

Arkansas

Early Childhood Newsletter



January-February 2009



► Director's Note

THE ARKANSAS EARLY
CHILDHOOD NEWSLETTER



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Childhood Commission
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The Arkansas Early Childhood
Newsletter is an information
service of the Division of
Child Care and Early Childhood
Education, Department of
Human Services.



- As this publication goes to print, we are at the calendar year end of 2008. This is a time that many of us reflect on the year and the accomplishments and disappointments along the way. We have included a variety of topics in this newsletter to assist early care and education staff. Hopefully, Dr. Goddard's article will help each of us to maintain a balanced perspective in our personal journey and teach us to learn from our experiences both good and bad. Pay close attention to the article from the Compliance Unit regarding billing in the Child Care Assistance (voucher) program. The highlighted items frequently create problems for providers and can be avoided. As always, do not hesitate to call with questions. If you have never nominated an "Outstanding Early Childhood Professional" for Arkansas Children's Week, please include that on your new year's list of important things to do. I bet each of us can think of someone who deserves to be recognized for his or her contributions to children and families.

I have included a wish list for the new year-

- Improved economy for our nation
- Strong focus on quality for all federally funded children and youth programs by President-Elect Obama
- Continued lower gas prices
- That every child receive the quality care and education he or she deserves
- That every person have access to quality health care that is affordable
- That each of you have a prosperous new year and
- That as you touch the lives of our youngest citizens, may you remember that you are sending an ambassador into the future, make it count!

Tonya Russell, Director
Division of Child Care and
Early Childhood Education



CHILD CARE APPEAL REVIEW PANEL-MEMBER VACANCIES

The Child Care Licensing and Accreditation Unit, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, is now accepting applications for volunteers to fill positions on the Child Care Appeal Review Panel. Applications to serve on the Panel are being accepted for the following Panel positions:

Early Childhood Professional		3 positions
Early Childhood Professional	Alternate	1 position
Pediatric Health Professional		1 position
Licensed Child Care Provider		4 positions
Licensed Child Care Provider	Alternate	1 position

The Child Care Appeal Review Panel meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month in Little Rock, if needed to hear any scheduled appeal hearings. Hearings are scheduled as appeal requests are received and the Panel may not meet every month. The Panel reviews appeals from licensed and registered child care providers regarding adverse licensing actions, founded licensing complaints and cited non-compliance with licensing requirements. Applications to serve on the Panel may be obtained from the Child Care Licensing Unit Central Office by mailing your request to P.O. Box 1437, Slot S150, Little Rock, AR 72203, by calling (501) 682-8590 or may be obtained on-line at <http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare/licensing/>.

Applications will be reviewed and applicants selected by the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission. All applications must be mailed to the Central Office address listed above and must be received no later than **March 31, 2009**, to be considered. Please contact David Griffin at (501) 682-8590 or e-mail at david.griffin@arkansas.gov if you have any questions about the Panel or the application process.

WASH YOUR HANDS!

Children share germs in many ways. They put their hands in their mouths, share toys and usually enjoy being hugged and kissed. You can't avoid all germs, but you can help prevent the spread of disease and infection.

The best way to prevent diseases is to wash your hands! Teach your child to wash her hands thoroughly with soap and water. Liquid soap, especially anti-bacterial soap, is best. Bar soaps may have germs from the person who used it before you.

Show your child how to make soap bubbles and rub them all over her hands, wrists and between her fingers. Check under her fingernails for dirt, too. Rinse her hands under running water. If you don't have soap and running water nearby, you can wash her hands with pre-moistened wipes.

Be a good example to your children. Children watch you and imitate what you do. Wash your hands before eating or preparing food. When your child is sick, wash your hands after helping her so your won't spread germs to other children. Also, teach children to flush and wash everytime they use the toilet.



American School Health Association

© 1994. Prepared by JCEO Head Start, Birmingham, AL with support from NHTSA and the Ford and Kellogg foundations.

Feel free to copy this poster courtesy of Healthy Childcare. For information on Hip on Health, call 330-678-1601.



ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S WEEK OUTSTANDING EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL

The Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education and the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission will be accepting nominations for the OUTSTANDING EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL OF 2009.

We are looking for persons who are making significant contributions to the early childhood field in Arkansas. Our children deserve the best and because of the fine efforts of the professionals throughout our state they receive the best! We want to recognize and honor these persons.

