



COLE-HARRINGTON FAMILY CHILD CARE and CHILD CARE NETWORK NEWS

Spring 2011

Dear Parents and Child Care Providers:

Here comes the sun! Boy do we all need it after the long, cold winter! With the coming of spring, there have been many exciting things happening within our program.

Thirteen of our Family Child Care Educators were selected to receive funding through the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Grant to assist them with advancing a level on the QRIS scale. These ladies were selected along with approximately 400 other child care programs throughout Massachusetts out of over 900 programs! Congrats to them as this is a remarkable achievement! These ladies will use funding for educational supply purchases, training, college coursework, outdoor playground improvements, books and resources, health and environmental design consultation and much more!

The QRIS is a measurement of quality that assists providers with program improvement and professional development. The QRIS contains 4 levels of standards that educators and childcare programs must meet. It is a building block system, so all standards must be met in one level before you can advance to the next level.

Ultimately, all Family Child Care Educators who work with state contracts will have to participate in QRIS by August 2012 so FCC Staff will be working to educate *all* of our FCC Providers about the QRIS and you will be hearing more about the benefits of this rating system and related activities over the coming year.

Our CH family continues to expand, with the birth of Conor Patrick on April 7th to Alaina Bolster, CH Social Worker. We send our congratulations to Alaina and her family! We are patiently awaiting the arrival of another new addition in a few weeks as well by one of our other Social Workers, Melissa Flanagan. Good luck Melissa! Family Child Care Educators were also blessed with new babies this winter, Kim Lai-Fook in Brockton welcomed son Elijah in December and Neima Duarte in Brockton welcomed son Nathan in April. Congrats to all of these very busy moms!

We also extend a warm welcome to the following FCC Educators who have joined our system this winter/spring, Candace Beland of Attleboro, Elise Burke of Bridgewater, Meghan DeMarco of Plymouth, Julia Farah of Norwood, Teresa Fortneau of Attleboro, Aida Nunez of Bridgewater and Zhimin Ou of Braintree. We are happy to have these educators in our network and look forward to many years of collaboration on behalf of children and families!

We hope you and your family enjoy all that spring has to offer and thank you for being a part of Cole-Harrington!

Michelle Bradford, Program Coordinator
FCC and Child Care Network

Neighbors in Brockton Applaud Young Patriots!



Little did Brockton FCC Educator, Wendy Small, know that she and her child care group would be applauded by neighbors as the group paraded around her neighborhood. Wendy and the children celebrated Patriot's Day in April with a variety of songs, craft projects and American pride. Way to go!

Holiday Updates/Program Closures Spring/Summer 2011

Cole-Harrington and FCC Educators will be closed on the following days There is no substitute care available during CH program closures or transportation. Center holidays may be slightly different. Please check with your individual programs.

Monday	May 30	Memorial Day
Monday	July 4	Independence Day



Payroll Dates for Educators & Centers

Please remember to call in/e-mail your CH children's attendance on the attendance call-in dates to Sarah Worton, our Financial Coordinator. **We must have accurate records of children's attendance in order to process your reimbursement on time.** Due to the large number of educators and programs on our payroll system, Sarah will not be able to call you for attendance. If you need another copy of the payroll schedule, please ask your ECS or e-mail Sarah at Sworton@enableinc.org. We thank you for your cooperation!

Contact Information for Transportation Companies



Cole-Harrington Transportation

Paul Matinzi 781-948-8500 (Nextel)

DKN Transportation

Heather Walkes 508-577-0426

Jolly Garden

Joseph Dorisca 508-326-4815

Moreno Transportation

Antonio Moreno 508-250-6263

3 M Transportation

Dayanta Box-Bull 508-441-8711

Warren Transportation

Michelle Warren 781-252-9506

If you are requesting a change to your child's transportation schedule, please contact your Early Childhood Specialist who will coordinate with your caregiver and the transportation company. As always, if your child is going to be absent for the day, please leave a message for the transportation coordinator along with contacting your child care program. With the rising cost of gas, we appreciate your calls to cancel if you do not need service for the day. Unexcused absences may result in suspension of services.



Books to welcome springtime!

