

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS:

- * ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE AUTOMATICALLY MUTED.
- * PLEASE SHARE YOUR QUESTIONS FOR SPEAKERS IN THE CHAT BOX.
- * THIS MEETING WILL BE RECORDED & AVAILABLE AT: <https://www.firstup.org/sepecc/>



SEPECC Meeting

Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Welcome

Meeting will begin at 12:30pm

Agenda:

12:30 Welcome

12:35 Budget/Policy Updates

12:45 Advocacy Skill Building & Activities

1:05 OCDEL, ELRC & DHS Announcements

1:25 Special Presentation: Accessing resources for building & maintaining your program's quality standards

1:45 Public Policy Partners Collaboration

1:50 Community Partner Resources

2:05 Wrap Up

2:10-2:30 Breakout Groups (*optional*)



UPCOMING SEPECC MEETINGS

- **December 19, 2023**
- **January 16, 2024**
- **February 20, 2024**
- **March 29, 2024**

12:30 – 2:30pm



We're
Thankful
for You!





Advancing quality early care
and education in Bucks, Chester,
Delaware, Montgomery and
Philadelphia Counties

SEPECC

www.facebook.com/groups/sepecc/

MARY GRAHAM,
CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

TYRONE SCOTT,
FIRST UP

BUDGET & POLICY
UPDATES
(FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL)



ADVOCACY



PROVIDER SPOTLIGHT

TIMMI KILGORE, KILGORE FAMILY CHILDCARE



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR | OCT. 2, 2023 (INQUIRER.COM)

Fight to survive

Thanks to The Inquirer for putting the childcare crisis on the front page last week. However, the article only mentions large centers. Like hundreds of others in the Greater Philadelphia area, I run what's known as family childcare: delivering quality childcare in my home. I teach babies to talk, walk, potty train, feed themselves, listen, and share. The children in my care enjoy a positive introduction to their educational journey of K-12 and beyond. For eight to 10 hours a day, I provide loving care right in their neighborhood, so parents can work full-time jobs. I am also a trusted resource in my community, a block captain leading neighborhood cleanups and unity events. I will continue to invest in my program and provide the best quality care. But I am a part of the least compensated industry. Parents can't afford to pay more, and government subsidies do not pay the true cost of care. In fact, we are paid poverty-level wages. We would never abandon our families by going on strike. But we depend on everyone in our society to support our important work, speak out on our behalf, and get us the compensation we deserve.

Timmi Kilgore, owner, Kilgore Family Childcare, Philadelphia



HALLOWEEN VISIBILITY EVENT RECAP

ELIZABETH OZER, FIRST UP

SHAWN TOWEY, PENNSYLVANIA CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION







5 REASONS YOU SHOULD CARE ABOUT THE CHILD CARE CRISIS

THIS IS NOT A TRICK

84% of programs indicated they have **staffing shortages**.

38,321 children currently sit on **waiting lists**.

3,980 positions have opened due to lack of benefits and **low wages**.

1,599 classrooms are **closed**.

30,047 more children could be served if early learning centers were **fully staffed**.

OUR ECONOMY CAN'T RECOVER IF CHILD CARE IS NOT AVAILABLE. ELECTED OFFICIALS MUST STRENGTHEN OUR EARLY EDUCATION SYSTEM.

IT'S NOT A TREAT EITHER

First Up is a 501c3 nonprofit organization.

THE HEADLINES ARE SCARY



If the childcare sector continues to weaken, it will launch an economic crisis. Without centers, parents — many of whom are single working mothers — will have to scramble to find alternative care for their children. "They'll find that the center is further away or doesn't offer the hours or is not the same caliber of care that every parent wants," Smith said. Many frustrated parents will drop out of the workforce....

[Damaris Alvarado-Rodriguez] worries that the lack of appropriate childcare will leave untold numbers of children unprepared for school and the crucial years of early education. "It's just not fair and especially [to] low-income families that can't afford to hire a nanny," she said. "We are actually moving backwards."

According to Diane Barber, executive director of the Pennsylvania Child Care Association (PCCA), the stimulus money "kept the childcare system from collapsing, but it didn't fix the problems." "It's like playing Jenga," she said. "We moved things around and took pieces from the bottom, but we all know how the game is going to end. Eventually you know it's going to collapse."

PA child care providers sound alarm, say more support is needed as federal COVID funding ends

Child care funding ending: providers fear loss of American Rescue Plan money that "kept the lights on"

BY NIKKI DEMENTRI, DENNIS RICHARDSON
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 / 10:36 AM / CBS PHILADELPHIA

Our Child Care System Is a Disaster. It's About to Get Worse.

The expiration of federal funding for day cares will likely affect millions of families.

Nationally, the median wage for a childcare provider is just \$13.71 per hour, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The solution isn't as simple as centers raising tuition, especially in lower-income areas. Already, the average family pays more than \$10,000 annually in child care costs. In Colagrosso's center, 78 percent of children are from low-income families that qualify for a federal program that pays Colagrosso a lower tuition rate based on a sliding scale.

...but the PA legislature can do its part

'This is the worst I've seen it in 30 years:' Federal funding for childcare services ends this month, but the system is still struggling

Federal funding for childcare services from the American Rescue Plan

The shameful lack of women in Congress sent child care over a cliff

This is money that kept child care and early education workers employed. It allowed child care centers to stay open. Now that we're over the cliff,



But even with a job, childcare professionals say they're not fully compensated. While federal aid helped pay workers during and after the pandemic, it didn't solve the problem of low wages. Earnings failed to meet the cost of living in 100% of Pennsylvania counties, according to a 2023 report...

Many childcare centers have extremely long waiting lists. Some centers have over 30 kids waiting for only one spot.

"My biggest fear is that children are placed in unsafe environments," said Barber. "If a family, out of desperation, responds to a Craigslist ad, but it doesn't say anything about who else lives in that household or whether they have child abuse clearances....my biggest fear is the child will get hurt."

America's child care problem is about to get a lot worse. Here's why

Already, because of the staffing shortage, she's had to close one classroom in a public housing development, turning away the parents of 12 children... Currently, reimbursement rates are determined by a market survey, but that reflects what parents can afford, not the true cost of care.

"Until we switch our subsidy system, and really our whole financing system, over to a cost of care model and reimburse programs that way, they're going to continue to struggle to keep up with competitors and other low-income industries," he said.

At least 17 states invested their own money into child care this year, according to a tally by Child Care Aware. These include historic investments by Alabama, Alaska, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Vermont and Washington.

"Early learning is not a viable proposition right now," he continued. "Everyone calls it necessary, but no one's willing to put the resources in yet to make it possible."

Pennsylvania's coming child care crisis

My day care was my lifeline, and I was bereft when it closed. Thousands of Pa. families are facing the same fate.

Child care in Pa., U.S., facing fast erosion as federal relief program ends

Child care centers face closings as federal relief funds run out





GOTV - CHILD CARE VOTER

SHIRLEE HOWE, CHILDREN FIRST



SMG Clubhouse, Horsham

Election Day activities included voting for favorite candy and wearing child care voter t-shirts!



YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE
IMPORTANT

November 7 tendremos elecciones, por lo tanto Lumi's Happyland Childcare, LLC se complace en ofrecer a los padres votantes horario extendido para darle la facilidad de ir a ejercer su derecho después de su horario de trabajo. El servicio requiere que le estemos exigiendo es brindamos una prueba de que si lo hizo.

Estamos aquí para servirle a nuestras Familias.
 Gracias!

November 7th is Election Day! Lumi's Happyland Childcare, LLC will offer parents an extended schedule for you to go vote. Please bring proof that you did it.

We are here to serve our Families.
 Thanks!

- Wash and sanitize all equipment and surfaces used for preparing food
 - Wash hands after handling allergen foods
 - Use latex-free gloves when handling food
 - Simply visually removing allergens from a plate can still cause problems
 - Do not reuse containers
- ALERT CUSTOMERS:**
- 1) List allergen ingredients on served foods
 - 2) Post all allergen warning signs
 - 3) Ask customers if they are allergic to any ingredients
 - 4) Have a list of ingredients for each menu item at point of sale
 - 5) Check with chef or manager if you are unsure of ingredients
 - 6) Offer alternatives if available
- CALL 911 AT FIRST SIGN OF REACTION!**

- ALLERGEN
- Eggs:
- Fish:
- Milk:
- Peanuts:
- Shellfish:
- Soy:
- Tree nuts:
- Wheat:

Lumi's Happyland Childcare, LLC
 1001 College Street
 Philadelphia, PA 19107
 Tel: 215-593-8170

OBJECTIVE: Nondiscrimination Policy Statement
FROM: Human Resources Department

Our goal is to provide a safe and secure environment for all children and staff. We are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children and staff. We are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children and staff.

Planned Memo - Non-Infants
 From: October 8, 2023 To: October 27, 2023

First Up
 Getting Families & Staff Out to Vote!
 Apoyando Familias y Educadores para que Salgan a Votar

Thursday, October 26th
 6-8pm
 On Zoom, To register scan QR Code or click on link below

English Session
 Spanish Session

First Up
 PA SENATE DISTRICT 2
 DEMOCRAT serving part of PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

STATE SENATOR CHRISTINE TARTAGLIONE

Senator Christine Tartaglione, elected to the Pennsylvania Senate in 2015, represents the 2nd Senatorial District of Pennsylvania, which encompasses a population of over 200,000 people in parts of Philadelphia County District 2, encompassing: Laverne, Volunteerpark, Frankford, Northwest, Bridesburg, Sage Park, Barchessand, and more.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

- Law & Justice
- Labor & Industry
- Rules & Executive Nominations
- Intergovernmental Operations
- Minority Chair
- Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness

DISTRICT OFFICES

5321 Oxford Avenue
 Philadelphia, PA 19124
 (215) 533-0440

400 West Allegheny Avenue
 Philadelphia, PA 19133
 (215) 291-8653

Scan to find your legislator or bill

Milestones from Birth to 6 Years

Age	Month	Year
0-1	12	1
1-2	24	2
2-3	36	3
3-4	48	4
4-5	60	5
5-6	72	6

Lumi's Happy Land FCC, Philadelphia
 Parent board with advocacy info and offer of extended hours on Election Day!

11/2/2023

Thank you to Estelas Family Daycare and Bahirah's Lil Tots Daycare for encouraging families to get out to vote on Election Day!

A todos nuestros padres

Aviso:

Después de extemarles un afectuoso saludo, les informamos que el próximo 11/7/2023 estaremos contribuyendo a que ustedes puedan realizar sus votaciones dicho día, por lo tanto estaremos trabajando hasta las 10: pm con tales fines.

En otro orden les informo que el sábado 11 del año en curso no estaremos laborando, puesto que asistiremos a cursos de capacitación y adiestramiento, en Esperanza College para brindarles un mejor servicio educativo e innovador.

-
- After extending an affectionate greeting, we inform you that on 11/7/2023 we will be contributing to you being able to make your votes that day, therefore we will be working until 10: pm for such purposes.
 - On another note, I would like to inform you that on Saturday the 11th of this year we will not be working, since we will attend training courses at Esperanza College to provide you with a better educational and innovative service.

Se despide
Estelas Family Daycare
1449 West Linden St Allentown PA 18102



Let's Vote

Bahirah's Lil Tots Daycare will be available for childcare on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, until 9 p.m., ensuring that you have a convenient option for Election Day. Make your vote count by taking advantage of this service. Remember your vote matters! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

CONGRATULATIONS!

**Congratulations to
Mayor-Elect
Cherelle Parker**

**The 100th Mayor of
Philadelphia and
Champion for Kids**



CONGRATULATIONS TO MAYOR PARKER!

Send her a congratulatory message and include artwork from your kids.

She'll have a brand new office to decorate soon.

What better way to reinforce the commitment she's already made to our city's children than to adorn her walls with their masterpieces!

People for Parker

P.O. Box 27647

Philadelphia, PA 19118



INTRODUCING WHITNEY BROWN (SHE/HER)

Civic Engagement Coordinator at
Children First, working on the
Child Care Voter campaign

whitneyb@childrenfirstpa.org

Cell: 267-990-4027



children FIRST



Shirlee Howe

shirleeh@childrenfirstpa.org



Whitney Brown

whitneyb@childrenfirstpa.org



Kevin Burgess

kevinb@childrenfirstpa.org



MESSAGES OF THANKS

LAVERNE CHEESEBORO, OWNER/ DIRECTOR OF HEAVENLY MADE CREATIONS



GIVING THANKS = ADVOCACY!



The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW.org) is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms.

Eleanor Levie

Volunteer advocate

SEPECC Advocacy Committee

email:

EleanorLevie@gmail.com

4 WAYS TO ADVOCATE TO POLICY-MAKERS



COMPLAIN:

You have every right!



ASK FOR SOMETHING:

Insist on what you need and deserve



EDUCATE:

Make sure legislative aides understand your situation



THANK:

Tis the season!

