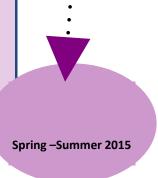
Scott County Licensed Family Child Care Association

## **Member Update**



## Inside this issue:

National Conference	2-3
Hold a sleeping Baby	5
Outdoor Play	6
Provider of the Year	8-9
SCLFCCA Volunteer	10
Universal Preschool	11
Why Family Child Care?	12



## Points of Interest

- NAFCC Conference
- Officers on page 13
- Mentors on page 14

Happy Fourth of July



## National Family Child Care Conference in Minnesota



## Be Part of the Conference! Help make a difference

The Conference is a chance for people to meet, network, learn and create memories that will last a lifetime.

A Minnesota delegation is working with NAFCC to create a conference that will provide you with quality training, keynotes and experiences including a tour of homes.

Consider registering for the Conference and volunteering to be a hostess at a workshop. 107 workshops will be available over the three days.

Registration and a posting of workshops will soon be online at www.nafcc.org



A national conference close to home....... Just a quick drive across the river!

# 2015 National Association For Family Child Care Conference in Bloomington, Minnesota!

"Together We Can"

Watch the nafcc.org web site for a registration form and conference packet. www.nafcc.org

 Consider attending and volunteering to be a hostess.

A Celebration at the Mall of America.

Get a group of providers together and make it a weekend! OR just come for the Friday night "Tribute to Providers" from 6 to 10 p.m.

## Did you know:

Minnesota is the Land of 10,000 lakes. Actually there are 12,034 lakes in Minnesota larger than ten acres. Lake Superior is the largest freshwater lake in the world. Minnesota boasts 90,000 miles of lake and river shoreline, more shoreline than California, Florida and Hawaii combined.

Dear NAFCC members, early childhood professionals, mentors, trainers and agency staff,

We would like to invite you to attend the 2015 NAFCC Annual Conference, to be held July 15-18 at the Hilton Doubletree in Bloomington, Minnesota. Our theme this year is Together We Can! We will be highlighting the many ways we can work together to improve the lives of children, build associations, and strengthen our national voice for family child care.

Here are a few conference events you won't want to miss:

Extra day of training sessions provided by NAFCC at no charge to show our appreciation for you

Information on Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships with Family Child Care

**NAFCC Observation and Accreditation Trainings** 

Train the Trainer Sessions for those who support providers

**Diversity, Military and State President's Caucus Meetings** 

**Hot Topics Breakfast Discussion Groups** 

Dozens of Exhibitors with the quality resources and equipment you need

The All Conference Luncheon – a time for celebration, networking, and meeting the new NAFCC Board; and Meeting your NAFCC Membership Council Representatives at their Meet & Greet sessions

Bloomington has much to offer for you as well! The infamous Mall of America is nearby, offering a large variety of activities, entertainment and, of course, shopping for your entire family to enjoy! Or, turn the week into the perfect combination of "pal-party" fun with shopping, networking, and training all rolled into one fun week!

The Friday Night Tribute to Family Child Care has been ramped up to full glory in order to celebrate those who have contributed to excellence in the field of family child care and create a memorable, red-carpet style evening for all attending!

Make the investment in yourself, your business and your career and attend the 2015 NAFCC Conference. At NAFCC, we know that Together We Can have a fabulous conference but we need you there – join us and register today!

See you there,

#### **Patricia Dischler**

#### **NAFCC President**



**Eva Daniels** 

#### **NAFCC Executive Director**



## Early Bird Registration due May 4th

Member Price: \$189

Non-Member Price:

\$265.00

NAFCC membership is \$45.00

Saturday Only Member Price is \$132.00

## Can I Hold a Sleeping Baby?



While so many providers believe or are mistakenly told that they are not allowed to hold sleeping infants, kudos to Wright County Human Services Licensing for including the following in their April Childcare Newsletter:

"Can I Hold a Sleeping Baby?

The short answer is YES! Babies love to be held, and who doesn't love holding a sleeping baby?

