cup measurers
paper cups and marker
straw

Mix 1 cup of water, 2 Tablespoons of corn syrup, and 4 Tablespoons of dish soap in container and mix together. Please make sure the child is capable of blowing through a straw and understands not to suck in the bubble solution! Blow the bubbles outside.
January is National Book Month
Books Every Preschool Class Should Have
https://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2015/03/58-books-every-preschool-class-must-have.html

Eating the Alphabet: Fruits & Vegetables from A to Z, by Lois Ehlert
Chicka Chicka Boom Boom: Anniversary Edition, by Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault
Something From Nothing, by Phoebe Gilman
If You Give a Mouse a Cookie, by Laura Joffe Numeroff
Mortimer, by Robert Munsch
Where the Wild Things Are, by Maurice Sendak
Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! by Mo Willems
Little Blue and Little Yellow, by Leo Lionni
Pink Is For Boys, by Robb Pearlman
Mouse Paint, by Ellen Stoll Walsh
Big Fat Hen, by Keith Baker
Granny Went to Market, by Stella Blackstone
Mouse Count, by Ellen Stoll Walsh
The Way I Feel, by Janan Cain
Keisha Ann Can! By Daniel Kirk
Elmer, by David McKee
No, David! by David Shannon
Owl Babies, by Martin Waddell
How Big Is a Pig? by Claire Beaton
One Duck Stuck, by Phyllis Root
My Heart Is Like a Zoo, by Michael Hall
The Mitten, by Jan Brett (winter)
Big Red Barn, by Margaret Wise Brown (farm)
A House for Hermit Crab, by Eric Carle (sea life/months of the year)
The Very Hungry Caterpillar, by Eric Carle (days of the week, nutrition, bugs)
Is Your Mama a Llama? by Deborah Guarino (animals/families)
Everywhere Babies, by Susan Meyers and Marla Frazee (families)
The Family Book, by Todd Parr (families)
From Tadpole to Frog, by Wendy Pfeffer (spring/pond life/life cycles)
Our Stars, by Anne Rockwell (space)
Dinosaur Roar! Board Book, by Paul and Henrietta Stickland (dinosaurs/opposites)
The USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

What is CACFP?

The Child and Adult Care program (CACFP) is a federal supplemental food program (USDA) that provides reimbursements for nutritious meals and snacks served to eligible infants, children, and adults. Reimbursement is based on the income level of the local geographic area, the childcare provider, or the children in care (free, reduced-price, or paid rates).

The CACFP is more than just a reimbursement program. CACFP provides consistent access to nutritious foods and improves nutrition security and decreases food insecurity which promotes health and well-being to children and adults.

The Child Care Council of Orange County is a CACFP Sponsor which is an organization that will help you claim reimbursement for the meals and snacks that you serve through the CACFP. They ensure you are compliant with state and federal rules and assist you in proper reporting and other administrative functions. An agreement will be signed with the sponsoring organization and licensed daycare.

Who Can Participate?

If you operate a licensed family or group day care home, you are eligible to participate. The program services children ages 12 and under and you are reimbursed for up to 2 meals and 1 snack, or 1 meal and 2 snacks - per child per day.

What Kind of Food is Served in the CACFP?

The CACFP nutrition standards are based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans that encourage the consumption of a variety of vegetables and fruits, whole grains, lean meats/meat alternates along with lowering added sugars in food items. To be reimbursed, the meal or snack must contain the required components in their minimum amounts by age.

Joining the CACFP Program allows program operators to purchase more nutritious foods for those in their care and helps them receive supplemental help with food expenses.
Child Development Associate® (CDA) Credential

The Council for Professional Recognition is a leader in the credentialing of early childhood educators worldwide. We ensure that candidates who earn our Child Development Associate® (CDA) credential are well prepared to foster the social, emotional, physical and cognitive growth of young children. Having a CDA® doesn’t just help educators bring out the best in children. It also advances their careers and contributes to the status of our profession.

Calling All Providers and Parents!

Are you looking for answers to a specific questions? Need guidance in your program? For more information contact:

Rosemarie Lawton, Director of Professional Development, rosemarie@childcarecounciloc.org

Sally-Ann Raesslar, Infant & Toddler Specialist Sally-ann@childcarecounciloc.org

Sandy Blanco, Preschool Resource Specialist sandy@childcarecounciloc.org

Allison Wojciechowski, Business Support Specialist allison@childcarecounciloc.org

Tara Mullen, I & T Mental Health Consultant tara@childcarecounciloc.org
Medical Independent Study
Call Nurse Jen Warm for more information on dates!
Location: 40 Matthews Street, Goshen, Council Training Room 107
Trainer: Jennifer Warm, Health Care Consultant 914-400-6623 jwarm1980@outlook.com

4 hour course: $150 members and $175 non-members send payment of check or MO
8 hour course: $175 members and $200 non-members send payment of check or MO

For independent study, the individual must download the information and watch the video, at: http://www.ecetp.pdp.albany.edu/mat.shtm.

Registering Medical Administrant Training. Step One: Log-in to your ECETP E-learning account https://www.ecetp.pdp.albany.edu/mytraining/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fmytraining%2fdefault.aspx. When you have completed all the above information on line. Please fill out Training Registration Form (page 17) and send your check or money order to the Council. Once your training is complete, your certificate of completion will be available for you to print in your ECETP account.

