## Inside this issue:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current News and Updates</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavior Consultant Corner, ACDS News and Med. Admin.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WVIT Schedule and Modules</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Calendar</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Day Care Food Program and FCC News and Grant/Accreditation Information</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Aid and CPR Schedule</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAILS News and Schedule</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Welcome to a very different kind of learning experience!**

The **Mind in the Making Modules** are a 12-part learning process that uses research on children’s development on how children learn and how teachers can encourage engaged learning. The **Mind in the Making Overview** is a quick look at the series and is **required** for child care center/facility directors to attend before sending their teaching staff to the 12 module series. By completing this class you will receive the **Mind in the Making** by Ellen Galinsky!

**$150 in Resources!**

**Training Credit worth 2 years!**

Mind in Making 12 Module Series is WV STARS Registered—
45 hours in these Core Competency areas:

- Child Growth/Development—6
- Positive Interactions/Relationships—12
- Curriculum—15
- Child Observation/Assessment —3
- Professionalism—9

Mind in the Making Overview is WV STARS registered—
1.5 hours in Program Management.

---

**Link Inclement Weather Policy Regarding Link Training Sessions**

In the case that school is cancelled or on a two hour delay in Cabell County or the county in which a training is scheduled, it will be cancelled for that day and you will be contacted when it is rescheduled. Thank for your cooperation.

---

**Link Child Care Resource & Referral**

A Program of River Valley Child Development Services Funded through the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Children and Families, Division of Early Care and Education.

---

**Link Mind in the Making**

April 27 & 28, 2012
Big Sandy Superstore Conference Center

You won’t want to miss keynote speakers Gaia and Terry Smith!

Leadership Institute
April 26, 2012
Marshall University
Speaker: Karen Penetta

---

---

---

---
Behavior Consultant Corner by Shannon Taylor

When working with children, one of the most important things we can do is to build solid relationships with them. Children crave consistency and have a need to trust the adults in their lives. By simply taking the time to get to know a child, you will begin establishing this trust and forming a bond that can potentially carry him through stressful times in his life. Yes, children experience stress, too! It comes in all forms, from major life changes (divorce, death, moving to a new neighborhood, etc.) to the perils of daily living (parents running late, arguments with siblings, losing a library book, etc.). Here are some simple ways to build relationships with children:

1. Learn about their interests and have open-ended conversations about them.
2. Give lots of verbal (“Way to go!”, “You did it!”, “You’re a rock star!”) and non-verbal (high-fives, thumbs-up, pats on the back) acknowledgment of children’s efforts.
3. Call a child’s parents in front of her to tell them what a GREAT day she is having! (So often when we pick up the phone, it’s to address challenging behaviors and not the good stuff!)
4. Greet every child and parent by name!
5. Encourage children to bring and discuss many pictures of their loved ones. Post these pictures around the room at the children’s eye level.

As you work on strengthening your relationships with the children in your care, remember to individualize your efforts. Each child has different needs and interests, but every single one of them needs at least one positive, loving, and nurturing relationship in their lives. Let that be the relationship they have with you. You can start making a difference TODAY!

Warmest regards,
Shannon

“Every child needs one person who is crazy about him.”

~ Uri Bronfenbrenner

Huntington’s Kitchen—Free Cooking Matters for Child Care Professionals Classes offered.

As a child care provider, you play a crucial role in helping children get the nourishment they need to grow and thrive. Throughout the training in Cooking Matters for Child Care Professionals, you will participate in a variety of hands-on activities that will help you improve your skills at planning and preparing delicious, healthy, and low-cost meals for the children in your care. You will also learn how to work with children to encourage healthy eating habits that will stick with them for life. Cooking Matters for Child Care Professionals is a five week course that meets on five consecutive Saturdays with each class lasting approximately two hours in length.

The next modules will run from Saturday, January 14—February 11 and Saturday, February 25—March 24. All cooking materials are provided and there is no charge to attend the class. The Module is also registered with WV STARS.