Lately we have heard from providers that falsely believe that they are not allowed to hold babies when they sleep. Babies are required to have an approved sleep space in your child care, but that does not mean that a provider cannot hold a sleeping baby for part of their nap time. Each provider must take into consideration the needs of the other children in care when choosing to hold a sleeping baby. If you are able to supervise the rest of the children appropriately while holding the baby, you are able to continue to hold the baby. If you are not able to supervise, or if you are needed in order to aid other children in care, then you would need to place the sleeping infant in their approved sleep space so that you can tend to the rest of the children. Also remember that when holding a sleeping baby, their airway must be kept clear, with nothing over their face. Please contact your licensor with any questions."

Since the law is what matters, here it is. If anyone else tells you that you can't hold a sleeping infant (without exception), you can politely share the statute with them:

## Chapter 245A.1435 states:

(c) If an infant falls asleep before being placed in a crib, the license holder must move the infant to a crib as soon as practicable, and must keep the infant within sight of the license holder until the infant is placed in a crib. When an infant falls asleep while being held, the license holder must consider the supervision needs of other children in care when determining how long to hold the infant before placing the infant in a crib to sleep. The sleeping infant must not be in a position where the airway may be blocked or with anything covering the infant's face.

Credit: Wright County Licensing

## **Celebrate the Week of the Family Child Care Provider**

May 3-9, 2015

Thank you to all the Family Child Care Providers in Scott County!

You make a difference in the lives of children every day!



Attending the NAFCC Conference?

Stop in at the Cabana room to meet friends,

Relax or maybe a bite to eat!





Tree Blocks

## **Outdoor Play**

## Enjoy the joy!

When your children begin to discover and enjoy nature, you're bound to hear all about it! Ask provoking questions, encourage them and share your own experiences. Most of all, join with your children in the spirit of appreciation, wonder and joy!

First, let go of preconceived notions of an outdoor play area. As a society, we have designated concrete, plastic and metal areas as the appropriate places to play. Were those your favorite childhood play areas? It's more likely that you preferred a secret hideaway under the bushes, rolling down a grassy slope or using your imagination to build a fort. By encouraging children to see the potential in their backyards and other outdoor spaces, we allow them endless, undefined and undiscovered fun. Here's how you can create a fun and safe outdoor environment for your kids.

#### Define safety.

Create rules for outdoor safety so children can be free within your specified boundaries. Rather than clearing away all risks (which is nearly impossible), help your children to learn caution and respect. Observe and supervise while your kids are playing. Give your children appropriate and useful tools for their "work." Teach them to observe and respect wildlife. Let them know what plants are useful and how (i.e. what is edible and that everything else is not). Get rid of poisonous plants.

#### Allow kids to discover and use found resources.

Using objects available in nature, such as sticks, stones and blocks of wood to build hideouts for toys and landmarks for play, will develop a child's creativity, teach them to be resourceful, build their confidence and heighten their awareness of nature's abundance. Designate a place to collect useful sticks and stones that your children can use in their play.

#### Set aside some space.

You don't have to give your hopes of enjoying the backyard over to plastic sandboxes and swing sets. Designate areas for play and give control of those areas to your child's imagination! Create a sand pit right in your landscape. Leave yard space for running or create a circular path; kids won't think negatively about running in circles, but will enjoy the rush of physical activity.

#### Invite other creatures.

There is a natural fascination with the world beyond our own. Children will spend hours looking for dirt creatures, admiring a butterfly's colors, watching a bee dance from flower to flower, or laughing at a squirrel's chase. Teaching your children to observe and respect living things will equip them with relational skills they can use throughout life. Plant fruit, nut and seed bearing plants, and put out a basin of water for birds. Compost your yard waste to keep a high population of rollypollies and worms.

