

District 4 HRDC
Child Care Link
"Your Child Care Experts"

Linking the community to safe, healthy, caring environments for all children.

**EXCITING 2007 TRAINING CALENDAR INSIDE.
Your opportunity to create a training plan for the year!**

Fall Newsletter 2006

Child Care Link is a Child Care Resource & Referral Program



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Fall 2006
District IV HRDC

Child Care Link

Mini-Grant News

The Hi-Line Child Care Association is a nonprofit organization of child care providers, promoting the growth and supporting the interests of quality child care in Hill, Blaine and Liberty counties. The membership consists of registered family and group child care providers, and licensed child-care center providers. Associate memberships are offered to those in the community who are concerned with the child care industry.

The Hi-line Child Care Association meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at HRDC.

The next meeting is September 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Linda Kjorstad, Best Beginnings Program Officer, reports that the leading cause for Infant Toddler mini-grant denials is the lack of entering your PS number. Your PS number is the person number that has been assigned to you when you became a registered or licensed provider with the State of Montana. The Early Childhood Project is responsible for the mailing of a card stating your PS #. This number identifies you in the state computer system and is used to track all Early Care and Education trainings that you complete each year. The PV# is the number that is assigned to your facility or the facility that you are employed with by

QAD. If you do not know your numbers, Child Care Link can find those for you. Another common mistake for both Infant Toddler and regular mini grants is an unsigned proposal. It will be rejected if it is incomplete in any way. However, if it is rejected, you are encouraged to make corrections and to resubmit at the next mini-grant due date.

Mini-grants can be used to replace or acquire equipment, purchase developmentally appropriate toys or supplies, obtain liability insurance (only for new providers with a \$250 maximum), meet regulatory requirements, e.g. install egress windows, or to hire sub-

stitute care to enable provider and staff to attend trainings, conferences, or workshops. Child care centers may apply for grants of up to \$1,500. Family and group child care homes may apply for grants of up to \$1,000. The person applying must be participating in the Montana Early Care and Education Practitioner Registry.

If you would like assistance in writing your application or in applying to be on the Practitioner Registry, contact Child Care Link and staff will gladly assist you in the process. The next mini-grant application is due September 1. It's not too late to apply!

Best Beginnings Childcare Scholarships

The sliding fee scale for parents in the Best Beginnings Childcare Scholarship program has been adjusted as of August 1, 2006. It is very important to remember all clients who have a co-payment greater than \$10.00 may see a decrease in their co-payment responsibilities due to the modification of the sliding fee

scale. Eligibility will be determined for each family who has a co-payment greater than \$10.00. This is not extending any authorization plans, it is only modifying co-payments effected by the modifications to the sliding fee scale. Also, keep in mind providers are not mailed closure notices unless the R&R is changing an

authorization date. It is the responsibility of the provider to keep track of each authorization plan and its end date because this is the provider's notice a case will close if the client does not recertify. To keep track of a parent's authorization end date, mark it on a calendar to look at on a regular basis.

Income Eligibility Table

Household Size	Gross Monthly Income <i>Effective August 1, 2006</i>
2	\$1,650
3	\$2,075
4	\$2,500
5	\$2,925
6	\$3,350
7	\$3,775
8	\$4,200

Congratulations to the Fourth Quarter Recipients

Mini-grant

Ruby Davey
Stephanie Ford
Natalie Hannum

Higher Education Merit Pay

Jennifer Dahl
Lora Hanson
Karlene Howie

Congratulations Child Care Resources

The Missoula resource and referral agency, Child Care Resources (CCR) has received the **Region 8 Leadership Award** from the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) "in recognition of your outstanding efforts and dedication in the field of family child care."

NAFCC is the only national accreditation system for family child care providers. This system was developed with input from hundreds of providers, parents, and early care and education experts to create a definition of quality for family child care programs. Each family child care program goes through the in depth accreditation process requiring training, health assessments, criminal background checks, as well as an observation verifying compliance with the quality standards for NAFCC accreditation. Decisions are made individually based on information gathered from an observer, the provider, and the parents of the children in the program.