You should consider the following in choosing who you think is worthy of being named an Outstanding Early Childhood Professional:

***Length of Service:** How long has this person worked in the field? Is she/he a bright and shining newcomer who has made great contributions or has he/she been providing exceptional services in the early childhood field for many years?

***Community/Professional Service:** Has this person been involved with community activities and provided leadership in community projects? Is this person committed to working toward the betterment of his/her own community and the services children receive? Has this person provided professional leadership in the early childhood field, including support and development of new professionals?

***Evidence of Commitment to Children and Their Needs:** Is this person responsive to children's needs and concerned about working to improve the quality of life for Arkansas children?

***Active Involvement in Early Care & Education:** Is this person currently working with children? Is this person preparing others to work with children? Does this person contribute to the early childhood profession without direct contact with children?

***Participation in Opportunities for Professional Development:** Does this person routinely take advantage of training and education opportunities in order to increase their professionalism? Does this person provide professional development activities to others? Although advanced degrees are highly regarded, persons who have not attained a degree but still wish to increase their knowledge base should be given consideration.

To submit a recommendation, please complete the nomination form, or call 501-682-9699 for a nomination form to be mailed to you or visit the DCC&ECE website at www.arkansas.gov/childcare. Nominations will be reviewed if received by **FEBRUARY 27, 2009**. A committee of the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission will review all applications. Nominees will be asked to answer a series of essay questions regarding young children in Arkansas and to submit a resume. The Commission will select those persons who most reflect Outstanding Professionals in the Early Childhood Field.

Community Roundtable Discussions

Child Care Development Fund State Plan 2009-2011

Please join with other early childhood professionals in your area for a Roundtable Discussion with the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education as we together consider priorities for early care in Arkansas during the next two years. We are gathering comments and suggestions as we develop the Child Care Development Fund Block Grant State Plan for 2009-2011. This plan provides the guidelines for Arkansas to spend federal funds directed towards Family Support/Vouchers for care and all Professional Development, Quality Initiatives and other support programs offered by the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education.

Two major programs within the Division are not funded by CCDF Block Grant. The Special Nutrition program and the Arkansas Better Chance program are not funded by CCDF and the state plan does not address these programs except in ways that support expansion of quality for all children. Each meeting will last between 1½-2 hours. We hope you will join us!

Date	Location	Time	For directions call
January 20	Child Care Connections 8023 I30 Little Rock, AR	10:00am	501-374-0330
January 22	NW AR CCR&R Jones Center for Families Springdale, AR	1:00pm	479-751-3463
January 23	NW AR CCR&R Fort Smith Library 3201 Rogers Ave Fort Smith, AR	10:00am	479-751-3463
January 26	Jefferson Comprehensive 1101 Tennessee Pine Bluff, AR	10:00am	870-536-0520
February 3	FUMC Christian Life Center – Media Center 218 Pratt Street Hot Springs, AR	1:00pm	501-682-9699
February 4	Childhood Services University Loop ASU Campus Conference Room Jonesboro, AR	11:00am	870-972-3055

Arkansas QRIS Field Test

Last fall, after many months of planning and development, 27 children's programs had the opportunity to try out the Quality Rating Improvement System. The field test sites represented a wide variety of program types and locations.

The field test provided essential information addressing both the content/structure and the process: 1) Are the QRIS standards clear and achievable, and 2) is the administrative review process efficient and effective?

Each field test site participated in two different reviews. The program review used the environment rating scales (ITERS-R, ECERS-R, SACERS, and FCCERS-R). The administrative review verified that policies and procedures met QRIS standards. (To access QRIS standards, go to www.arkansas.gov/childcare and click on QRIS.)

Watch the next issue of this newsletter for information about results of the field test.