### Exercise your child's green thumb.

Give your children space where they are in charge. It is a great idea to grow food so children can plant seeds, nurture the plant growth and taste the fruits of their labor. You can create theme gardens such as: an alphabet garden (with plants representing every letter), an animal garden (with plants like elephant ears, bee balm, or lamb's ears), or a color garden (plant red tomatoes, red cabbage, and red peppers). An herb garden with different mints, basils and other plants can develop your children's awareness of different smells and tastes. Fast growing cutting flowers like zinnias and cosmos are always fun and beautiful, and a strawberry patch will stay in your children's memory. You can start by growing a few plants in containers so the gardening is manageable and rewarding for your children. Choose plants you like and will use in cooking or decorating.



# Family Child Care Pathways to Success Class—Spring 2015



Scott County—Shakopee

Melissa Robusek, Bridgette Collins, Olga Ferrozzo



Carver County
Sarah Sirivong (Chaska) and Rachel Schmitz (Waconia)





Scott County—New Prague
Nicole Bester, Angela Pexa



Did you know 440 providers have taken this class?

Family Child Care Pathways to Success just completed the 25th training of the 16 hour class.

The series class began as Essential Elements of Family Child Care. Congratulations to the providers trained in the Spring 2015 program!



LeSueur County

Kayla Ceroll (Montgomery)

## Jessica Klose—Jordan

## 2015 SCLFCCA Provider of the Year Honoree





Jessica Klose has been in the child care field for twenty-two years, with seven of those years operating her own family child care under the name of LoveBug Preschool. After coming up through the ranks in a child care center chain, Jessica left the administration role and did home day care with her sister-in-law our of her home until she had children of her own and decided to do child care out of her own home. Jessica has a mixed age group and is licensed for 14 in the Jordan community where she has lived for 11 years. She employs a helper in the afternoon whose name is Leanna. What an awesome experience for a young lady having a mentor such as Jessica. Jessica has a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education from St. Cloud State University.

Jessica states, "I have a strong passion for teaching and working with children and I can't ever imagine doing anything else. I care for the children in my child care as if they are my own...they are all a part of our family! I provide a loving, nurturing, and stimulating environment." The philosophy behind her curriculum is that young children learn best by doing. Learning is much more than repeating what someone says. Learning requires experimenting to find out how things work and to experience first hand about the world in which we live.

Jessica's most important goal of her curriculum is to help children become enthusiastic learners. This means encouraging children to be active and creative explorers who are not afraid to try out their ideas and to think their own thoughts Her goal is to help children become independent, self-confident and inquisitive learners. She encourages children to learn at their own pace and in the ways that are best for them. Providing children with a foundation for good habits and attitudes, particularly a positive sense of themselves, are goals as these habits and attitudes will make a difference throughout their lives. The activities Jessica plans for the children, the way her environment is organized, the materials selected for learning experiences, the daily schedule and talking with the children are all designed to accomplish the goal of children becoming enthusiastic learners and provide for the children the foundation for a successful start in school. Jessica has developed her own curriculum that has four components: Language Arts, Arts and Crafts, Math/ Science, and a small group activity. The activities each week are centered around a theme.

Jessica provides the benefits of a home child care environment and still offers the preschool curriculum aspect. Other special services include having a music therapist come into the child care on a weekly basis to do music with the children. Children look forward to Ms. Alicia coming!

We asked Jessica to share some advice for new providers and she said "the job of a provider is the most rewarding career!" and "Always use the resources that are available for any kind of support needed."

We have an initiative this year to share with the public "Why Family Child Care?" Maybe the responses from Jessica's parents might shed a light on the value of in-home licensed family child care. "Provides a safe and fun environment...wouldn't take my kids anywhere else". "Passionate about the kids to help them learn and grow". "Always allows time for any questions I have or suggestions that I need". "Integral in my child's development by teaching everyday'. "Caring, compassionate, encouraging, flexible, and education to both children and parents".

Jessica is an active troop co-leader for Girl Scouts with daughter Kaylee and is involved with her son Joey's Boy Scout group as well. Add to this dance, piano, and sports for the children and spending time with her husband Paul. Congratulations Jessica!

