

# The Child Care Chat



Lower Shore Child Care  
Resource Center  
at Salisbury University

Published by the Lower Shore Child Care Resource Center

SPRING 2020

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

We are deep in unknown territory. No one was prepared for the impact of COVID-19. There has been so much information and so many rapid changes. The uncertainty can be difficult to cope with. We all want to be prepared for what will happen next to protect ourselves, our families and those in our care, but it is difficult to know what to do. Early childhood professionals have the advantage of already using good infection control practices in their day-to-day operations, and you are already doing many things right!

Here at the Lower Shore Child Care Resource Center, we are here to help. We will share the most up-to-date information from reliable sources as soon as we are able. The easiest way to get the latest news is through our Facebook page: Lower Shore Child Care Resource Center. We will continue to send eblasts with information you need to know, along with cancellation, re-scheduling, and location information for events and classes. Other resources that will keep you informed include:

- [earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org](http://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org)
- [www.childcareaware.org](http://www.childcareaware.org)
- [www.marylandfamilynetwork.org](http://www.marylandfamilynetwork.org)
- [www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-coronavirus](http://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-coronavirus)
- [www.mpt.org/kids](http://www.mpt.org/kids)

At this time, we have been asked to work from home, but we are here to assist you. We are prepared to provide technical assistance remotely during regular working hours. We will share online training resources that are available in order to help you keep current with your learning goals. We are planning to resume our training in the classroom as soon as we are permitted to do so, but we need to remain flexible as the situation changes. Your health and safety are very important to us, and we will follow the recommended guidelines, as mandated by the State of Maryland.

As a child care provider, you have an important role in facilitating the ability of other community helpers as they take on the challenges of this

pandemic. As you care for others, remember to take care of yourself. If quiet time is important to you, take some. If a walk in the fresh spring air will do you good, then go for a walk. If you relax by baking, then bake something delicious. Read a book, sing and dance, go for a run, practice yoga, soak in the bathtub – whatever it is, please remember to indulge in some self-care. You cannot help others if you are over-extended!

*Leslie Sinclair*

### PLEASE ADHERE TO THE MAX 10 RULE

- **Family Child Care: no more than 10 in the house – including family members and children**
- **Child Care Center: no more than 10 (1:9 ratio) in an enclosed room – NO large rooms divided by cubbies into “classrooms”**

### CONGRATULATIONS TO VANESSA JONES-WARNER!

Vanessa Jones-Warner, owner of child care centers in Fruitland and Salisbury, received the Jefferson Award, which is presented to citizens who provide extraordinary public service. Vanessa is “... *hard-working, dedicated and extremely giving.*” She is a member of early childhood stakeholder groups to which she volunteers her time and expertise. Vanessa is a part of the Wicomico County Judy Center and has the only community-based Pre-K program in the county at God’s Little Angels. She is also a partner with the Somerset County Judy Center, the MSCCA and the Lower Shore Child Care Resource Center. She has a big heart and works tirelessly to engage families and nurture the children in her care. We are so pleased to know Vanessa and support her as she makes a difference in the lives of young children.

## TRAINING CALENDAR

As this goes to print, the LSCCRC is not permitted to conduct any face-to-face classes until July 1, 2020. We recognize that you need clock hours for licensure, and some are also working on credentialing. For that reason, some ideas are listed below. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions.

- Resource Centers across the state are collaborating to offer webinars to child care providers. A webinar is as close to being in class as you can be without actually being there. Every day, new trainings are made available; we will share that information with you through eblasts and Facebook posts.
- Training classes for which you have paid will be credited to you. Sometimes the same workshop is offered as a webinar. If you want to register for one of those, just let us know. We can transfer your payment to the hosting CCRC.
- Stay aware of current happenings by visiting the MSDE website at [www.earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org](http://www.earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org).

Of course, we are here to answer questions and help you with to maintain a high-quality environment for children as we all work through this period of difficulty.

