

QUALITY MATTERS

A Newsletter for Child Care Providers in Georgia



The mission of Quality Care for Children is to expand the capacity of parents, child care providers and communities to nurture and educate infants and young children in Georgia.

Quality Care for Children Receives Victory Against Hunger Award



Left- Rep. Lewis, Right- Judy Pittman, Director, CACFP

Quality Care for Children was chosen as one of 32 recipients of the 2005 Victory Against Hunger Awards. The organization was nominated by Representative John Lewis to receive the prestigious award. The Congressional Hunger Center and Victory Wholesale Grocers teamed up to recognize outstanding organizations in the United States that work to end hunger at the local level. The theme of this year's competition was "Fighting Hunger through Improving Access to the Child and Adult Care Food Program". Despite a strong economy, hunger and food insecurity abound

in communities across the country, exemplified by the 36 million Americans who live in hunger or on the edge of hunger.

"Quality Care for Children's Child Care Food Program is a leader regionally and nationally in the children's nutrition arena. The program is deserving of this award because of its innovative outreach that clearly has increased access to the food program and improved the quality of child care in Georgia", remarked Representative Lewis.

As a sponsor of the Child Care Food Program since 1979, Quality Care for Children continues to initiate innovative ways to increase access to the Child Care Food Program and thereby impact the quality of nutrition for Georgia's children. This program serves over 10,000 children, 80% of whom are low-income and may not have access to nutritional meals in their home environment.

Additional Requirements for Providers Interested in Opening New Child Care Centers

After October 1, 2005 child care providers who would like to open a new child care center will need to attend an orientation meeting called a LOM. Directors of centers opening after the first of October will also be required to attend director's training. The LOM will give new owners instruction on the application process for obtaining a license to operate a center and give an overview of the Department of Early Care and Learning rules

and regulations. The director's training will focus on information on business management, communication, developmentally appropriate practices, professionalism, early learning standards, and advocacy.

If you already own or direct a center that is licensed, these new requirements do not apply.

Child Care Resource &
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913 N. Tennessee Street
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(678) 721-6676 Fax

www.qualitycareforchildren.org

Provider Spotlight: Kids Station Christian Learning Center

On August 8, 2005 Kids Station Christian Learning Center, Inc. opened its doors for business. The center held a grand opening celebration on September 15, 2005 to commemorate this exciting accomplishment. Kim Barnes, Parent Counselor/ Program Assistant, for Child Care Resource and Referral of NW GA attended the opening and met the staff at Kids Station.

Kid Station Christian Learning Center has 15 teachers. The center is owned and directed by Angie Grayson. Miranda Morrison is the Assistant Director. Angie is a registered nurse with over fifteen years of nursing experience including five years in school nursing. She is a mother of two children.

Kids Station is a licensed child care facility serving children 6 weeks through 12 years of age. The center hours are Monday through Friday from 6:30am to 6:00pm. The capacity for the



Kids Station Christian Learning Center Staff at Grand Opening

center is 147 and already Angie has 80 children enrolled. Kids Station is located at 14237 Alabama Hwy Rock Springs, GA 30739 in the Woodstation Community.

Congratulations to Kids Station Christian Learning, Inc. and welcome to the child care community!

Professional Development Opportunities Fall/Winter 2005

Date	Title	Location	County	Time	Cost
Oct. 18 th and October 20 th	Learning Environments	CCR&R 913 N. Tennessee St. (Ste. 202) Cartersville	Bartow	7:00-9:00 pm	Free
Oct. 29 th	CPR/1 st Aid	310 Peters St., Calhoun	Gordon	9:00-2:00	\$30
November 5 th	CPR/1 st Aid	Dade DFCS Conference Room 71 Case Ave., Trenton	Dade	9:00 am-2:00 pm	\$30
November 12 th	Childhood Injuries	Mill Creek Child Care 2840 Babb Rd., Rocky Face	Whitfield	10:00 am-12:00 pm	\$15
November 12 th	Infectious Diseases	Mill Creek Child Care 2840 Babb Rd., Rocky Face	Whitfield	12:30 pm-2:30 pm	\$15
December 3 rd	Child Abuse 101	TBA Jasper	Pickens	9:00 am-11:00 am	\$10
December 3 rd	Positive Child Guidance	TBA Jasper	Pikens	11:00 am -1:00 pm	\$10

All training must be pre-paid. Checks will be deposited after each training. You will not be guaranteed a spot if you have not paid.