Overall, with centers and homes combined, 14.3% of the Missoula area facilities are accredited. The Missoula region has 18 NAFCC accredited facilities while the entire state of Montana has 36. Additional Missoula home providers are working toward this national quality achievement with the help of mentors. Montana was also recognized as having the 3rd largest percentage of accredited home providers in relation to the number of registered home providers.

According to Kelly Rosenleaf, CCR Executive Director, the award is the result of CCR's NAFCC accreditation mentoring program and to the early childhood professionals who make the effort to achieve national accreditation standards, which are much higher than licensing standards.

HI-LINE CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION MEETING

September, will be a "Get Reacquainted" ice cream social. We will be planning three or four free workshops for the coming year and would like everyone's input. We will be voting on our "Member of the Year" for last year (which means a free membership to HLCCA for this year). Dues for 2006-2007 have increased to \$30.00 but include 3-4 **free** approved trainings, \$10.00 off of your meal at Uncle Joe's for the Christmas Party, and a free luncheon at the Duck Inn in June. If anyone has questions, call Debbie at 265-7946 or Cindy at 265-7611.

Caring Program for Children

The Caring Program for Children offers access to primary and preventive medical, dental, and vision services to uninsured Montana children. The program serves children under 18 who do not qualify for Medicaid and whose parents have no other access to health insurance through their employment. Families with incomes

between 150 and 200 percent of Federal Poverty Level (maximum of \$40,000 for a family of four) may apply. Children who are deemed eligible for the program may remain on the program for a maximum of three years, providing they continue to meet eligibility requirements. The Caring Program includes access to office

visits, well child exams, outpatient surgery and diagnostic services, basic dental services, and vision services. Families are responsible for a \$5 office visit fee and a \$20 Emergency Room visit fee. For more information or to apply for the Caring Program for Children, call 1-800-447-7828, ext. 3630.

2006-2007 NEW PROVIDER ORIENTATION

Date	Location	Time
October 16, 2006	Blaine County	9 am-1 pm
December 14, 2006	Hill County	1-5 pm
February 8, 2007	Hill County	1-5 pm
April 9, 2007	Hill County	1-5 pm
May 7, 2007	Liberty County	9 am-1 pm
June 14, 2007	Hill County	1-5 pm
August 2, 2007	Hill County	9 am-1 pm

New State Rates for Hill, Liberty, and Blaine counties

	Child Daily	Child Hourly	Infant Daily	Infant Hourly
Center	\$20.00	\$3.00	\$21.90	\$3.30
Family	\$20.00	\$2.70	\$20.00	\$3.00
Group	\$22.00	\$3.30	\$22.50	\$3.30
LUP	\$15.00	\$2.10	\$15.00	\$2.30

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Articles may be submitted to the Child Care Link Office at 2229 5th Avenue, Havre, Montana 59501. If you have any areas of concern or questions that you would like to see addressed in this newsletter, please feel free to write or call Karen Thomas at HRDC Child Care Link, 2229 5th Avenue, Havre, MT 59501, 406-265-6743, Fax: 265-1312, e-mail: thomask@hrdc4.havre.mt.us

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District IV HRDC, 2229 5th Ave, Havre, MT 59501. Phone 406-265-6743, Fax:265-1312
 HRDC Child Care Link Staff: Karen Thomas, Director —thomask@hrdc4.havre.mt.us
 Vicki Wilkins, Family Resource Specialist— wilkinsv@hrdc4.mt.us
 Stefanie Fladager, Early Childhood Specialist—fladagers@hrdc4.havre.mt.us
 Dani Kaul, RSVP volunteer—danik@hrdc4.havre.mt.us



