



Sonoma County Child Care Association The Professional Provider

www.sccca.info

P.O. Box 11037 ~ Santa Rosa CA 95406 ~ 707.237.4911

April/May 2008

Our New Provider Tea is Back By Popular Demand!

Are You New to the Field of Family Child Care?

The first year or two as a family child care provider can be challenging. Learn about the many opportunities and support systems that are available to help you provide quality child care while building a successful business.

Join Us for an Informational
New Provider Tea
Saturday, May 3 ~ 9:30am



Presented by experienced, successful Family Child Care Providers who understand the challenges you face each day.

- ~ Learn what Marketing ideas have been most successful for other providers.
- ~ Interviews...what to say, what to ask.
- ~ What is Liability Insurance and do you need it?
- ~ What **FREE** Community Resources/Discounts are available to you?
- ~ Grant Money is available...do you know how to access it?
- ~ Find out about trainings, workshops and classes.
- ~ What benefits are you entitled to as a member of the Sonoma County Child Care Association?
- ~ Held at a provider's home so you can see a family child care environment set up.

To RSVP and get directions contact: Brandi @ 575.4158

Continental Breakfast! ~ Door Prizes! ~ Handouts!

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	794.9615
Vice President:	
Connie Sarg	Membership:
795.1498	Brandi Laranjo
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FREE CPR/First Aid Class

Saturday May 10 ~ 9:30am

Non-Member Price: \$100

SCCCA Member Price: \$75

CCPU (Union) Member Price: Free

Instructor: Shannon Rosevear

Call for Reservations: 707.696.7979 or
707.793.9007

For information about becoming a member of
CCPU please contact Melanie Rincon @
707.321.9668



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Licensing Updates

Licensing Form Changes

Please be aware that many of the required licensing forms have been updated. Although Community Care Licensing does not notify you that the forms have changed, you are expected to have the new ones in your files when they come out for a visit.

Please go to the members area of our website, www.sccca.info where you will find links to the new forms. You will know which ones are new as they will have the date 01/08 next to the form number.

For example:

LIC 9150 (01/08) Parent Notification Additional
Children In Care



Important Reminder!



Those providers who are participating in the **CARES Stipend Program** should be aware that the deadline to submit your needed forms, transcripts, etc is coming soon.

Most forms must be completed after June 1st but received in the CARES office no later than June 21.

As each provider may have different paperwork to return depending on the track and stipend they will be receiving, please review your personal CARES packet or your specific requirements.

For questions, contact 707.524.2639

"Cry Until it Stops Hurting"

Few things are more distressing than seeing a child hurt and crying. The natural response for parents and other adults is to hug and say: "Hush, Don't cry. Everything will be all right." Yet this can be exactly the wrong response because these words don't allow children to possess their own emotions. The message they hear is:



"Stop now. There's nothing to cry about." This makes the little one cry even more since his or her inner self needs to prove that there IS something to cry about.

Once I became aware of this, I saw it happening over and over. When I discussed it with a group of providers, one suggested that a better reaction in such a situation is: "It's O.K. to cry. I know it hurts (or that

you feel badly.) Cry until it stops hurting. I like this reply better since, as she told us, she found that when her children were given the "permission" to cry, it was often all that was needed to stop the flow of tears. Phrases from the past, such as "crying is for babies" and "be a big boy" are unfortunately sometimes still used. They show little empathy, and also do nothing to encourage his or her self esteem.

So when your little one is crying, no matter what the reason, wait a moment before you begin to comfort and remember that the best way to help children handle their emotions is to surround them with love and acceptance, and to say

"It's OK to cry until it stops hurting."

A Provider's Perspective *By Michelle Potter, Former Family Child Care Provider*

I often look back at my days as a family child care provider as both "the best of times and the worst of times". The highlight, for me, was living in the Here and Now. Children teach us how to live in the moment-which is scary, exciting and wonderful. The low point, for me, was the isolation. At drop off, parents would rattle off a series of facts to me: "There's an extra diaper in the side pocket. I put juice in his sippy cup. He didn't eat much for breakfast. He has a little rash on his bottom. And I'll pick him up early today. Bye!"