Arkansas Quality Rating Improvement System

FAST FACTS

Not a New Idea

- 17 States have implemented a statewide Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS)
- More than 25 States are exploring or designing a statewide QRIS
- In 5 states (Colorado, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee), evaluations of QRIS have shown positive impacts on quality

But a GREAT Idea

- Recognizes progress
- Tool for self-evaluation and program improvement
- Assists parents in identifying quality
- Supports engaging, meaningful learning opportunities for children

Categories of Quality Standards

- Administrative Policies and Procedures
- Administrator/Staff Qualifications and Professional Development
- Learning Environment
- Licensing Compliance/Staff-child Ratios
- Parent/Family/Community Partnerships
- Child Health

Important Features

- Participation by programs is voluntary
- 3 Levels: Each level builds on the preceding level
- QRIS standards are adapted for different program types: centers, family child care, school-age
- Incorporates Quality Approval accreditation
- Coordinates licensing, quality improvement projects, technical assistance, and the professional development system

When?

- Full implementation is projected for early 2010
- Field testing in 2008-2009

*DHS/Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education
700 Main Street, Little Rock, AR 72201 or P.O. Box 1437, Little Rock, AR 72203-1437
Phone 501-682-4891, Fax 501-682-2317, TDD 501-1550
www.arkansas.gov/childcare*

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No = Low or No Battery

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AND PROTECT
AGAINST**

**CARBON
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U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

CPSC hotline: 800-638-2772
and 800-638-8270 (TTY)



National Safety Council

**Each Year about
125 People Die
from Carbon
Monoxide (CO)
Poisoning*.**

*Associated with fuel-burning consumer products.

Be sure you:

- Every year, have a professional inspect all fuel burning heating systems including water heaters and furnaces.
- Install CO alarms in hallways near bedrooms in each sleeping area.
- Check CO alarm batteries monthly and replace them annually.

This alert was produced by CPSC's Neighborhood Safety Network program.

Sign up to receive free NSN safety alerts and posters at

www.cpsc.gov

ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S WEEK 2009

Save the date! April 19-25, 2009, is Arkansas Children's Week. The theme is "Together We Learn", celebrating how children and adults learn from and with each other. Materials related to the theme will be available at no cost to your program: church bulletin inserts, publicity and family activity planning guide, bookmark/magnets for families, theme resource book for teachers and administrators. Order forms for free materials and for T-shirts will be available on the Division Web site, www.arkansas.gov/childcare, click on Arkansas Children's Week.

Workshops will be offered throughout the state during March and early April. A tentative schedule is included below. Refer to the TAPP Registry Training Opportunities to confirm dates and locations, <http://professionalregistry.astate.edu>.

Times: All will be 5:30-8:30 p.m., EXCEPT Arkadelphia, Texarkana, Mountain Home, Nashville, and Hot Springs, which are 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Place	Date	Site
Arkadelphia	9:30-12:30 March 7	Community Family Enrichment Center 301 N. 23 rd St. (in Feaster Park)
Batesville	March 3	U of A Community College, Batesville 2005 White Drive
Bentonville	March 31	Bentonville United Methodist, Hines Hall 201 NW Second
Cabot	March 17	First Methodist Church, Eaton Room 2003 South Pine
Camden	March 16	SAU Tech, TE Bldg. Rm. 117 100 Carr Road
Conway	March 16	<i>To Be Announced</i>
Fayetteville	March 24	The New School 2514 New School Place
Fort Smith	March 11	Parker Center 811 North T. Street
Harrison	April 6	North Arkansas College 1515 Pioneer Drive
Hot Springs	9:30-12:30 March 21	Champion Baptist College 600 Garland Avenue
Jonesboro I	March 12	ASU Childhood Services 615 University Loop East
Jonesboro II	TBA	ASU Childhood Services 615 University Loop East
Little Rock	March 9	Pulaski Heights United Methodist 4823 Woodlawn Drive
Monticello	March 30	UAM Gibson Center Caucus Room 517 University Drive
Mountain Home	9:30-12:30 April 4	First United Methodist 605 West 6 th
Nashville	9:30-12:30 April 4	Cossatot U of A 1558 Hwy 371 W
Pine Bluff	March 10	JRMC Conference Center 1600 West 40 th
Russellville	March 16	Lake Point Conference Center Business Services Bldg. 61 Lake Point Drive, Training Room A
Texarkana	9:30-12:30 March 14	Sugar Hill United Methodist 1621 Sugar Hill Road
West Memphis	March 3	First United Methodist Church 215 North Missouri
Wynne	March 10	First United Methodist Church 800 North Falls Blvd