MONTH YEAR	TOPIC	KNOWLEDGE BASE & CONTENT AREA	LEVEL
October 18 2007 2 hours	What No T.V.?! Time Out? YIKES! This beginner workshop will explore why we want to limit the amount of time our children spend in front of the television and how "Time Out is Abused – What it Could and Should Look Like" Facilitator: Stefanie Fladager CCL Educator WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: \$8.00	Child Guidance	Beginner
August 2 2007 2 hours	More Than Kleenex and Band-Aids. This beginner training will help providers with health and safety practices that meet regulatory standards and promote the healthy growth and development of all children. The presenters for this workshop are Michelle Tomaskie NMCDC Health and Wellness Specialist and Stefanie Fladager CCL Educator. WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: \$8.00	Health, Safety, & Nutrition	Beginner
FLEXIBLE TRAINING OPTIONS TO MEET INDIVIDUAL NEED		KNOWLEDGE BASE & CONTENT AREA	TRAINING LEVEL
Correspondence Course 2 hours	Working with Best Beginnings Scholarship Families. Eligibility requirements and the application process for families applying for the Best Beginnings Scholarship program will be reviewed. Also covered will be payments, recordkeeping and provider responsibilities.	Observation & Assessment	Beginner
Correspondence Course 2 hours	Discoverers and Explorers: Activities for School-Age Children. Segment One: What Do They Need and What Can They Do? Segment Two: More Than Computer Games and Craft Kits – Activities for School-age Children to Do Indoors. Segment Three: Challenges, Experiments and Discoveries – Activities for School-age Children to Do Outdoors.	Curriculum	Beginner
Correspondence Course 2 hours	Financing Quality Do you need additional cash flow to your facility? Come learn what is available through the Early Childhood Services Bureau and how to qualify and apply for quality initiatives. Facilitator: Linda Kjorstad, Early Childhood Services Bureau Child Care Program Officer WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: FREE	Health, Safety, & Nutrition	Beginner
Correspondence Course 2 hours	The Beautiful Brain: The First Three Years. Segment One: Cerebral Lobes, Neurotransmitters and Glial Cells, Oh My – Brain Structures and Terms. Segment Two: Brain Snapshots – Early Brain Growth and Development. Segment Three: Use It or Lose It – Concepts in Brain Development.	Child Growth & Development	Beginner
Correspondence Course 2 hours	Focus on Curriculum – The Learning Cycle. Segment One: Planning Curriculum. Segment Two: The Learning Cycle	Curriculum	Intermediate
Correspondence Course 2 hours	Home is Where the Heart Is: This 6 module (12 hours) learn-on-your-own correspondence course is designed for in-home caregivers or LUP/ LUI providers. The key objectives of the course are to expand early childhood education and knowledge by supporting children's healthy growth, learning and development, health and safety issues, and by planning activities.	Child Guidance Child Growth & Development Health and Safety Professionalism Curriculum Program Management	Beginner