**Make checks payable to: Quality Care for Children; send payment to: Quality Care for Children
Child Care Resource and Referral of NW GA
913 N. Tennessee Street Suite 202, Cartersville, GA 30120 Attention: Lane Peters**

QCC Offers Mini-Grants and Homes of Quality Training

Quality Care for Children's, Child Care Resource and Referral Agency of Northwest Georgia will continue to offer programs that support family child care and group home providers in their efforts to achieve or maintain high quality learning environments that nurture and educate children. Through the Quality Improvement Mini-Grants Project, family child care and group home providers receive mini-grants to improve the quality of their existing programs, apply for standard compliance materials, start a new program, or apply for professional development funds for continuing education training. Information sessions will be held in December to further explain the program.

Another exciting program offered to family child care and group home providers through Bright from the Start, Georgia Department of Early Care

and Learning is the Homes of Quality Program. It is a voluntary program that recognizes family child care and group home providers who provide rich, interactive learning environments for children. There are two levels: Home of Distinction and Home of Merit. Homes of Quality training will be held in Cartersville on Saturday, December 10th, 2005 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, location to be announced. If you are a provider who is interested in pursuing Homes of Quality or would like to attend a Quality Improvement Mini-Grants Project information session, please contact Ruby Phillips at 1-800- 308-1825 ext 834.

Providers Striving for Excellence

Family Child Care Providers with more than 10 hours of training:

Patti Pence - Paulding County

Beverly Cooke- Paulding County

Janice Burford- Paulding County (more than 150 Hours)

Great Job Paulding County Family Home Providers! Please let the Child Care Resource and Referral office know of anyone else who has obtained more than 10 Ga. Bright From the Start approved training hours.

The following Child Care Centers have achieved Center of Distinction recognition:

Little Peoples Academy - Walker County

Chatsworth Preschool - Murray County

Whitfield/Dalton Day Care- Whitfield County

Congratulations and thank you for working to achieve high quality standards in your child care centers!

Congratulations GAYC Conference Scholarship Recipients!

Michelle Craig and Dorothy Wilhemi were awarded scholarships to attend the Georgia Association for Young Children (GAYC) conference which took place October 7-8, 2005 at the Gwinnett Civic Center in Duluth, GA. Michelle Craig, is a Special Needs Community Awareness leader in Paulding County. Dorothy Wilhemi, is a Family Child Care Provider in Paulding County. Congratulations to both of you and we hope you gained valuable information at the conference!

Become of GAYC Member

Georgia Association on Young Children (GAYC) is a non-profit professional organization that promotes quality early care and education for young children. GAYC is affiliated with the Southern Early Childhood Association (SECA) and the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

Call GAYC at 404-222-0014 or visit the NAEYC website at www.naeyc.org/membership or call NAEYC's Member Services unit at 800-424-2460. Together we're working to promote excellence in early childhood education for all young children.

If you have any questions you can contact Child Care Resource & Referral of NW Ga. at 800 308 1825 ext 5 (Gloria Burton)



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**PROVIDER NEWSLETTER
FALL 2005**



JOIN QUALITY CARE FOR CHILDREN!

Quality Care for Children (QCC) is a nonprofit organization working to expand the capacity of families, child care providers and communities to nurture and educate infants and young children in Georgia. Your membership helps QCC accomplish this mission and provides useful resources for you.

Membership Benefits:

- 10% discount on toys and supplies from Discount School Supply
- \$10 off membership to Redleaf Press (qualifying you for a 20% discount on all of their products)
- Free subscription to Early Childhood News Magazine
- QCC newsletter and pin
- Free membership to the toy lending library (a \$15 value) for Metro Atlanta members

There are various membership donation levels: friend, patron, champion, and benefactor. These various levels help you to be able to join QCC according to your individual budget needs.

For more information about becoming a member of QCC, please visit our website at www.qualitycareforchildren.org or call (404) 479-4200