On the day of the class provider is required to bring the independent study participant guide and the MAT participant’s handouts. Provider may use all the materials for the written test and the practical test. The review and testing takes approximately 4 - 5 hours as each person has two (2) chances to pass each part of the test written and practical. The time depends on if provider passes the 1st time or not.

The training provides an overview of medication for both over-the-counter and prescription medication; the routes, handling, storage and safe disposal of medication; permission and instruction requirements; preparation and administration techniques; asthma; emergency care and special situations. The MAT training certificate is valid for three years from the date you complete the course. After three (3) years, you may be eligible to take a renewal test online to extend your certificate for another three (3) years. Visit http://www.ecetp.pdp.albany.edu/mat.shtm or call toll-free (866)665-5537 for more details on MAT and the renewal process.

OCFS Training Topics: Safety and Security Procedures, Nutrition and Health Needs of Children, Statutes and Regulations Pertaining to Child Day Care CDA: 1, 2

Providers going through the online renewal for the third time
♦ Will need to be tested by the Health Care Consultant
♦ Pay the Council prior to that date: $120 for members $150 for non-members
♦ Contact Jennifer Warm to set up a date.
Providers & Parents

CPR/FA Training
Call us for info!
kacie@childcarecounciloc.org 845-294-4012 x227
6pm - 9:30pm, CPR/AED-Training room, $95 non-member, $125 members

Technical Assistance for Starting Family Day Care programs and School Age Child Care Programs

We provide support for people and organizations interested in starting Family Day Care programs and School Age Child Care in their communities. Call Beverly (845)294-4012 x230 if you have questions about the application. To view the webinar and receive an application go to the OCFS website, http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/becomeaprovider.asp.

OCFS Offering Free Graco Cribs to Three Types of Day Care Providers

OCFS is providing family-based child care providers a Graco Pack ‘n Play crib – free. All legally-exempt, family day care, and group family day care homes are eligible to request one Pack ‘n Play and one fitted sheet. Find out more about how to make a request, and see the OCFS hold harmless agreement – (En Español) Spanish hold harmless agreement).

Here is a link to for a free covid kit: https://special.usps.com/testkits
The Council has free kits while supplies last! Call Rita at 224!

https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls,
Council Members!
We appreciate you and thank you for supporting our mission to assist parents, child care programs, employers, and the community with information and resources on choosing quality child care.

Denise's Little Angels
Bizzy Bz daycare
Warwick Day Care Center
Young & Unique Christian Development
Early Explorers Daycare
Learning Together
School Time Children's Center Inc.
Little Guardians  Daycare
Tina's Tender  Love and Care
House on the Hill
Colores Child Care
Inspire in Monroe
Inspire in Newburgh
Inspire in Goshen
RECAP
Messy Hands Happy Hearts
Sue's Home Daycare
The Village Childcare Services
ABCD
Rhythm and Rhyme
Membership Application

By becoming a member of the Child Care Council of Orange County, Inc., a nonprofit, you are demonstrating your commitment to promoting quality child care as a priority in Orange County. Your Membership—parents, providers, businesses, community—assists the Council in meeting the goal of promoting affordable, quality child care and to strengthen the early childhood workforce in Orange County.

Membership Benefits:

**Family and Group Family**
- Reduced rates on Council Trainings & Events
- Eligibility to vote at the Council’s Annual Meeting
- Free report on referrals to your program
- Free job postings on Council’s website
- Free Job Bank for employee new hires

**Individual, Community/Business**
- Support of quality provider/parent/child programming offered by the Council
- Eligibility to vote at the Council’s Annual Meeting

**New! Child Care Centers & SACC**
(Membership includes director and all staff)
- Reduced rates on Council training and events
- Eligibility to vote at Council’s annual Meeting
- Free job postings on Council’s website
- Free job postings in Highlights
- Free Job Bank for employee new hires

We appreciate your Membership!

**Child Care Council of Orange County, Inc. Membership Application**

Please return application to:
Child Care Council of Orange County, Inc., 40 Matthews St., Suite 103, Goshen, NY 10924

Please make checks or money orders payable to: Child Care Council of Orange County, Inc.

Name ___________________________________________________________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________________________________
Telephone Number ____________________________  Email_______________________________________
Child Care or Business Name _________________________________________________________________

Membership is effective for 12 months from date of purchase.

_____ $50  Individual Membership Business/ Community
_____ $50  Family and Group Family providers (add an assistant for $10)
_____ $125 Individual Child care center (includes director & all staff)
_____ $125 School Aged programs (includes director & all staff)

I have enclosed an additional tax deductible donation of $________________________ to support the work of the Child Care Council of Orange County, Inc. in promoting affordable, quality child care in Orange County.
Picture Consent for Child Care Council of Orange County Inc.

I __________________________ am aware and have agreed to the (parent/ guardians name) picture taking of my child while attending child care.

I consent to having my child’s picture to be used by Child Care Council of Orange County Inc. for the Newsletter/ Highlights, Calendar, Website and any Social Media.

________________________________________________________
Print Child’s Name

________________________________________________________
Print Name of Parent/ Guardian

________________________________________     ____________
Signature or Parent/ Guardian               Date

________________________________________     ____________
Signature of Provider                        Date

HO HO HO AND ALL THAT JAZZ