Recommended for babies and young toddlers:

Big Red Barn by M. Brown

Fuzzy, Fuzzy, Fuzzy! by Sandra Boynton

Itsy-Bitsy Spider by R. Wells

Over in the Meadow by J. Cabrera



Ages 2 and above:

My Spring Robin by Anne Rockwell

Planting a Rainbow by Lois Ehlert

It's Spring by Samantha Berger

Ages 3 and above:

Spring is Here by Taro Gomi

The Listening Walk by Paul Showers and Alikei

Two Blue Jays by Anne Rockwale and Megan Halsey

Listen to the Rain by Bill Martin Jr

Ages 4 and above:

Mud by Mary Lyn Ray and Lauren Stringer

Maple Syrup Season by Ann Purmell

Ages 5 and above:

A New Beginning: Celebrating the Spring Equinox

by Wendy Pfeffer

Spring: An Alphabet Acrostic by Steven Schnur



CSEFEL Training News

This winter 28 CH Staff and FCC Educators attended a 15-hour course on the Foundations of CSEFEL Pyramid Model that provided us with information and resources on how to better support children's social and emotional needs. CSEFEL stands for the **Center on the Social and Emotional Foundation for Early Learning**. Our training was led by Rhonda Stollerman, Social Worker for Enable's Consultation Services for Children Program. If you are interested in learning more about the CSEFEL model or ideas and resources for supporting young children's social and emotional needs, please visit the CSEFEL website at [www.http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/index.html](http://www.csefel.vanderbilt.edu/index.html). You will find great behavior management tips and resources for parents and educators!

Due to the popularity of this training series, our Director, Gail Brown, will be offering another CSEFEL training series to our Family Child Care Educators this spring!

EEC Professional Qualifications Registry (PQR)

Thanks to those of you who have registered with EEC. EEC continues to require all Early Childhood Educators and Assistants to be registered and input any workshops or trainings you attend on a regular basis. If you need assistance with the registration process, please contact your Early Childhood Specialist. The PQR can be found at www.eec.state.ma.us/PQRRegistry/ if you scroll down to the link at the bottom of the page.

Enable, Inc./Cole-Harrington Family Child Care &
Child Care Network
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781-821-4422

FCC Fundraisers and Fun

Family Child Care Multicultural Cookbook!



We are always looking for fun and creative ways to raise money for program supplies, events and scholarships. Do you have a favorite family recipe that you would like to share with us? We will be sending out information about putting together a Family Child Care System Cookbook and will be looking to you for contributions of recipes from your culture or family's favorite dishes. Recipes will be organized by category and put into a cookbook which we will sell to our friends, family and community members this summer. Be on the lookout for information in the mail soon!

CH Family Picnic and Raffle

Bring your family to an evening of fun on Thursday, June 16th from 6:15-8:00 p.m. at our Preschool Enrichment playground located on the grounds of the Mass Hospital School, 3 Randolph Street in Canton. There will be a DJ for the children, lots of baked goodies and picnic blankets galore! The exciting part of the night for the grown-ups is the annual raffle with prizes including a weekend at the Cape, gift certificates and more! If you are interested in donating a raffle prize, selling or purchasing raffle tickets or plan to attend the event, please contact your Early Childhood Specialist for more information.



Summer Vacations

If your Family Child Care Educator is taking some well-deserved vacation time this summer and you are in need of back-up child care for your child, please call your Early Childhood Specialist (ECS) for arrangements as soon as you know dates. Staff will do the best they can to coordinate back up care, but cannot guarantee placement based on educators fluctuating enrollment. Early planning really helps! If you are interested in meeting some potential back up care providers in your area for potential sub care placements, please talk with your ECS and she will arrange for you to meet some educators in your area.

If you are a FCC Educator who is interested in providing back up care this summer, please contact Caryn Heifetz at x 303 and she will put you on our subcare list.

Warm Weather Reminders for Parents and Guardians

Please make sure your child is appropriately dressed for the warmer weather, with a light jacket or sweatshirt and a sun/baseball hat. Please apply sunscreen prior to arrival at child care, as many groups go outdoors early in the morning before the day gets too warm. Please send in a bottle of sunscreen labeled with your child's name on it. Educators will reapply as needed for afternoon outdoor play.