District IV HRDC Child Care Resource & Referral Training Plan 2007

MONTH YEAR	TOPIC	KNOWLEDGE BASE & CONTENT AREA	LEVEL
October 14 2006 5 hours	First Aid/CPR Certification Cost is \$7.00 plus \$15.00 (one time fee) for the new book Class size is limited, register early. To register call Andi at 265-5810	Health, Safety, & Nutrition	Beginner/ Intermediate
October 19 2006 2 hours	Oh, What Computers Can Do For You! ProCare, a childcare management and daycare software, offers a modular format allowing each childcare center, daycare, preschool or after school program to select only the features they need to operate efficiently. Each software module is designed to handle specific childcare administrative tasks. Facilitator: Melissa Moreni, Child Care Provider WHERE: MSUN Computer Lab (Basement of Vande Bogart Library) WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: \$8.00	Program Management	Intermediate
November 1 2006 2 hours	Personnel Systems for Child Care Facilities Family/Group child care providers and Center-based administration will be able to understand the components of a personnel management system, assess areas that need attention in their own facilities, understand the key elements of common child care job descriptions, and develop new employee orientation. Facilitator: Kelly Rosenleaf, Executive Director of Child Care Resources WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: \$8.00	Professionalism	Intermediate/ Advanced
December 4 2006 2 hours	Addicted Parents, Traumatized Children Attendees will be able to recognize the trauma to children caused by parental meth use, alcohol addiction, and ensuing violence. Learn how to buffer the impact on children while they are in your care. Facilitator: Karen Thomas, Child Care Link Director WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: \$8.00	Health, Safety, & Nutrition	Intermediate
January 17 2007 2 hours	Book Discussion, Part 1 - Einstein Never Used Flash Cards by Kathy Hirsh-Pasek, PH.D and Roberta Michnick Golinkoff, PH.D with Diane Eyer, PH.D goes beyond debunking the myths spread by the accelerated-learning industry. Parents and educators will find a practical guide to introducing complex concepts through smart, simple, and loving play. Participants will be required to purchase their own books and answer study questions. The first half of this book will be discussed at this session. Both sessions must be attended for 8 hours of training credit. Facilitator: Stefanie Fladager, Child Care Link Educator WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: \$8.00 and purchase your own book	Child Growth & Development	Intermediate/ Advanced
January 30 2007 2 hours	Medication Administration Training Module 1: Medication Administration for Child Care Providers provides the background for child care providers to administer prescription and over-the-counter medications to children in their care in a safe and efficient manner. The course provides instruction in the purposes of medication, legal guidelines and responsibilities, classification and side effects, the routes of administration, and care and storage of medication. Module 2: Medication Administration for Child Care Providers, addresses the medication administration background, skills, and documentation needed by providers who care for children with special health conditions that require ongoing or long-term medication (such as asthma, diabetes, seizures, ADHD) Facilitator: Stefanie Fladager, Child Care Link Educator WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: \$8.00	Health, Safety, & Nutrition	Intermediate

To register call Stefanie at 265-6743 or email: fladagers@hrdc4.havre.mt.us

MONTH YEAR	TOPIC	KNOWLEDGE BASE & CONTENT AREA	LEVEL
February 2007 6 hours	WINTER MINI-CONFERENCE. Six hours of training on three varied topics. Presented by professionals in the early care and education field. As child care providers we are always encountering situations that can be stressful. Yet stress, and its effects on our ability to do our job, is often overlooked. Join us for this year's Mini-Conference and learn to develop the skills needed to reduce stress and enjoy your child care business. Facilitator: TBA WHERE: TBA WHEN: TBA	Personal Dispositions Child Guidance Professionalism	Intermediate
March 6 2007 2 hours	Reducing the risk of SIDS in child care "Despite the fact that 20% of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) deaths occur in child care settings, many child care providers continue to be unaware of the association between infant sleep positioning and SIDS." (Pediatrics. 2003; 112:878-882) Facilitator: Stefanie Fladager, Child Care Link Educator WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: \$8.00	Professionalism	Beginner Intermediate
March 21 2007 2 hours	Book Discussion Part 2: Einstein Never Used Flash Cards by Kathy Hirsh-Pasek, PH.D and Roberta Michnick Golinkoff, PH.D with Diane Eyer, PH.D goes beyond debunking the myths spread by the accelerated-learning industry. Parents and educators will find a practical guide to introducing complex concepts through smart, simple, and loving play. Participants will be required to purchase their own books and answer study questions. The second half of this book will be discussed at this session. Facilitator: Stefanie Fladager, Child Care Link Educator WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: \$8.00	Child Growth & Development	Intermediate/ Advanced
April 12 2007 2 hours	Take a Closer Look: Observation & Assessment Basics in Early Childhood Programs Participants will be able to define observation and assessment of young children, learn and practice three techniques for observing children, describe why observation and assessment are important and how they make our jobs easier, and list strategies for sharing information with families and others. Facilitator: Libby Hancock, Career Development Director at the Early Childhood Project WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: FREE	Observation & Assessment	Intermediate
April 14 2007 2 hours	First Aid/CPR Certification Cost is \$7.00 plus \$15.00 (one time fee) for the new book Class size is limited, register early. To register call Andi at 265-5810	Health, Safety, & Nutrition	Beginner Intermediate
April 26 2007 2 hours	Financing Quality Do you need additional cash flow to your facility? Come learn what is available through the Early Childhood Services Bureau and how to qualify and apply for quality initiatives. Facilitator: Linda Kjorstad, Early Childhood Services Bureau Child Care Program Officer WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: FREE	Professionalism	Intermediate
May 7 2007 2 hours	A Good Start This informal workshop will seek to address the question, "What is School Readiness"? An overview of the types of readiness (social, academic, communication skills) will be presented as well as some examples of what parents and child care providers can do to enhance a child's experiences so children will enter school ready to learn and succeed. Facilitator: Karla Wohlwend, Director of Personnel and Social Services for Havre Public Schools WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: \$8.00	Curriculum	Intermediate