To register, or with questions, contact Rachel at Huntington’s Kitchen (304) 522-0887.
Infant/Toddler Corner by Paula Stewart

The New Year brings with it a new opportunity for Infant/Toddler caregivers. The West Virginia Infant/Toddler Network launched two pilot sites for WEST VIRGINIA INFANT/TODDLER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR CAREGIVERS (WVIT II): RELATIONSHIP-BASED CARE during the fall of 2010. Barring any major revisions, you will have the opportunity to experience WVIT 2 for yourselves beginning March 8, 2012. The administrator’s modules will take place in February. See the training calendar for specific dates. WVIT 2 is available to Infant/Toddler caregivers and administrators who have successfully completed WVIT 1. WVIT 2 consists of a 10 hour course for caregivers (10 classroom sessions and a practicum) and a six hour course for administrators (2 classroom sessions). Yes, these are STARS registered trainings. WVIT 2 focuses on the heart of quality care - the relationship of the caregiver with the child, the child’s family, and with colleagues. Through this course, caregivers and administrators have the opportunity to examine the relationships in their infant/toddler programs and learn strategies for assessing and strengthening the quality of their programs with respect to those relationships. The content for WVIT 2 for Caregivers is presented in the following three modules (35 classroom hours) with a 20 hour practicum (equaling 10 classroom hours) to be completed side-by-side with the modules. WVIT 2 is presented in three modules:

**Module I - Relationships: The Key to Quality Infant/Toddler Care**
- Supported by the Unique Development of Infants and Toddlers

**Module III - Strategy for Action: Applying Reflective Observation and Assessment Strategies**

Contact me for information about WVIT 2. WVIT I is still available to Infant/Toddler Caregivers see the Training Calendar for dates.

**Contact Information**

**WVIT 2 Dates**

**Admin Module 1 Feb. 9th**
- 9:00 - 12:00

**Session 1: March 8th 9:00 - 12:30**

**Session 2: March 15th 9:00 - 12:30**

**Session 3: March 22nd 9:00 - 12:30**

**Session 4: March 29th 9:00 - 12:30**

**Session 5: April 5th 9:00 - 12:30**

**Session 6: April 12th 9:00 - 12:30**

**Session 7: April 19th 9:00 - 12:30**

**Session 8: May 3rd 9:00 - 12:30**

**Session 9: May 10th 9:00 - 12:30**

**Session 10: May 17th 9:00 - 12:30**

**TACIT I**

**Session 5: April 10th 10:00 - 2:30**

**Session 6: April 17th 10:00 - 3:30**

**Session 7: April 24th 10:00 - 2:30**

**Session 8: May 1st 10:00 - 4:00**

**Session 9: May 8th 10:00 - 3:30**

**Session 10: May 15th 10:00 - 12:30**

Meet our NEW Early Childhood Specialists

In October, two new Early Childhood Specialists joined the Link Professional Development Training Team. We’d like to welcome Dawn and Amber to our Team!

**Hi, my name is Dawn Snyder.**
I will be providing training and technical assistance. I grew up in St. Albans, WV. I have two grown children—Jordan and Jillian. I also have a dog, Winston, who I adore!
I attended WUSC and graduated from one of the first ACDS classes offered. This motivated me to go on and obtain an AA Degree as a Child Development Specialist, then to complete my BA Degree. I have been in the early childhood education field for 25 years. I began as a pre-school teacher in Nashville, TN. I then was a Director for a Child Care Center in Charleston for many years. I most recently was an Early Childhood Specialist for HeadStart.
My enthusiastic experiences are what I proudly bring to work each day. I am so lucky to get to do what I love for a living!

**Hello everyone! My name is Amber Collier.**
I was born and raised in Charleston, WV. After High School, I moved to Huntington where I received my masters degree in Early Childhood Education Special Needs from Marshall University. I was also a student teacher at various childcare centers and worked closely with children while earning my Bachelors Degree. I will be 26 years old, and I have a six month old daughter. Before coming to River Valley, I heard nothing but positive remarks from the public regarding Link. I am excited and honored about working with the providers and RVCDS Staff in upholding high standards and quality for early childhood education and childcare.

Paula Stewart is the Infant Toddler Specialist at Link. You can reach her at (304) 523-9540 Ext. 228 or 1-800-894-9540 or Paula.L.Stewart@wv.gov for information regarding WVIT or Infant and Toddler Care.