## Jenny Walser—New Prague

## 2015 SCLFCCA Provider of the Year Honoree





Jenny Walser has been a provider in New Prague for almost 4 years and has been teaching for the past 16 years. Jenny has a two-year degree in childcare as well as Business Management. Jenny operates a mixed age child care with infants, preschoolers and school-age children under the business name of MJ Academy. Jenny grew up in a family child care and has always wanted to work with kids or own her own child care business since she was little. When her now 3 1/2 year-old was born, it was the perfect time to start her own business and she truly loves every moment of it.

MJ Academy is an in-home child care with a child care center atmosphere. Jenny's home has a 950 square foot classroom separated from the main living area. She provides developmentally appropriate activities for children in all areas of early childhood development. Her program offers a balance of teacher-directed and child-centered discovery activities within a stable routine to promote each child's sense of security. She shares the parent's concern for their child and provides a loving, secure and stable atmosphere were children can grow and learn. MJ Academy creates a bright beginning for the 14 children enrolled in her program.

We asked each honoree to share what advice they would give to someone new coming into licensed family child care. Jenny shared, "Working with kids if fun, teaching and watching the kids grow is great and touching the lives of each kid in your care is amazing. Enjoy every moment and make lots of memories for them."

What do the parents of children in care say about MJ Academy? "Jenny has a great space in her home that prepares kids for school" "Jenny's day care is well-structured, curriculum based, and helps children of ALL ages learn to work and play together and prepares them for school." "Jenny is always professional, friendly, and personable. She provides details about how my daughter's day was so I always know how she spent her day." "Jenny is very kind and caring and gives each child special attention."

Jenny and her husband Mark have two daughters Haley and Natalie. Mr. Mark is loved by all. The children are happy to see him when he gets home from work. He is Mr. Fix It for the children! Haley and Natalie will have the same awesome early years and memories as Jenny experienced with her mother who is currently doing family child care! Congratulations, Jenny

# 2015 SCLFCCA Volunteer MICHELLE HERZOG-JORDAN

While we try to teach our children all about life.

Our children teach us what life is all about.

"Angela Schwindt







If you are a provider in Scott County you probably know the name **Michelle Herzog** and recognize her!

**Training Coordinator:** 

- Plans the trainings held in each community
- Plans a full-day conference in spring
- Plans a half-day conference in fall
- Contracts all speakers and submits paperwork to the treasurer
- Types and has the training brochure printed in fall and spring
- ♦ Submits all training to MNCPD for approval
- Handles the registrations for all trainings for SCLFCCA
- ♦ Reminder e-mails for classes
- Registers attendees who submit their MNCPD # at each training
- ♦ Sleeps very little!

The SCLFCCA recognized Michelle for her past, present and continued dedication to providing high quality training at a reasonable cost to our SCLFCCA members and all providers in Scott County and surrounding counties. Thank you for all the time you spend making the SCLFCCA one of the most, if not the most, successful county association in the State of Minnesota.

## Congratulations, Michelle!

SCLFCCA Board
SCLFCCA Members

## **Universal Preschool for 4-Year Olds in Minnesota?**

Universal Preschool for 4-Year Olds is a scary concept to our businesses as licensed family child care providers. The concept of 4-year olds attending school will take a portion of our potential client base from our options to earn a living for our families. For providers who choose not to take infants due to regulations and liability related to their care, this further limits our potential to earn a reasonable living. Some states have had universal preschool for years.

Exchange Everyday had this article sharing one view on universal preschool. The article referenced an article printed many years ago (August 22, 2008) in the Wall Street Journal by Shikha Dalmia and Lisa Snell from the Reason Foundation. In the article they cited evidence that sending 4-year-olds to preschool is not good for the children. Here are several pieces of evidence sited in their article.