For five or six hours, I would immerse myself in the world of tiny bubble-blowing, puddle-stomping, fortress building little people. It was great, but I had no other adults to relate to. Sometimes I would wonder if one child seemed a little out of tune-perhaps she had a quick temper-or maybe there were issues with food, naps, or potty training. If I had questions, I didn't know where to go! I would compare my students to previous students. I'd read books. Sometimes I'd do research online or talk to other providers.

Once, I even called The Consultation Project. I spoke with someone on the phone and explained my concerns, but I never followed through with the process. Why not? I was worried-that I would be judged, that the child would be labeled, and that that process would take too long. The child's parents and I decided to "watch and wait" for two weeks. His behavior improved a bit, so we did not follow up.

A few months later, the mother of the child read "The Out-of-Sync Child". "Ah, ha!" she said. She gave me a copy of the book to read. "Ah ha!" I said, Her child seemed to have some classic Sensory Integration issues. She adapted the home environment and I adapted my curriculum to help him. His behavior improved immensely. Now that I know more about The Consultation Project, I can see that the detour I thought we were taking with the Consultation Project would have been a short-cut. I'm positive that the consultants would have recommended this book. Looking back, it would have been a great gift to the parents, to me, and to the child if we had read the book earlier. We were all just lucky that we read it when we did.

To Contact the Consultation Project call: 585.6108



Connecting

Providers with Providers

What Are You Missing?

If you are not on our Online E-mail Group you are missing out on a lot of great information!

To join go to:
groups.yahoo.com/group/sonomacountyproviders
Click on "Join Now"

How does it work?

After you join the group you have the option of receiving individual emails each time a member writes a post or you can access the group and read all of the posts directly from the message board.

Recent Topics:

- Help with re-directing and positive discipline
- No show interviews
- Diabetic kids in care
- Licensing visits
- Contract and handbook ideas
- Teething causing fevers
- Payroll vs. contracted employees
- Advertising / car magnets

Child care can be an isolating profession, so it is great to have a way to communicate with other providers when the time is convenient for YOU.

Provider Interest Group

There has been some interest in starting a Saturday or Sunday Morning Hiking Group (no kids please). Nothing too strenuous, just a good time to get some fresh air and exercise once a month while networking with other providers.

If you are interested please contact
Maria Barragan at 794.9615

Professional Provider Upcoming Events

New Provider Tea: Saturday, May 3 9:30
Contact: Brandi Laranjo @ 575.4158

Human Race: Saturday May 10
Get pledges without walking OR Walk with us! Contact Margaret @ 795.8512 or go to www.sccca.info to join our team online!

**Family Child Care Home Tours:
Saturday, May 17 ~ 9:30am**
~To have your home included on the tour please contact Maria Barragon @ 794.9615
~To RSVP to attend call 237.4911-leave a voicemail with your name/phone number

Ask A Provider

Question...I am frustrated with the number of people calling and setting up interviews but not showing up... What do you do to decrease the number of no-shows?

Sandra Flohr, *A Tiny Treasures Childcare*: I set up a time that is convenient for them. I usually call to confirm if there is more than one day in between the appointment. I have now started saying please call me if you are unable to make the appointment. I don't think it has anything to do with what the providers are doing.

Carole Stewart, *Carole 4 Care*: When I set up the interview I ask that they call before coming and that is when I give my address and directions. This lets me know they are coming and makes me feel somewhat safer about giving my address out to everyone who is calling about child care. I have had a few no shows, and it is bother some, but I am sure bound to happen in any business. I also think providers need to ask themselves a few questions. How do you sound on the phone? What does the front of the house look like? These are things that I think about when people are calling and coming over. And I have heard in interviews what moms and dads see when they are looking. Recently a mom who went to a FCC and wouldn't get out of the car because of the way the outside of the house looked, trash, unkempt yard, etc

Velvet Herrera, *Little Hands Playschool*: I have interviews right after closing time. I ask that they please call if they can not make it or if they have already chosen another program. I make a point that I close at 5:30 and will wait a few minutes for them to arrive.

Carolynn DiGiuseppi, *Carolynn's Montessori For Toddlers*: Yeah, I just love the no-shows too. I don't recall that I have had any since I started my new plan. When I schedule an appointment, I ask the person to call me the morning of the appointment, to confirm. I say "That way I'll know that I should wait for you." - implying that if they don't call, I won't wait.



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Join Our Team!

Join the "got childcare" team as we come together for our 4th year participating in the Human Race to Raise Funds for the SCCCA!