KIDS' CRAFT: LEAF TURKEYS

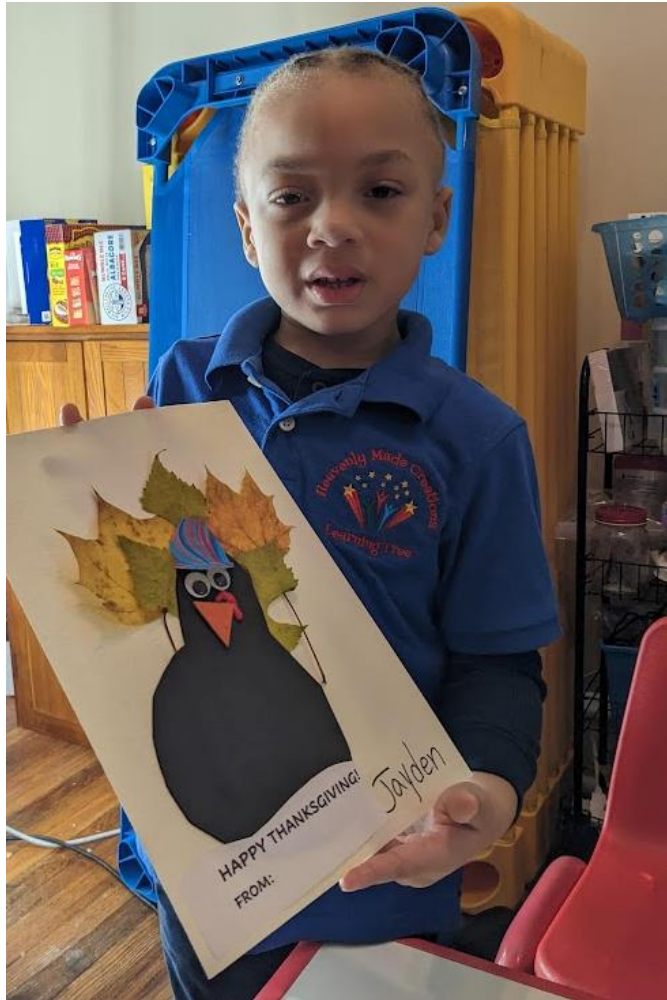


KIDS' CRAFT: LEAF TURKEYS

What you'll need, what to do:

- **Fall leaves**—collect and press between newspaper sheets for several days to keep flat
- **Heavy paper** – cardboard or cardstock – backgrounds for kid's artwork. Use gluestick to adhere pressed leaves, for turkey's fantail
- **Brown or black construction paper, or self-adhesive foam sheet** – cut into 6" shape like a duckpin bowling pin – glue over leaves
- **Wiggle eyes** – add, using glue or glue dots
- **Scraps of felt or colored paper:** orange triangle for beaks, red comma-shape for wattle, other color oval, folded in half, for baseball cap

KIDS' CRAFT: LEAF TURKEYS



KIDS' CRAFT: LEAF TURKEYS



THANK-YOU NOTES TO GO HOME TO FAMILIES AT THANKSGIVING

- **THANK YOU** for entrusting your child to our childcare program!
- **THANK YOU** for telling friends and family what quality childcare means to you!
- **THANK YOU** for telling your legislators to make quality childcare affordable for families, and allow providers like me/us to earn a living wage.



THANK-YOU NOTES TO SEND TO CHAMPIONS OF CHILDCARE AT THANKSGIVING

- Thank those legislators who are actively supporting the funding we need and deserve for childcare and pre-K!
- Use social media
- Add a photo of a child's leaf turkey



PHOTOS + CAPTIONS = SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS!

@SenBobCasey or <https://www.casey.senate.gov/contact/share>

THANK YOU for being an original cosponsor for the Child Care for Working Families Act! You are a champion who will LEAF your mark on history! #SaveChildCare

@SenFettermanPA or <https://www.fetterman.senate.gov/contact/>

THANK YOU for being a Child Care Champion! You know that anything less than a robust investment LEAVES too many providers without a livelihood, and too many families without quality childcare and the freedom to work. #SaveChildCare



INVITE LEGISLATORS TO HOLIDAY EVENTS

SHAWN TOWEY, PENNSYLVANIA CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION



JOIN OUR DELEGATION FOR A VIRTUAL VISIT!

SEPECC Volunteer Eleanor Levie is scheduling online visits with the top aides for our US Senators and our Governor to share our **THANKS and our views:**

- **Looking for a small, diverse delegation: advocates, providers, teachers, parents with personal stories to tell.**
- **Attend a briefing session on Zoom beforehand, so we are all unified on our message, and each member of our group participates in the meeting.**
- **Hoping for early December, between 1 and 3 p.m. (naptime!)**
- **If interested, put your name in the chat, or email EleanorLevie@gmail.com**



**Earn a gift card for
your advocacy efforts!**

Sign on five people to become supporters of the campaigns.	\$25	Attend candidate event or forum and raise early care and education as an issue.	\$100 Without families \$120 With families
Receive, display and distribute "get out the vote" (GOTV) information cards to parents.	\$25		
Participate in one of the following campaign social media efforts: Option 1—Twitterstorms / Twitterchats. Option 2—Share stories on your social media platform(s) and tag our social media platforms. Option 3—Upload stories in writing with still photos for us to use on our social media platforms.	\$30		
Program director sends a letter to elected official(s). (This does not include filling out an action alert.)	\$30		
Program director secures families to share their stories for campaign media use.	\$30		
Tier 2			
Using campaign talking points, share your story via a video clip on your social media platform(s) and tag our social media platforms or submit your video clip to us for use on our social media platforms.	\$50		
Program director submits a letter to the editor. (Gift card not contingent on it being published.)	\$50		
Send a photo of a parent accessing GOTV information through a QR code.	\$50		
Submit three original GOTV themed art depictions by children.	\$50		
Host a family/community engagement event (Video/Documentary Showing/Kindergarten Transition) Families may include those outside of the elected official's district.	\$50 Without elected official(s) or designee(s) \$80 With elected official(s) or designee(s)		
Help a family from your program share their story in a letter to an elected official(s) or submit a letter to the editor. (Gift card not contingent on it being published).	\$70		
Attend/participate in a GOTV training.	\$75		
Host a professional development session on advocacy offered by campaign partners. Include families to allow the campaigns to identify parent leaders.	\$115 Without families \$155 With families		
Participate or secure a family to participate in a panel discussion.	\$100		
Tier 3			
Meet your elected official in their district office.	\$120 Without a family \$160 With a family		
Host an elected official or designee in your program: Option 1—Meet and greet with elected official and program's families/staff. Option 2—Staff meeting discussion with elected official about investments. Option 3—Program tour and/or elected official or designee reads to a classroom. Option 4—Center milestone (staff retirement, anniversary of establishment, move to higher STAR level, etc.).	\$160 Without a family \$200 With a family		
Hold a conference call with your elected official(s).	\$120 Without families \$160 With families		
Serve as a campaign media contact and/or have a family from your program do the same.	\$200 Without a family \$250 With a family		
Travel to Harrisburg to: Option 1—Participate in a capitol caravan. Option 2—Participate in a capitol visibility event. Option 3—Visit an elected official with campaign representatives during a capitol visibility event.	\$200 Without a family \$250 With a family		
Offer extended hours until at least 9pm to allow parents to vote.	\$250		
* For family-involved activities, family must be from the district of the elected official, except where otherwise indicated. * Incentives will be issued based on the availability of funds.			

Revised December 2022



DELAYED PAYMENTS

LAVERNE CHEESEBORO, OWNER/ DIRECTOR OF HEAVENLY MADE CREATIONS



POLLING QUESTION & RESULTS

Has your ECE business been delayed in receiving payments from the city or state programs this fall?

- Yes, payment(s) was late **7/24 (29%)**
- No, payment(s) was on time **10/24 (42%)**
- Not applicable, no city or state program(s) **7/24 (29%)**

You are welcome to add additional context in the group chat or via private message to Jackie Groetsch.