Here is a link to some online training information from Resource Centers in Maryland. You will find the class name and contact information to sign up. Let us know if you have any questions.  
[www.marylandfamilynetwork.org/statewidetrainingcalendar](http://www.marylandfamilynetwork.org/statewidetrainingcalendar)

## CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER

The Lower Shore Child Care Resource Center congratulates the following provider on her most recent accomplishment:

### • Charlene Collins

Achieved EXCELS Level 3

*If you are interested in having your achievements published in our newsletter or would like support in meeting these accomplishments, contact your Technical Assistance Coordinator at the LSCCRC.*

## DO YOU RECEIVE EMAILS FROM THE LSCCRC?

**By checking your email, you will receive the most up-to-date news from the LSCCRC.**

Are you on our email list? Frequently, we send an update on training or scheduled activities. You might also find links to other sites and opportunities for you to take advantage of up-to-the minute news important to you. Sometimes there are last minute changes to office hours or open-late hours announced, as are PAU opportunities and events coming to our tri-county area.

## ONLINE TRAINING @ LSCCRC

The SmartHorizons 45-hour **Infant and Toddler Growth & Development** portion of the Preservice is now available. We do not have information on when the Methods & Materials course will be approved and back on the SmartHorizons platform. We will keep you posted.



SmartHorizons is the platform we support for high-quality online trainings. You can access their site through an easy link from our website! Click on the training tab at [www.lowershoreccrc.org](http://www.lowershoreccrc.org), then click on "Online Training Classes from SmartHorizons." There is a good selection of online training to help you get what you need, when you need it. If you want to take these online courses, and have difficulty, call us and we will walk you through the registration process. If you do not have reliable connectivity at your address, we have a laptop for you to use at the LSCCRC Resource Room. Come on in!

## CONGRATULATIONS TO TASHA STANFORD!

Tasha Stanford has earned the CACFP Child Nutrition Professional Certification from the National CACFP Sponsors Association.

The CCNP Certification is a special designation for those in the CACFP profession who are committed to continually learning best practices and keeping up with changing trends in the field. Stanford has shown this commitment by attending additional trainings and workshops to further her knowledge of the CACFP program. This achievement reflects her dedication to upholding high standards in the CACFP profession. Join us in congratulating Tasha Stanford on this accomplishment. She is an asset to the CACFP community.

## HOW TO GET YOUR TRAINING HOURS

**At the LSCCRC:** In a classroom, networking with others through active discussion.

**Online:** Convenient, individual, working @ home or @ the LSCCRC.

**Onsite:** Specifically arranged and tailored to the group's specific need.

**Think about it, choose what best suits you and contact Leslie Sinclair at [lasinclair@salisbury.edu](mailto:lasinclair@salisbury.edu) or at 410-543-6650.**

## CHILD CARE CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

The deadline for new applications to the Child Care Career and Professional Development Fund (CCPDF) has been extended to Tuesday, April 1. If you are interested in this opportunity to work toward a degree in early or elementary education at Salisbury University, take a minute and contact Leslie Sinclair at 410-543-6650 or [lasinclair@salisbury.edu](mailto:lasinclair@salisbury.edu).

## WELCOME CHERYL WILLIS - NEW TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR AND INFANT/TODDLER SPECIALIST

We are glad to have Cheryl on our team! Prior to joining the Lower Shore Child Care Resource Center, Cheryl spent nearly 27 years as both teacher and director for infants through school agers for a number of for-profit and non-profit organizations. Additionally, she has been an accreditation validator for MSDE for nearly six years. She has extensive experience with and knowledge of COMAR licensing regulations, the Maryland Child Care Credential Program, Maryland Excels, ECERS, ITTERS, SACERS and PAS. She is a member of NAEYC and completed her A.A.S. in early childhood development at Chesapeake College, her B.S. in human ecology at UMES and her M.Ed. in early childhood education (administration) at Champlain College. She resides in Easton with her husband and their son, who currently attends UMBC.