Now it is even easier to collect pledges!
Go to www.humanrace.kintera.org/

sonomacountychildcareassociation to set up your own home page where family and friends can easily just click to pledge and pay!

You can also download a pledge sheet to collect pledges.

Date: May 10

Do you want to help us raise funds but don't want to walk?

Simply collect pledges via the pledge sheet and/or online and we will do the walking for you!

All funds raised for the SCCCA will go directly to help offset the costs of workshops and provider events!

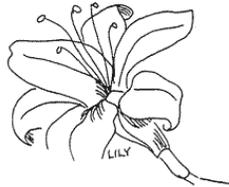
For questions or more info call Margaret@ 795.8512

Safe Plants/Toxic Plants

Indoor and outdoor plants are responsible for a rising number of accidental poisonings. Plant ingestions are among the top five causes of accidental poisonings in children younger than 5 years. Pets are also frequent victims of plant poisonings.

With the warmer weather, we will be planting more flowers, shrubs and vegetables in and around our family child care homes. Here is a link to "California Poison Action Line" where you will find lists of toxic plants and safe plants. It is a good idea to print a list of toxic plants to take with you when you go shopping for plants.

<http://www.calpoison.org/public/plants.html>



Fishman Supply Company has partnered with the Sonoma County Child Care Association to offer Special Discounts to our members!

- Paper Products
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To find out more or to have a custom catalog mailed to you contact Rich Brazil: 800.675.7750

Be sure to tell him you are a member of Sonoma County Child Care Association to get your special pricing!

Union News: Child Care Providers United

Governor Schwarzenegger Vetoes Our Voice

Governor Schwarzenegger vetoed AB 1164 - A Voice for Provider Rights. By doing so, the governor said NO to provider rights, to improved quality care for working families, and a voice in decision making for providers. We are disappointed, saddened, and dismayed by the governor's shameful actions.



Thanks to all of you for our successful lobby days at the Capitol, your impassioned testimony, and your courage in standing up to be seen and to be heard. It has not been easy, but you've made everyone proud to stand with you, and we have come to know and respect each other like never before.

The governor's veto is a temporary setback, but we must use it to motivate us, to keep our fire burning bright, and keep building our movement. We hoped the governor would stand with providers and working families, for our children, but he did not. He made his choice - and now we have made ours-to forge ahead and work together to ensure that our families and children receive quality affordable child care.

Providers know in our hearts that our dream is worth pursuing, worth fighting for, worth the struggle. We are all champions, heroes and heroines, and it is an honor to know each of you, and a privilege to work with everyone.

Coming Soon

Family Child Care Home Tour Saturday, May 17



It is always helpful and inspiring to see how other providers have designed their family child care home to allow for both family space as well as business space.

Do you have a unique family child care home environment that you would like to share with your peers? Or do you know of another provider's home environment that you think would be a good addition for our tour?

If so, please contact our Provider Outreach Coordinator, Maria Barragon @ 794.9615

Alternative Payment Agency Q & A Forum Date to be Announced-watch your mailbox and emails

Recent changes to the implementation of regulations has caused some providers to lose payment for days or even weeks of care they provided to families receiving subsidized childcare.

Together, with our Union, CCPU, an AP Forum is being planned to address these as well as other issues.

Agency directors and case managers from 4C's, PACE, Sonoma Works and River Child Care Services have been invited to meet with us to go over the recent changes and answer our questions.

Check our Coming Events area of website (www.sccca.info) for more information as we receive it. A flyer will also be mailed.



Sonoma County Child Care Association

Family Child Care...

Building A Brighter Future One Child at a Time

Mark Your Calendar		
May 3, Saturday	9:30 am	New Provider Tea (pg 1) <i>Brandi: 575.4158</i>
May 10, Saturday	8:00am	Human Race Fundraiser <i>Margaret: 795.8512</i>
May 10, Saturday	9:30 am	CPR/First Aid Class (pg 2) <i>Shannon Rosevear:793-9007</i>
May 17, Saturday	9:30 am	Family Child Care Provider Home Tour <i>Maria: 794.9615</i>

April & May 2008 Holidays and Themes			
Passover	April 20	Cinco De Mayo	May 05
Earth Day	April 22	Mother's Day	May 11
Arbor Day	April 25	Memorial Day	May 26
May Day	May 01	(Observed)	



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