NATIONAL DAY WITHOUT CHILDCARE

SHINEAL HUNTER, FAMILY CIRCLE ACADEMY



NATIONAL DAY WITHOUT CHILD CARE

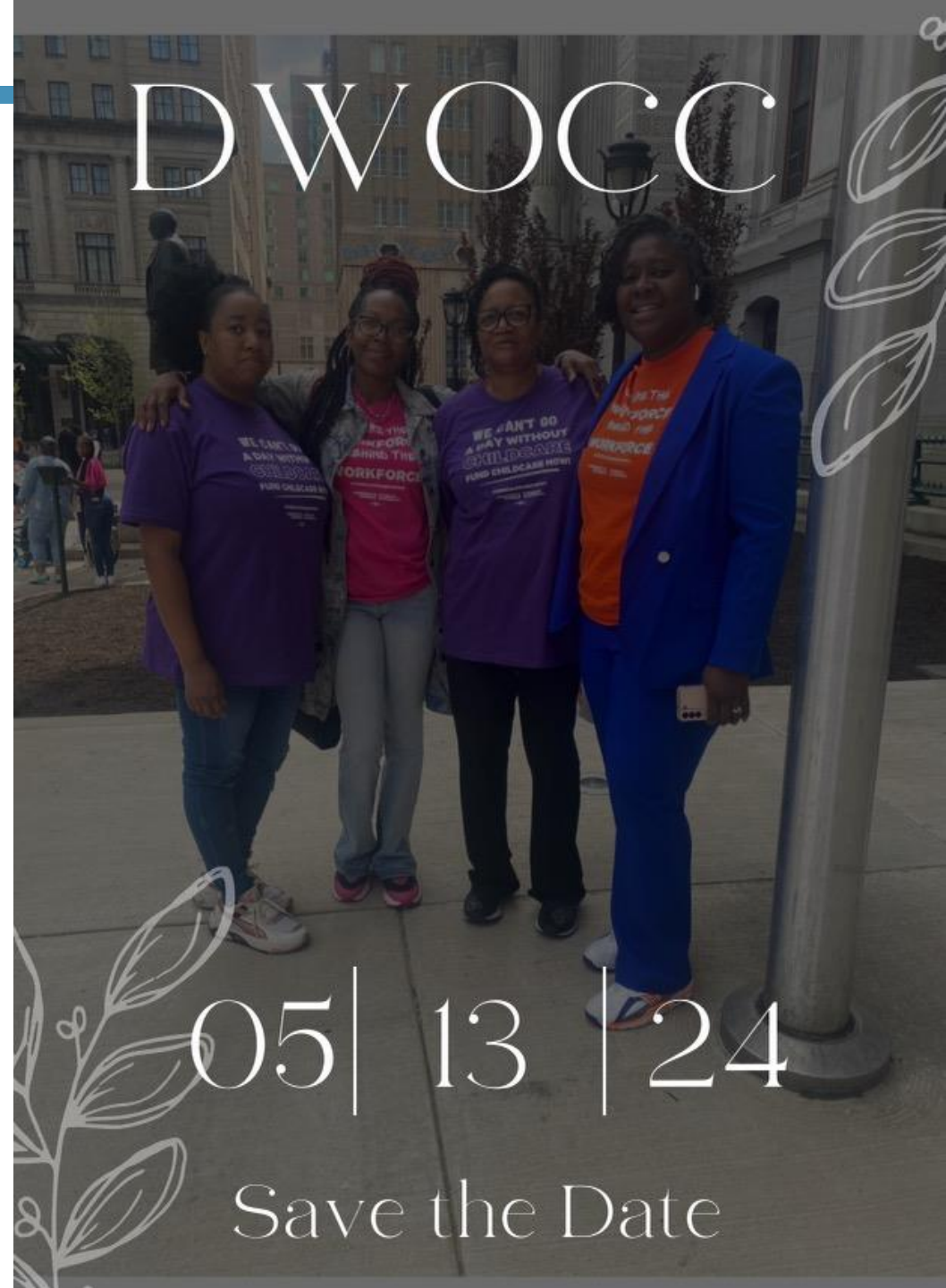
Monday, May 13, 2024

Interested in helping plan? Contact Shineal!



**Join PA Day Without Child Care
(DWOCC) Planning Committee by
reaching out to Shineal Hunter at
familycircleacademy@gmail.com
and place DWOCC in subject.**

**Join the movement by signing up for
Facebook group and national call!
<https://communitychangeaction.org/childcare/>**



OCDEL, ELRC & DHS Announcements

JANETTA (NETTA) RADZINSKI - OCDEL
C-JRADZINS@PA.GOV

BETSY VASSALLO – ELRC 19 CHESTER COUNTY
BVASSALLO@PHMC.ORG

ASIA M. SHEPPARD - DHS
ASSHEPPARD@PA.GOV

JAMILA DASHIELL - DHS
JDASHIELL@PA.GOV



NETTA RADZINSKI | SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR
EXTERNAL RELATIONS
OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND
EARLY LEARNING

333 MARKET STREET, 6TH FL | HARRISBURG,
PA 17126

PHONE: 717.395.2260

C-JRADZINS@PA.GOV

WWW.DHS.PA.GOV | [WWW.EDUCATIO
N.STATE.PA.US](http://WWW.EDUCATIO
N.STATE.PA.US)

OCDEL/ START STRONG PA LISTENING SESSIONS

Join Start Strong PA partners and OCDEL Deputy Secretary Shante' Brown at one of our virtual child care provider Listening Sessions this fall!

Listening Sessions Full Schedule:
<https://www.pakeys.org/co-hosts-ocdel-start-strong-pa-want-to-hear-from-you/>

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Philadelphia (ELRC 18)

Zoom Registration:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tk_BH1WHPTVCKeKV02FMIOg

Monday, December 18, 2023

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties (ELRCs 15, 16, 17 and 19)

Zoom Registration:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cYq4UZbnQAWKxs0HxFB1Sw

SAVE THE DATE

OCDEL EARLY CHILDHOOD CONFERENCE

*Stable and Secure: Supporting Children
Through Trauma Sensitive Approaches*

March 25-26, 2024

Mark your calendars for this voluntary training opportunity, focused on high-quality resources to support the social emotional development of young children, with an emphasis on trauma informed care. Conference sessions also address self-care.

Audience: Directors and teachers of Pennsylvania licensed child care centers, group child care, family child care homes, and after school care.

Location: Hershey, Pennsylvania. Additional details on registration and logistics will be provided soon.