- In the last half-century, U.S. preschool attendance has gone up to nearly 70% from 16%. But fourth-grade reading, science, and math scores on the National Assessment of Educational Progress—the nation's report card—have remained virtually stagnant since the early 1970's.
- The results from Oklahoma and Georgia —both of which implemented universal preschool a
  decade or more ago—paint an equally dismal picture. A 2006 analysis by Education Week
  found that Oklahoma and Georgia were among the 10 states that had made the least progress
  on National Assessment of Educational Progress. Oklahoma, in fact, lost ground after it embraced universal preschool.
- If anything, preschool may do lasting damage to many children. A 2005 analysis by researches at Stanford University and the University of California, Berkeley, found that kindergartners with 15 or more hours of preschool every week were less motivated and more aggressive in class. Likewise, Canada's C.D. Howe Institute found a higher incidence of anxiety, hyperactivity, and poor social skills among kids in Quebec after universal preschool.

Along with these facts is our Minnesota focus on having children "Ready for Kindergarten". The question is, will investing money universal pre-school be the answer to having them ready? If universal preschool is housed in public schools, do public schools have rooms available to accommodate the additional students? How will students get to and from school? Bussing? Will there be state funding beyond the initial set up of the program or will individual school districts be expected to take on another mandate without a funding stream?

What can you and I do as providers? Whether you are for universal preschool for 4-year olds or against it, contact your local elected officials who are in the House and Senate in the Minnesota State Legislature. Their session ends in May so let them know your feelings soon. Go to this web site, type in your address, city, and zip code and a list and link to your elected officials will come up.

http://www.gis.leg.mn/OpenLayers/districts/

# SCLFCCA Board Starts a New Initiative Why Family Child Care?

## From a providers point of view

Many people, including legislators who propose the laws under which family child care providers operate, do not have a clue what children learn in a family child care setting. Parents may not know what to look for in programs and assume that any program with the word pre-school and in a public school building is their answer to having educated and successful children when they reach "school age."

The SCLFCCA Board has started a new initiative using social media and technology to tell OUR story. The **Scott County Licensed Family Child Care Association** is creating a resource for families, to share with our potential clients and community members what is special about Family Child Care programs.

We need to tell our story to market our programs. Yes, each of our programs is unique, but we are all focused on the children.

## Examples of Why Family Child Care may include (but certainly are not limited to):

Loving, nurturing home like environment

Small overall group size; mixed age learning environment

Health meals served family style

Consistency of care (low turnover)

Relationship building

Preschool programming that is individually, developmentally, and age appropriate

Convenience for families (located near home)

Strong family support and parent education; being partners rather than clients

Providers dedicated to professionalism

Feelings of safe and secure environment

Committee Members: Carrie Speikers, Roz Adder, Alison Rahn



## Fruit Smoothie for summer snack?

## Does a Fruit Smoothie sound refreshing for a hot summer snack?

Serving Size: 1 cup

Serves: 3

#### Ingredients

2-3 cups of fresh or frozen fruit

1 (6–8 ounce) carton vanilla, plain, or fruitflavored yogurt

1/4 cup milk

3 ice cubes

#### Instructions

- 1. Wash hands.
- 2. Put all ingredients in a blender.
- 3. Blend on high speed until smooth.
- 4. Pour into glasses.

**Nutrition information per serving:** 150 calories, 1.7g total fat, 0.9g saturated fat, 0g trans fat, 5.5mg cholesterol, 61.3mg sodium, 31.5g total carbohydrate, 2.8g fiber, 22.6g sugar, 4.9g protein

This recipe is courtesy of ISU Extension and Outreach's Spend Smart Eat Smart website (www.extension.iastate.edu/foodsavings).





## **Home Food Safety Mythbusters**

Myth: "It is OK to wash bagged greens if I want to. There's no harm!"

Fact: Rinsing leafy greens that are ready to eat (those labeled "washed," "triple washed," or "ready to eat") will not enhance safety and could actually increase the potential for cross-contamination. This means harmful bacteria from your hands or kitchen surfaces could find their way onto the greens while washing them.