From Your Compliance Unit

Dear Provider,

The Division of Childcare and Early Childhood Education appreciates your participation in the Voucher Program. We would like to take this opportunity to offer our assistance to you in whatever aspect of the program that is necessary. We are aware that things get busier around the holidays. Please be reminded that your Child Care System Participant Agreement allows billing for holidays even if the facility is closed. Some of those are Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. In the past many providers also billed for the day after Thanksgiving as well as Christmas Eve and the day after Christmas. If you were closed on those days, and you received voucher payment for those days, then you have received an overpayment, and the money should be refunded to DHS. You may pay the refund in cash, by check, or by money order at our office. Checks or money orders may also be mailed to DHS, P.O. Box 1437 Slot S-140, Little Rock, AR 72203. Please make checks or money orders payable to DHS and if mailed, please send to the attention of Mr. Mike Saxby.

Arkansas Department of Human Services Child Care System Participant Agreement (DHS9800), Child Care Provider Responsibilities and Assurance -

Did you know?

Section V: I states,

“The provider agrees that the billing for children/authorizations must be keyed to the facility where services are provided. Providers who provide services at one facility but bills an authorization written to another facility under the provider’s TIN will be charged with an overpayment”.

Section IV: F2 states, “Billing for an absent child is not allowed if the child is not scheduled by DHS to attend or if the provider has been notified by the client or DHS that care is no longer needed. The provider may not bill absentee days to compensate for the lack of an advance notice being given prior to ending the child care arrangements. If the child is not expected to return to the facility, billing must cease on the date the child leaves the facility.

Section III: T states, “Temporary absences of a child from the child care facility when the provider expects the child to return. Payment for temporary absences may not exceed seven (7) calendar days per month.

If you have questions about billing please contact our Division Staff.

BILLING DISCREPANCIES: How often do you bill for reimbursement? How often do you fill out your attendance records? Our records show a pattern of increased billing discrepancies for those programs that bill once a month or less often than that. We have found that many providers fill out attendance records once a month and then bill for reimbursement. Can you really be sure that the children were in care on the first days of the month if you don’t document the care until the end of the month?

Do you know how often you can bill for reimbursement? Providers may bill as frequently as they need. The system is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Helps for Your Personal Journey

Submitted by H. Wallace Goddard, Professor – Family Life
University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service

What helps us along our personal journeys? And what gets in our way? Having good answers to these questions can make very big differences in our lives!

Old Solutions Have Created New Problems.

A few decades ago the magic potion to achieve personal well-being was considered to be self-esteem. Many believed that loving ourselves was essential to our happiness and progress. Recent discoveries have challenged that idea.

Many people who love themselves are terrible nuisances for society. Meanwhile many people who hardly think of themselves make amazing contributions and live meaningful lives. In fact, some insightful observers have suggested that the modern focus on self is one of our major problems in society today.

So it turns out that self-esteem is not the magic potion for personal well-being. This discovery can leave many people feeling adrift. What does help people in their personal journeys? The good news is that solid research has demonstrated several choices we can make that will improve our well-being.

New Solutions Offer Great Promise.

A team at the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service has created a new publication, *The Personal Journey*, that summarizes the key processes for personal well-being.

The Personal Journey offers six steps for making life's journey more satisfying and meaningful.

1. Enjoy today.

People who notice and savor the blessings of each day are the happiest. The old adage is true--happiness comes from wanting what you get more than getting what you want.

One of the surprises of research is that having more money makes almost no difference in happiness, if you have enough money that you are not going hungry. Appreciation in the soul may matter more than appreciation of financial worth.

How do we learn to savor each day? I remember a man who said to a group of us one day, "Can you believe it? When I woke up this morning I could see! When I went in the kitchen, I had running water! When I went to the pantry, I found food!" He was as happy as a child surrounded by birthday presents.

We are more likely to be happy when we think about all the good things in our lives more than we agonize about all the things we don't have.

2. Find the gems in your past.

Most of us have disappointments and pains in our life histories. They sometimes burden us. They may even affect how we see ourselves and our lives.

One of the surprising discoveries of research is that any person's life is about as good as he or she chooses to remember it! Even when our histories have major troubles, we can do as the famous psychologist John Gottman suggests; We can "rewrite our history with forgiveness as the theme."

We can choose to forgive and show compassion to those who have hurt us AND we can go a step further. We can choose to savor our past. We can remember and cherish the good experiences along our paths.