Financial support for overnight room accommodations will be available for participants. There is no registration fee for this conference. Additional details coming soon!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCE: OCDEL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS IS A LIBRARY OF OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS DISTRIBUTED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA KEY ON BEHALF OF THE PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY LEARNING (OCDEL)

- <https://www.pakeys.org/ocdel-announcements/>

ELRC REMINDERS

Contact your local ELRC for assistance or additional information

- **Please complete any designation request started before 10/1/23 by the end of December.**
- **Enhanced & Streamlined CDA process:** information is available on [the PA Keys Website](#), including a [tipsheet](#) on how to run the CDA Summary Report from the PD Registry
- **Save the date - OCDEL Early Childhood Conference March 25-26, 2024, Hershey, PA - Stable and Secure: Supporting Children Through Trauma Sensitive Approaches. More information to come!**

ELRC 16 REMINDERS

Contact ELRC 16 for assistance or additional information

- **ELRC Provider Link**

ELRC 16's monthly provider newsletter. You will find STARS and CCW updates, OCDEL news, and regional events. To access this month's newsletter and to subscribe, go to:

<https://elrc-csc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Provider-Link-November-2023-Region-16.pdf>

- **Bucks County Directors Alliance**

All providers are invited to join community partners and Quality Coaches at our monthly Bucks County Directors Alliance meeting! Attendance is strongly recommended as there are important updates for all childcare providers! Each month we focus on a different topic, and community partners share their agency updates. Invitations can be found in the Provider Link Newsletter noted above.

ELRC 16 REMINDERS

Contact ELRC 16 for assistance or additional information

- **Parent Project Podcast**

Community Services for Children has been hosting the Parent Project Podcast to engage families in areas of common concern for parents. Experts provide perspectives on topics of health & safety, mental health, child transition and other important subjects. Please consider sharing these podcasts with the families in your program! This month, we are joined by Mike Daniels, retired social worker, as he shares about how to foster attachment with your new baby.

To listen, click [Parent Project Podcast- Episode 005: First 3 Months - YouTube](#)

ELRC 18 REMINDERS

Contact ELRC 18 for assistance or additional information

- **ELRC 18 is going checkless**
 - Starting in January 2024, ELRC 18 will only be offering electronic payments for provider payments. Options include direct deposit or a Comdata Mastercard ([application attached](#)). Please see [the attached flyer](#) for additional details.
- **Sample Saturdays**
 - ELRC 18 is making samples of various OCDEL approved curriculum available for providers to see on the first and third Saturdays at our Welsh Road location. Please see [the attached flyer](#) for details.

ELRC 18 REMINDERS

Contact ELRC 18 for assistance or additional information

■ **Upcoming Children's Village Business Series**

- Presented free of charge by ELRC 18, this is a not-to-be-missed opportunity for you to strengthen your business. Available to providers outside of Philadelphia, space permitting.
 - [Beginner Series for Centers](#) – January 16, 23, 30 and February 6 from 1-4p
 - [Beginner Series for Family Child Care Providers](#) – November 21, 28 and December 5, 19 from 6:30-8:30p
 - [Intermediate Series for Center Directors](#) (*must have taken the Beginner Series*) – February 27, March 12 and 26 and April 2 and 23 from 12:30-3:30p
 - [Human Resources Series for Center Directors](#) (*must have completed the Beginner Series*) – March 20, April 3 and 17, and May 1, 15 and 29 from 1-4p

ADDITIONAL RESOURCE: FAMILY CHILD CARE

- **FCCH Beginner Business Series:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/a6tlmtktllfq0pjczd6hg/BBS-for-Family-Providers-Flyer-REVISED-Fall-2023-Cohort1.pdf?rlkey=wm117tl2cnnh6uyuc9b7tas9n&dl=0>

- **Child Care Listening Session - Family Child Care Statewide**

Monday, December 4, 2023

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Zoom Registration:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_TjzTigFoQKCrznYv7Cddgw

ELRC 19 REMINDERS

Contact ELRC 19 for assistance or additional information

- **ELRC Region 19 Weekly Early Education Newsletter**

ELRC 19's provider newsletter is delivered weekly to your inbox. You will find current announcements, OCDEL news, Keystone STARS and CCW updates, and information about regional services and events. To subscribe to the ELRC 19 weekly newsletter, go to our website: www.elrc19chesco.org

- **ELRC 19 Provider Chit Chat**

All providers are invited to join community partners and Quality Coaches at our bi-monthly virtual Provider Chit Chat meeting! Participation is strongly recommended as important information for all childcare providers is shared! Each meeting brings a different presenter and topic. Information and invitations can be found in our weekly newsletter. Subscribe by clicking on the subscription box on our website:

www.elrc19chesco.org

ELRC REMINDER AND OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact your local ELRC for assistance or additional information

Region 15 Delaware County	Region 16 Bucks County	Region 17 Montgomery County	Region 18 Philadelphia	Region 19 Chester County
Delaware County Elrc15- email@delcohsa.org	Community Services for Children ELRC16@cscinc.org	Montgomery County ELRCRegion17@pa.gov	Caring People Alliance info@philadelphiaelrc18.org	Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC) ELRC19@phmc.org
Office Location	Office Location	Office Location	Office Location	Office Location
20 South 69 th St 4 th Floor Upper Darby, PA 19082-2528 610-713-2115 1-800-831-3117 Fax: 610-713-2333	Fairless Hills 333 Oxford Rd, Suite 402-403 Fairless Hills, PA 19030-2624 833-229-6928 215-486-2524 Fax: 267-202-6517	Montgomery County P.O Box 311 1430 Dekalb Street Norristown, PA 19404 610-278-3707 1-800-281-1116 Fax: 610-278-5161	2361-2372 Welsh Road Philadelphia, PA 19114 (215) 382-4762 1-888-461-KIDS (5437) Hearing Impaired TTY Service 1-877-PA-Kids (1-877-472-5437) Fax: (215) 382-1199	Chester County Intermediate Unit 455 Boot Rd, Downingtown, PA 19335-3043 484-593-5050 1-866-262-8565 Fax: 610-343-1605
	Quakertown 136B Mill Rd Quakertown, PA 18951 833-229-6928 267-898-3980 Fax – 267-247-5122			

Special Presentation: Accessing resources for building and maintaining your program's quality standards