Our graduate assistant, Mia, will continue to work with Cheryl. Cheryl and Mia are here to answer your questions and act as coaches and mentors for your program. Call our office at 410-543-6650 or email [clwillis@salisbury.edu](mailto:clwillis@salisbury.edu)

## YOUR PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Take trainings in your specialty area whenever possible
2. Network with your colleagues
3. Join a professional organization
4. Keep records of your training
5. Don't forget to take care of yourself!



Lower Shore Child Care Resource Center  
at Salisbury University

Thank you to all who registered for the LSCCRC Early Childhood Conference

### ***Transforming Challenging Behaviors***

Guerrieri Student Union, Salisbury University

**We apologize for the change of plan. We are rescheduling this conference. Please stay tuned for a new date.**

## UPDATE YOUR LOCATE INFORMATION AND ENTER TO WIN!

Relying on word of mouth to promote your child care business is no longer enough. This comes from a new *Forbes Magazine* report that gathered data on over 150,000 child care providers across the United States. As parents become busier and more tech savvy with each passing year, they are looking online to find child care and relying less on talking to their friends for information.

The good news is that when you regularly update your Maryland Family Network LOCATE: Child Care record with complete and current information, parents are better able to find and choose your program. Update your information every month at [marylandfamilynetwork.org](http://marylandfamilynetwork.org) and tell us when your program has vacancies, changes to hours, fees, etc. Your information will be reviewed and made live in just two business days. Every time you update your record you will be entered into a monthly sweepstakes to win a \$25 Amazon gift card.



The **LOCATE: Child Care** annual update questionnaire is also available through these links! Choose the most appropriate one to request an update:

- Main Questionnaire Page: [www.marylandfamilynetwork.org/for-child-care-providers/provider-questionnaires/](http://www.marylandfamilynetwork.org/for-child-care-providers/provider-questionnaires/)
- Center/Group Questionnaire: [www.marylandfamilynetwork.org/resources/group-program-questionnaire/](http://www.marylandfamilynetwork.org/resources/group-program-questionnaire/)
- Family Child Care Questionnaire: [www.marylandfamilynetwork.org/resources/family-child-care-questionnaire/](http://www.marylandfamilynetwork.org/resources/family-child-care-questionnaire/)

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1-877-261-0060  
[www.lowershoreccrc.org](http://www.lowershoreccrc.org)

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Salisbury  
UNIVERSITY



MARYLAND FAMILY NETWORK  
*Leading Maryland's Child Care Resource Centers*



MARYLAND CHILD CARE RESOURCE NETWORK

### Hours of Operation:

Check our website for details about weekly hours, and watch for email blasts from the LSCCRC.

Detailed hours each month are posted on the door. If you need to meet outside these hours, please call to make arrangements: 410-543-6650.



THE LOWER SHORE CHILD CARE RESOURCE CENTER  
 Suite 500  
 East Campus Complex  
 Salisbury, MD 21801

non-profit org.  
 U.S. postage  
 PAID  
 Salisbury, Maryland  
 permit no. 65



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Visit Us on the World Wide Web

Just log onto [www.lowershoreccrc.org](http://www.lowershoreccrc.org) or scan the code to view a copy of our newsletter, training calendar or just some helpful child care info.

Check us out on Facebook: Lower Shore Child Care Resource Center

*The yearly membership cost is \$25. Membership benefits include a PAU and reduced price for most training classes. You may join or renew your membership at any time. Use the form below for membership payment as well as class registration.*

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Resource Center Member? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Center (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street City State Zip Area Code

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Make personal check or money order for FULL AMOUNT payable to: Salisbury University**  
**Mailing Address: C/O Lower Shore Child Care Resource Center, Suite 500, East Campus Complex,**  
**Salisbury University, Salisbury, MD 21801. Phone Number: 410-543-6650**

Course Title	Date	Fee
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Credit card: \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_