Even now, think of a person who has had a very positive impact on your life. If you sit down and write a letter of appreciation to that person, your life will immediately be more hopeful and positive.

3. Look forward to tomorrow.

Some of us look to the future with anxiety and apprehension. We worry about what may happen and we worry about what might not happen.

Constant worrying isn't good for the human soul. People who have a steady optimism are more likely to thrive than those who worry and fret.

There may have been a time when worrying about bears in the bushes was useful but today most of us would do well to enjoy the prospects of learning, growing, loving, and serving. Most of us will not be eaten by bears.

4. Use your strengths.

Many of us fret endlessly about our weaknesses. We regularly come up with self-improvement programs to overcome this weakness or that. These efforts may not be very productive.

Psychologist Martin Seligman has said that we shouldn't devote too much energy to correcting our weaknesses. "Rather, I believe that the highest success in living and the deepest emotional satisfaction comes from building and using your signature strengths."

An excellent motto for good living is to use our strengths and manage our weaknesses. When we use our strengths in our jobs and families, we are more likely to be happy and productive.

5. Choose to serve.

Another surprise from research is that people who have meaningful lives are those who serve. They may work to protect the environment, raise good children, improve education, or comfort those who are burdened. There are as many ways to serve as there are different people!

Seligman says that "the good life consists in deriving happiness by using your signature strengths every day in the main realms of living. The meaningful life adds one more component: using these same strengths to forward knowledge, power, or goodness."

Do you have a way that you are making the world a better place? Or do you feel drawn to some way of serving? Our way of serving does not have to be earth-shaking. Small acts can make big differences--for others and for ourselves. Choosing to serve makes our lives better.

6. Choose to grow.

When we challenge ourselves to keep reading, listening, and learning, our lives are more full and rich. Happiness is a way of traveling more than a place to go. When we travel the trails of life eager to learn and grow, we will travel well.

Growth does not have to be a burden. For example, a person who is busy with the demands of parenting does not necessarily have to get a degree in human development to grow as a parent. She or he might read a good book, seek input from a wise friend, or attend a class on parenting. You might choose to read a good magazine or listen to soothing music. Growth is the surest sign of life.

When we apply the six principles named above, we are likely to live full, productive, meaningful lives.

Don't Forget Your Compass!

Each of us has a guidance system to help us make life's journey happy and effective. When we feel gloomy and confused, we may be quite sure that we are thinking or doing something that is not helping. In contrast, when we feel happy, energized, and loving, we are probably headed in the right direction. Try the principles described above and see if they don't increase the light and energy in your life!

A map with these keys to the personal journey is available free to Arkansans by going to your local county cooperative Extension office. You might also be interested in logging onto www.arfamilies.org for an ever-growing number of resources to help you along your personal journey.

Recommended reading for personal and family development:

Authentic Happiness by Martin Seligman
7 Principles for Making Marriage Work by John Gottman
Between Parent and Child by Haim Ginott

 **UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS**
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
Cooperative Extension Service

CDA RENEWAL TIPS

This information is for persons with a current CDA Credential and for Directors who employ staff with current CDA Credentials.

The **RECORD OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** form that follows provides a system for documenting training and course work that can count toward the requirements for CDA Renewal. Keep this record current.

Obtain a copy of **CDA Renewal Requirements and Steps** brochure for detailed information about CDA Renewal. Read and follow the steps outlined in the brochure so that your path to CDA renewal will be an easy one to follow.

RECORD OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Instructions: Create a file in which to document professional development completed after receiving a CDA Credential. Suggested items to include in the file:

- CDA Credential
- CDA Renewal Brochure
- Certificates of training
- CEU documentation
- Record of college course work completed (copy of transcript, for example)

Name _____

Date CDA Credential Awarded _____ CDA Credential Renewal Date _____

Title of Training	Sponsoring Group	Date	#of clock hours	# of CEUs

Name of Course	Institution	Date	# of Credit Hours

NOTE: Consider keeping this in front of your Professional Resource File.

Grant Writing for Child Care Facilities 2009 Spring Training Schedule

White River Planning and Development District (WRPDD) and CHILDREN of Northcentral Arkansas

Participants may attend both sessions or they may be taken individually.