Cheri Howard, Caring People Alliance

Laverne Cheeseboro, Heavenly Made Creations

Mercedes Fleet-Mount, Bright Little Scholars

Sherilynn Kimble, The Kimble Group

Alyssa Cruz, First Up

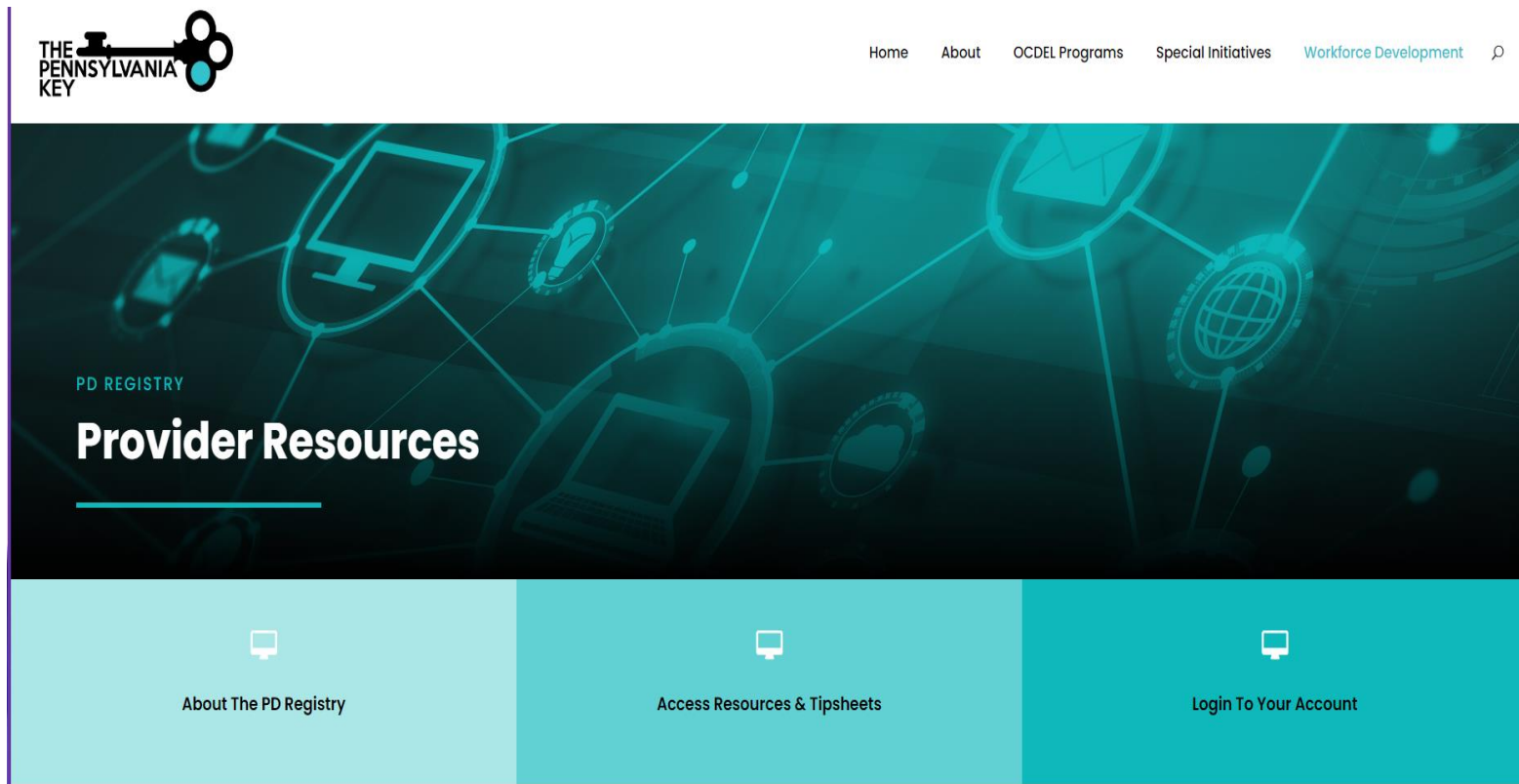


CHERI HOWARD
CHOWARD@CARINGPEOPLEALLIANCE.ORG

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023 STANDARDS

- **Highlights STARS standards**
- LM 3.4.9 Programs utilize PAS or BAS as an internal assessment **Meaning the PROGRAM MUST COMPLETE assessment-** In partnership with a Quality Coach and an OCDEL -approved assessor, administrative practices. **(4 points)**
- EC 3.4.5 **REQUIRED STAR 3 & 4 INDICATOR** In partnership with a Quality Coach and an OCDEL -approved assessor, the program creates and implements an **Internal Assessment Process plan**
- **Using an OCDEL-approved Alternate Pathway-**
- 1.Claim their program's Organization Profile in the PD Registry-
- 2.Submit documentation of the accreditation in the PD Registry-
- 3. Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Plan.
- 4. Review their staff information on Staff report
- 5. Complete Overview of Keystone STARS-
- 6.Ensure that all current Career Pathway level assigned and their employment has been verified by the program-
- 7. Ensure that all current onsite program leadership team members and teaching staff have completed their PD Plans (PDP) in the PD Registry

HOW TO USE THE NEW PA KEYS WEBSITE



- The PD Registry
registry@pakeys.org
800-284-6031

LAVERNE CHEESEBORO
HEAVENLY MADE CREATIONS
HEAVENLYMADECREATIONS@GMAIL.COM



MERCEDES FLEET-MOUNT
BRIGHT LITTLE SCHOLARS
BRIGHTLITTLESCHOLARS@GMAIL.COM



SUPPORTS FROM PROVIDERS & PROGRAMS

Center-based Child Care Providers - Philly:

Location: Philadelphia, PA

Link to Register:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/Gn4qtS1cz4P6mfLY/?mibextid=K35XfP>

Bi-Weekly Zoom Dates:

- Nov 26, 2023 02:00 PM
- Dec 10, 2023 02:00 PM
- Dec 24, 2023 02:00 PM

Location: Zoom

Link to Register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpfuiurTopE9JdnnEkREgxJqnPpQXmfPGd#/registration>

Child Care Provider: Chat & Chew

- **Date:** Sunday, November 26 1pm

- **Location:** South Flavors
429 South Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147

- **Link to Register:**

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/child-care-provider-chat-and-chew-tickets-758938895667?aff=oddtcreator&fbclid=IwAR21pwKUjeq-ThvSdK96RSHvjPdzi8yXfQfa3GB3irNr7X3UH6cy-FmvQu0_aem_ARVQ5NGa7-9PptyiWlg2oKef_UmXMACWI6Sq0ODtZwwNbPoTxsYwwXb9KS8iFN_MXWsaSKz36wuT3zwFi_jetekM

THE KIMBLE GROUP LLC

The Kimble Group, LLC is a collaborative of Educational Consultant Businesses helping early childhood/education/childcare organizations improve the quality of learning environments through professional development, talent acquisition, program management, and business practices.

Our “Aspire To Inspire STARS” initiative is a free comprehensive, high-quality supportive and personalized mentoring/coaching and networking opportunity for providers interested in continuous program quality improvement and navigating the PA Keystone STARS.

For more information, please contact:

Name: Sherilynn Kimble

Phone Number: 610.585.8054

Email Address: AspireToInspireStars@gmail.com

www.KimbleGrp.com





The Roadmap to High Quality





Alyssa Cruz

EQUIP Manager

First Up

Alyssa.cruz@firstup.org



Champions for Early Education



What is EQUIP?

EQUIP (The **E**arly Education **Q**uality **I**mprovement **P**rogram) is an initiative that is managed by First Up and funded by the William Penn Foundation.

EQUIP is designed to help support Philadelphia childcare programs as they move from STAR level 2 to STAR level 3.

GOALS FOR EQUIP

- ☐ To provide individualized supports to help programs achieve goals as they continue along their quality improvement Journey
- ☐ Serve as a pipeline for centers and FCC providers as they embark on quality improvement.
- ☐ Opportunity for providers to look at the quality of their CQI plan from a holistic approach.
- ☐ Provide an opportunity for directors and teachers to connect and network.