## Myth: "I don't need to rinse this melon for safety. The part I eat is on the inside!"

Fact: A knife or peeler passing through the rind can carry harmful bacteria from the outside into the flesh of the melon. The rind also touches edible portions when cut fruit is arranged or stacked for serving and garnish. Rinse melons under running tap water while rubbing with your hands or scrubbing with a clean brush. Dry the melon with a clean cloth or paper towel.

## Myth: "Be sure to rinse or wash raw chicken, turkey, or other poultry before cooking it!"

Fact: Rinsing poultry is an unsafe practice because contaminated water may splash and spread bacteria to other foods and kitchen surfaces.

## Myth: "Cross-contamination doesn't happen in the refrigerator...it's too cold in there for germs to survive!"

Fact: Some harmful bacteria can survive and even grow in cool, moist environments. Keep fresh produce separate from raw meat, poultry, seafood, and eggs. For tips on how to clean and disinfect your refrigerator, go to http://bit.ly/1DeqVeO.

Sources: http://bit.ly/1FQlpQp

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SCLFCCA

Officers & Meetings

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Savage

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**Shakopee** 

Roz Addler

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Web Site Coordinator and

**MLFCCA Alternate Representative** 

**Deloris Friske** 

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friske@frontiernet.net

Up Coming Board Meetings May 11, September 14, October 12, November 9 (Klein Bank-Prior Lake)

## **This and That News**

## Recalls—Get Notified When Recalls Occur

## U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Recalls/ On the right hand side of the home page under "Stay Connected", you can choose "get email alerts".

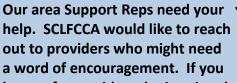
#### Safe Kids

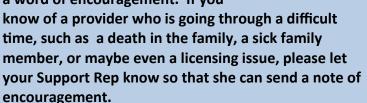
http://www.safekids.org/ Look on the bottom of the page under "Public Policy", click on Recalls and Sign Up in the middle of the page.

## Kids in Danger

http://www.kidsindanger.org/product-hazards/recalls/

## **Support Reps Need Your Help**





## **DID YOU KNOW????**

The Scott County Licensed Family Child Care Association donated \$300 toward the NAFCC Conference in Minnesota? As a beneficiary donor our SCLFCCA logo is on the NAFCC conference page and will be the program.

SCLFCCA also donated \$344 toward the Friday evening "Tribute to Providers". \$1.00 for every SCLFCCA member!

Thank you SCLFCCA!

## **Mentors**

## for the Scott County Licensed Family Child Care Association

The following mentors will be working with participants in the Family Child Care Pathways to Success class. They are available to help any provider in Scott County. Please give them a call if you just need to talk.

## Elko-New Market-Webster-Lakeville:

Karen Smith	952-461-9535
<u>Jordan:</u>	
Kelly Elsenpeter	952-492-5205
Michelle Herzog	952-492-2104
Carrie Speikers	952-492-3811

## New Prague:

Jenny Bartusek	952-758-8655 LeSueur Co.
Karen Von Bank	952-758-2863

## Prior Lake:

Deloris Friske	952-492-3827
----------------	--------------

## 🕠 <mark>Savage:</mark>

Laurie Cornelius	952-894-4284
Virginia McLaughlin	952-440-3479

#### Shakopee:

Lisa Boys	952-445-0632
Cheryl Nelson	952-403-1732
Linda Schesso	952-445-2240
Sarah Stanko	952-445-2679

# Have you attended an event hosted by your Community Support Representative?

Call your support representative listed on page 14 to find out what is planned for your community.

Shakopee: Tour of Homes

**SCLFCCA** 

Box 42

Shakopee, MN 55379

PRESORTED

STANDARD

U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID** 

PRIOR LAKE, MN PERMIT NO. 23



Scott County Licensed Family Child Care Association
Box 42
Shakopee, MN 55379

Phone: 952-492-3811 Carrie Speikers 2015 President E-Mail: sclfcca@yahoo.com

www.SCLFCCA.com

"Providers Working for Providers"

Update your web page today!
Email Deloris at
friske@frontiernet.net

Watch for the date!

Mandatory Training Topics

**Fall Conference** 

October 2015

**Jordan** 