Module 1—Beginning: Writing successful grant requests and basic grant writing tips (includes the Enhancement Grant and other Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education grants). *Module 1 is appropriate for Family Child Care providers and any Center staff member who may be involved in grant writing. The session is very basic and a great place for beginners to start!*

Modules 2 & 3—Intermediate and Advanced Grant Writing: These sessions (combined) will include State Grant and Federal Grant applications and options, Foundations that fund various child care program needs (such as equipment, learning environments and subsidizing slots). It will also include various components of successful grant writing, such as, budgets/budget justifications, project narratives, rating criteria, match, grant search sources, and much more. *Modules 2 & 3 are appropriate for any child care facility staff member who may be interested in learning more about grant writing techniques.*

To register for one or more of these workshops, call WRPDD or CHILDREN of Northcentral Arkansas staff at 800-737-2237 or 870-793-5233. Seating is limited in some locations: please call early to register as workshops will be offered on a first-come-first-served basis.

City	Location	Date	Time
JONESBORO Module 1	Mildred Vance Conference Room ASU Childhood Services 615 University Loop, Jonesboro	Monday March 30, 2009	6:00—8:00 p.m.
JONESBORO Modules 2 & 3	Same as above	Tuesday March 31, 2009	8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
HARRISON Module 1	First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall 1100 W. Bower, Harrison	Monday April 6, 2009	6:00—8:00 p.m.
HARRISON Modules 2 & 3	Same as above	Tuesday April 7, 2009	8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
JACKSONVILLE Module 1	Jacksonville Community Center Meeting Rooms A & B 5 Municipal Drive, Jacksonville	Tuesday April 14, 2009	6:00—8:00 p.m.
JACKSONVILLE Modules 2 & 3	Same as above	Wednesday April 15, 2009	8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
EL DORADO Module 1	First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall 201 S. Hill, El Dorado	Monday May 4, 2009	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
EL DORADO Modules 2 & 3	Same as above	Tuesday May 5, 2009	8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
VAN BUREN Module 1	Liberty Fellowship Room 3A 5530 Alma Highway, Van Buren	Monday May 11, 2009	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
VAN BUREN Modules 2 & 3	Same as above	Tuesday May 12, 2009	8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
WEST HELENA Module 1	Phillips County Development Center Cafeteria 1221 Highway 49 West, West Helena	Monday June 8, 2009	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
WEST HELENA Module 1	Same as above	Tuesday June 9, 2009	8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education

Informational Brochure

ABC UNIT- Created to offer high quality early education services to children birth to five exhibiting developmental and socioeconomic risk factors. There are three different ABC program models: Center-based programs, Home-visiting programs (HIPPI and PAT) and Family Child Care Homes. Providers are selected by their ability to offer a high-quality program. These abilities are assessed annually by early education professionals who evaluate the applications. Targeted areas for services are selected using data from benchmark test scores, school improvement lists, free-reduced lunch information, Head Start enrollment and kindergarten enrollment. ABC operates as a grant program. Participating providers must renew ABC grants annually.

Contact the ABC Unit at 1-800-445-3316 or 1-501-682-9699 for more information

COMPLIANCE UNIT- Works with the programmatic sections of the Division and other appropriate Divisions within the Department to coordinate and track issues dealing with provider fraud, overpayments and audits.

FAMILY SUPPORT UNIT- Developed to provide assistance for low-income families. Provides financial assistance for quality child care and is made possible by the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). An applicant must meet the following criteria: meet established income guidelines; each adult residing in the household must be employed at least 30 hours per week and earning a minimum wage, or be enrolled and attending high school, college, GED classes, vocational school or a training program as a full time student. A combination of school and work is acceptable if the individual is involved at a minimum of 30 hours; meet child support requirements (must have an open child support case for each child requiring child care assistance); and have an eligible child (0-12 yrs of age).

Contact the Family Support Unit at 1-800-322-8176 or 1-501-682-8947 for more information

LICENSING/ACCREDITATION UNIT- Licensing specialists perform on site reviews of child care centers in addition to licensed homes and registered homes. They are also responsible for maintaining the Criminal Records Check System in conjunction with the Arkansas State Police. This system checks the criminal records and child maltreatment records of all workers in child care centers or licensed homes. The Accreditation Unit was developed to provide an opportunity for child care facilities to receive Approval certification from the State of Arkansas in recognition of quality programming. It was designed to increase the number of children in high-quality child care and to assist parents in locating programs that promote quality early learning for children. Parental tax credits and tax credits for employer related child care are available.