MONTH YEAR	TOPIC	KNOWLEDGE BASE & CONTENT AREA	LEVEL
June 12 2007 2 hours	Take a Closer Look again... Put what you learned from Libby Hancock's "Observation and Assessment" training into practice. You can even bring your children. You must have attended the April 12 session to qualify for this fun day. Facilitator: Stefanie Fladager, Child Care Link Educator WHERE: Hospital Park WHEN: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. LUNCH PROVIDED FEE: \$8.00	Curriculum	Intermediate
July 18 2007 2 hours	Traditional Native American Crafts After school activities Come prepared for a hands-on workshop and to learn how the crafts related to traditional living. Facilitator: Mary St. Pierre, Stone Child College Extension Agent WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. FEE: \$8.00	Curriculum	Intermediate
August 2 2007 2 hours	More Than Kleenex and Band-Aids This beginner training will help providers with health and safety practices that meet regulatory standards and promote the healthy growth and development of all children. Facilitator: Michelle Tomaskie, NMCDC Health and Wellness Specialist and Stefanie Fladager, Child Care Link Educator WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: Following the new provider orientation FEE: \$8.00	Health, Safety, & Nutrition	Beginner
September 13 2007 2 hours	Dyslexia, the Preschooler and Nursery Rhymes: We all want the children in our care to grow up to be readers, but is there something we all must do to help them? The most important thing we do comes pretty naturally to each of us and that is including rhymes in our program. Recent studies of dyslexia are showing us that rhyming may be integral to later reading capabilities. Join us as we talk about the latest dyslexia research, what signs we can look for in our pre-school children and how to incorporate those rhymes in a variety of ways in our programs. Chris Seifert has been the Director of Outreach for Montana PBS for almost 7 years and does community outreach, education and Ready To Learn, the federal program for child care providers and parents. She is also an adjunct instructor at MSU in the Department of Health and Human Development, teaching Child and Adolescent Development (10 years). WHERE: District IV HRDC WHEN: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. LUNCH PROVIDED FEE: \$10.00	Child Growth & Development	Intermediate/ Advanced
NEW PROVIDER/BASIC TRAINING		KNOWLEDGE BASE & CONTENT AREA	LEVEL
On-Site Training 12 hours	Starting Out Successfully: This 12-hour training is offered in your home at your convenience. This comprehensive training is conducted in 2-hour segments, once a month for 6 months. Topics include: Guidance/Discipline; Curriculum & Environment; Health & Safety; Parent/Provider Relations & Professionalism; Business Management; and Child Development. This training targets entry-level providers.	Child Guidance Professionalism Child Growth & Development Health and Safety Curriculum Program Management	Intermediate
On-Site Training 10-2 hour units	Beginner Training Units: Each of ten beginner units will be available as individual study courses. Knowledge Base and Content areas: Child Growth and Development, Development Child Guidance, Curriculum, Environmental Design, Family & Community Partnerships, Health & Safety, Nutrition, Observation & Assessment, Professionalism, Program Management		Intermediate