Public Policy Partners (3P) Collaboration





**Child Care
Professionals
Network**

The world can't work without us!

JOHN SPERDUTO
CCPNPA.ORG@GMAIL.COM

WEBSITE: WWW.CCPNPA.ORG

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Jacob Kurtz
Reinvestment Fund

Lorna Rosenberg & Randy Persaud
Women for Healthy Environments

A graphic for the PHL Child Nutrition Fund. It features a background image of a young child drinking from a cup. Overlaid on the image is a green rounded rectangle with the text "New Grant Opportunities!" in white, followed by "PHL CHILD NUTRITION FUND" in white. Below this, two white circles with blue outlines contain the text "Family Childcare Grant" and "Childcare Center Grant" respectively. At the bottom, a light blue bar contains a QR code, the text "APPLY BY NOVEMBER 30TH", an eligibility note, and the Reinvestment Fund logo.

New Grant Opportunities!

**PHL CHILD
NUTRITION FUND**

Family
Childcare
Grant

Childcare
Center
Grant

APPLY BY NOVEMBER 30TH

**Eligibility: Must be a Philadelphia-based Family (or Group Residential) Childcare Program, or Childcare Center that is an active participant in CACFP.*

REINVESTMENT
FUND

Jacob Kurtz

Jacob.kurtz@reinvestment.com

PHLCNF@reinvestment.com

We have a new round of PHL-CNF
Funding

Requirements

Must be located in Philadelphia

Must be participating in cacfp

PHL Child Nutrition Fund:

<https://www.reinvestment.com/grants/phil-child-nutrition-fund/>



**Lorna Rosenberg – Eastern
Region/Healthy Buildings Manager**

Randy Persaud – Program Assistant

Chanel Palmer – Research Assistant



Healthy childcare champions grant Philadelphia only!

Project objectives and details

- Target Environmental Justice neighborhoods
 - Hunting Park
 - Cobbs Creek
 - Strawberry Mansion
 - Point Breeze
- Will work with any provider within the City



Healthy Childcare champions

Project Activities

1. Healthy Childcare Champions – Eco Healthy Endorsement / CEHN
2. Seeking 10 volunteer providers for an Indoor Air Quality Study partnering with Drexel University
3. Educating Childcare providers on the health and facility impact of changing climate
4. State-Wide / Healthy Childcare Partnership – State level leadership to advocate for policies benefit health of kids and staff



Healthy Childcare Champion/ Eco-Healthy Endorsement

Eco-Healthy Endorsement:

1. Integrated Pest Management
2. Green Cleaning
3. Lead exposure prevention:
 1. Lead dust management
 2. Lead in drinking water
4. Safe toys & furniture
5. Indoor and outdoor air quality
6. Plastics



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 60 + HEALTHY CHILDCARE CHAMPIONS
- 2 WEBINARS ON PREPARING FOR SUMMER AND INDOOR/ OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY
- SEPTEMBER 20TH KENCREST KENSINGTON COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR
- **OCTOBER 25 VISIT BY EPA ADMISTRATOR TO KENCREST NORTH**
 - COMPLETED SHADE STUDY
 - OFFERING FREE SHADE STRUCTURES / AIR FLAGS - HEALTHY CHILDCARE CHAMPIONS
 - DATA COLLECTED / REPORT BEING FINALIZED ON INDOOR AIR QUALITY IN CHILDCARE

PILOT PROJECT

SHADE

Investigation of Shade Structures in encouraging more and longer outdoor play during summer days in urban childcare.

- The study aims to address the impact of heat and limited shade on children and staff during the summer months, with a focus on the disparities exacerbated by climate change.
- Our primary objective is to determine if the provision of shade structures can increase outdoor playtime during hot months in childcare facilities within these neighborhoods.

• We measured:

- Average surface temp. without shade
- Average surface temp. with shade
- Average temp. difference
- Average play time without shade
- Average play time with shade
- Average play time difference

Worked with 8 facilities, Summarized results:

- The presence of shade structures resulted in temperature decreases, with an average 14.2-minute playtime increase and a 5.96-degree temperature reduction across all centers.



Surface Temperature and Shade

HP1:

Table 1.0

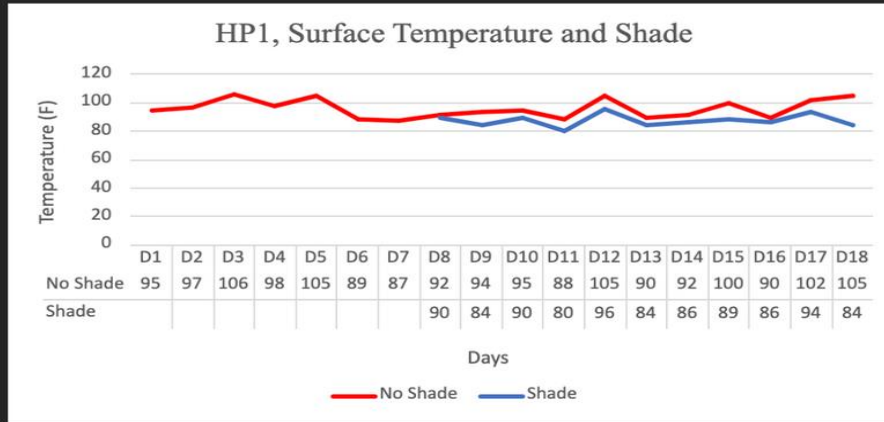


Table 1.1

AVERAGES	TEMPERATURES (°F)
Avg Temp with No Shade	96.11
Avg Temp with Shade	87.55
Avg Temp Difference	8.57

- We measured:
 - Average surface temp. without shade
 - Average surface temp. with shade
 - Average temp. difference
 - Average play time without shade
 - Average play time with shade
 - Average play time difference

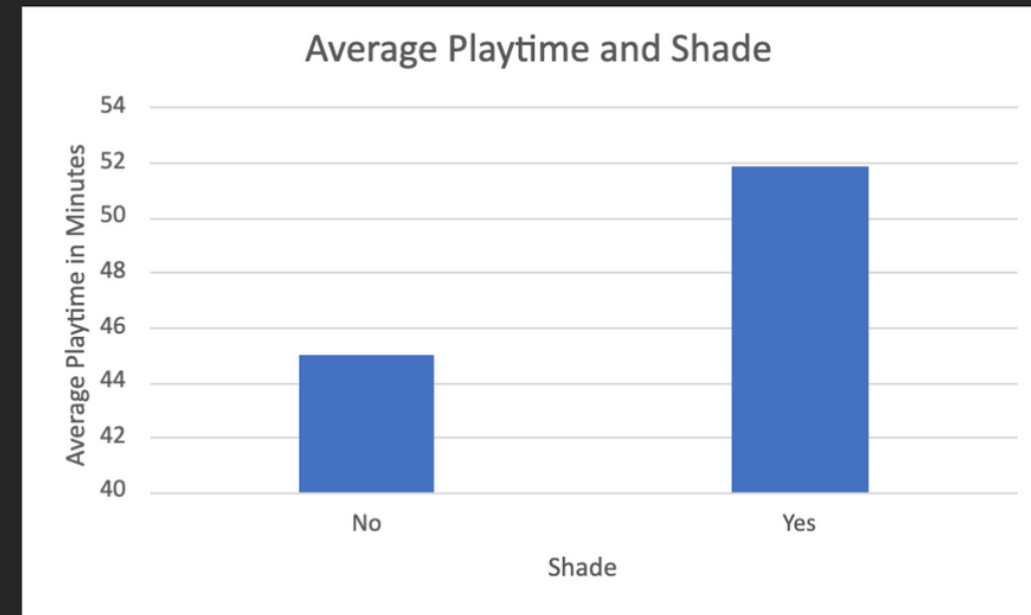
Worked with 8 facilities, Summarized results:

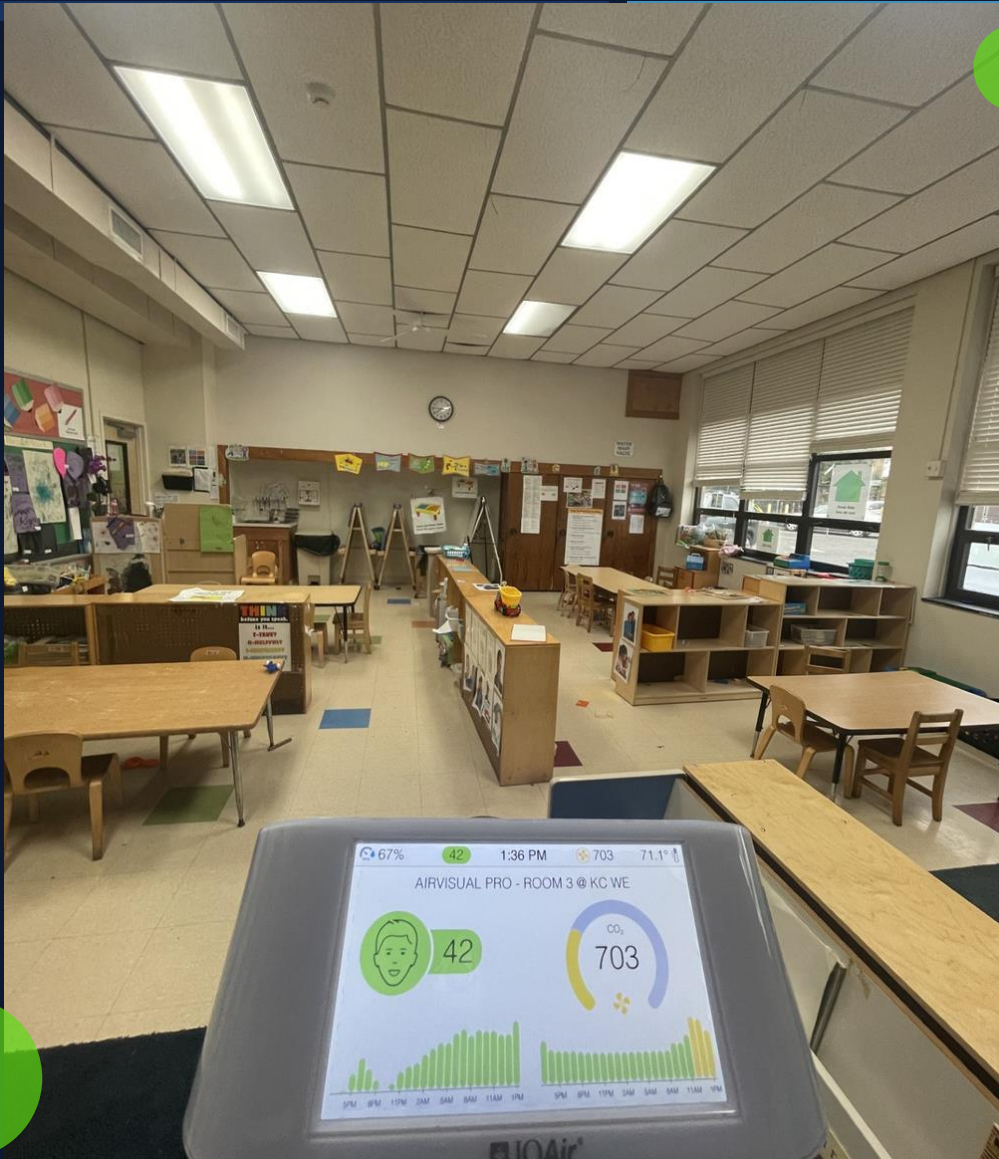
- The presence of shade structures resulted in temperature decreases, with an average 14.2-minute playtime increase and a 5.96-degree temperature reduction across all conditions.



Average Playtime and Shade

HP1:





PILOT PROJECT

INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Indoor Air Quality Monitoring of PM2.5 in Childcare Facilities

Our current on-going project:

Utilizing indoor air quality monitors from IQAir, we are collecting data on the efficiency of Medify Air in reducing PM 2.5

Promoting health literacy and communication of Indoor and Outdoor Air Quality and AQI through:

- AirNow.Gov
- EPA Air Flags
- WHE AQI Kits

CONTACT US



Lorna Rosenberg

Healthy Buildings Program Manager

Lorna@Womenforahealthyenvironment.org



Randy Persaud

Program Assistant

Randy@Womenforahealthyenvironment.org



Chanel Palmer

Research Assistant

Chanel@Womenforahealthyenvironment.org

ADDITIONAL RESOURCE: THE CURRICULUM FUND

The Curriculum Fund Information Session:

12/5/2023 at 1:00 pm

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/f75uhh3iercd840t0ulti/Curriculum-Flyer-Application-Information-11_2023_final.pdf?rlkey=kr0x7n6edpexebw2y3mm8o737&dl=0



Advancing quality early care
and education in Bucks, Chester,
Delaware, Montgomery and
Philadelphia Counties

2023 SEPECC COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

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Damaris Alvarado-Rodriguez (Co-Chair)
Zakiyyah Boone (Co-Chair)
Laverne Cheeseboro
Latonta Godboldt
Mary Graham
Jackie Groetsch
Kim Heuschkel
Shineal Hunter
Sim Loh
Sharon McClafferty
Minette Taylor

Advocacy Workgroup

Laverne Cheeseboro
Nicole Dyson
Jowanna Gordon
Shirlee Howe
Shineal Hunter
Jacob Kurtz
Eleanor Levie
Elizabeth Ozer
Monique Roye
Shawn Towey

Advisory Council

Norma Finkelstein
Diane Getzinger
Pamela Haines
MaryKay Mahar
Maddy Malis
Elizabeth Ozer
Khadijah Sabir

Social Media Workgroup

Eleanor Levie
Jowanna Gordon
Sim Loh
Shawn Towey

BREAKOUT ROOMS

We will break out into randomly assigned small groups for all who wish to join.

We invite you to discuss these questions in your small group:

How can we help each other build an army of ECE advocates?

What can you offer?

What do you need?