Contact the Licensing/Accreditation Unit at 1-800-445-3316 or 1-501-682-8590 for more information

PROGRAM SUPPORT UNIT- Provides a multitude of diverse services designed to improve the quantity and quality of child care services in the state. These services blend funds from state and federal sources.

Contact the Program Support Unit at 1-800-445-3316 or 1-501-682-9699 for more information

SPECIAL NUTRITION UNIT- Provides reimbursement for well-balanced, nutritious meals served to individuals enrolled in the Child Care and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), National School Lunch Program (NSLP), Special Milk Program (SMP), and the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). The program is available to the public, for profit and private nonprofit organizations providing licensed or registered non-residential day care services. Such organizations include childcare centers, adult care centers, outside school hour care, and daycare home organizations providing day care services for children with disabilities and/or special health care needs. Also, private for profit centers may qualify if at least 25 percent of the children who are receiving nonresidential care fall into the free and reduced category.

Contact the Special Nutrition Unit at 1-800-482-5850 or 1-501-682-8869 for more information

Physical Address:
700 Main Street
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S140
Little Rock, AR 72201
Website: <http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare/>

Arkansas Children's Week

April 19th - 25th, 2009

LAST DAY TO ORDER IS MARCH 31ST!

Mail Order Form To

M&M PROMOTIONS

P.O. BOX 56698

LITTLE ROCK, AR 72215-6698

(501) 224-9881

www.mandmpromotions.com

T-shirts for 2009 will be Lime with 3 color logo on front.

Customization is available for \$1.50 per shirt, minimum order is 24 shirts!

T-SHIRT	PRICE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT
TODDLER SHIRT (6-12 mo.) – Lt. Green	\$5.00		
YOUTH X-SMALL (2-4)	\$3.50		
YOUTH SMALL (6-8)	\$3.50		
YOUTH MEDIUM (10-12)	\$3.50		
YOUTH LARGE (14-16)	\$3.50		
ADULT SMALL	\$4.00		
ADULT MEDIUM	\$4.00		
ADULT LARGE	\$4.00		
ADULT X-LARGE	\$4.00		
ADULT 2X-LARGE	\$5.00		
ADULT 3X-LARGE	\$5.00		
BIB APRONS (ONE SIZE) – White	\$7.50		
TOTE BAG (ONE SIZE) - Natural	\$4.50		
CINCH BACK PACK – Lime (1 Color Imprint)	\$3.00		
		SUBTOTAL	(1)\$
SHIPPING/HANDLING:		You <u>must</u> Include Shipping OR your order will be <u>delayed</u>!!!	
Add \$9.00 - Orders \$0 - \$36			
Add \$12.00 - Orders \$37 - \$144			
Add \$20.00 - Orders \$145 - \$432		TOTAL SHIPPING/HANDLING	(2)\$
i.e. Block (1) + Block (2)		SUBTOTAL + SHIPPING/HANDLING	(3)\$
YOU MUST INCLUDE AR SALES TAX		SALES TAX (7.5%)	(4)\$
i.e. Block (3) * 0.075			
i.e. Block (3) + Block (4)		TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED	(5)\$

SHIP TO ADDRESS:

NAME _____ CONTACT _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION: (Make Check Payable to: M&M Promotions)

Please send only 1 check and 1 order form per facility or your order will be delayed!

CHECK # _____ CHECK AMOUNT \$ _____

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT (Visa/ MasterCard/ American Express)

CREDIT CARD #: _____ Exp. Date _____ Zip Code: _____



Department of Human Services
 Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education
 P.O. Box 1437, Slot S140
 Little Rock, AR 72203-4608

PRESORTED
 STANDARD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 LITTLE ROCK
 PERMIT NO. 1045

Place address label here.

Arkansas Children's Week 2009

Material Order Form

Name: _____

Program/licensed capacity: _____

Mailing address: _____

City/Zip _____

Item	Number requested
Church Brochure	
Family Fridge Tag: "10 Ways to Appreciate Your Child"	

Return form to: Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education
 P.O. Box 1437 Slot S 160 (Program Support)
 Little Rock, AR 72203

Or fax to (501) 682-4897.