WVIT II focuses on the heart of quality care - the relationship of the caregiver with the child, the child’s family, and with colleagues.

Welcome Amber Collier and Dawn Snyder, New Link CCR&R Early Childhood Specialists
Training Calendar and Information

IMPORTANT TRAINING INFORMATION

1. All trainings begin promptly at the scheduled time. Please arrive before the session begins. If you miss 15 or more minutes during the course of any training session, you will not receive credit for that training.
2. If you are disruptive or prevent the Trainer from staying on task, you will be asked to leave and your Regulatory Specialist will be notified.
3. If you sign up for a training and do not call to cancel at least 24 hours in advance, your Regulatory Specialist will be notified.
4. No cell phones or electronic devices may be used during the training sessions.
5. You may not bring children to any Link training session.
6. You must bring a picture ID to all trainings.
7. You are responsible for keeping your training certificates on file. All trainings we offer are registered with WV STARS.
8. You must register for training sessions at least 24 hours in advance.

Family Child Care Providers must complete eight (8) hours of training in at least two (2) different core competency areas (see box on right) each year according to the date on your individual certificate of registration.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR TRAINING:
To register or cancel your registration, please call Link at (304) 523-9540 or 1-800-894-9540 or e-mail Nikki Cavalier Rabel at Nikki.C.Rabel@wv.gov. When e-mailing or leaving a voice mail message, please clearly state the date and location of the session(s) you wish to attend and leave a contact phone number.

For additional Training Opportunities in our region and throughout the state check out the WV Early Childhood Training Connections and Resources (WVECTCR) Training Calendar at http://ww.wvearlychildhood.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of the Training</th>
<th>Title of the Training</th>
<th><em>Core Comp</em></th>
<th><em>Tier</em></th>
<th><em>Target Age/Area</em></th>
<th>Location of the Training</th>
<th>Time of Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. Jan. 12</td>
<td>Look to Learn, Learn to Look: Objective Observations</td>
<td>COA</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>St. Joseph Catholic School Parish Hall</td>
<td>3:00—5:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., Jan. 17</td>
<td>Once Upon a Time: Storytelling</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Link CCR&amp;R 611 7th Ave., Huntington</td>
<td>3:00—5:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. Feb. 9</td>
<td>Let’s Get Organized</td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Link CCCR&amp;R</td>
<td>1:00—3:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. Feb. 25</td>
<td>Get Up and Dance!</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>West End Library 901 14th St., Huntington</td>
<td>10:00—12:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Codes for Training Chart*

*Core Competency*:
- CGD Child Growth and Development
- HSN Health, Safety and Nutrition
- PIR Positive Interactions & Relationships
- COA Child Observation and Assessment
- PM Program Management
- FC Family and Community
- C Curriculum
- P Professionalism
- *Tier*
  - Tier I Beginner level
  - Tier II Intermediate
  - Tier III Advanced
- *Targeted Age/Area*:
  - IT Infant/Toddler
  - PRE Pre-School
  - SAC School Age Care
  - CB Center Based
  - FCC Family Child Care Providers
  - ADM Administration
  - ALL Targets All Areas
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of the Training</th>
<th>Title of the Training</th>
<th>Core Comp</th>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Targeted Age/Area</th>
<th>Location of the Training</th>
<th>Time of Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning March 6</td>
<td>West Virginia Infant Toddler Modules (WVIT) See page 3 for more information.</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Link CCR&amp;R</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginning March 8</td>
<td>West Virginia Infant Toddler Modules 2 (WVIT 2) See page 3 for more information.</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Link CCR&amp;R</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. March 8</td>
<td>Sense-ational Sensory Play</td>
<td>C/CGD</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>C-K Library 1200 Oak St., Kenova</td>
<td>2:00-4:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. March 22</td>
<td>Developmentally Appropriate Practice</td>
<td>CGD/PIR</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Link CCR&amp;R</td>
<td>2:00—4:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. March 26</td>
<td>Routines and Rituals</td>
<td>CGD</td>
<td>III</td>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Link CCR&amp;R</td>
<td>5:00-7:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Logan, Mingo and Boone Counties**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title of the Training</th>
<th>Core Comp</th>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Targeted Age/Area</th>
<th>Location of the Training</th>
<th>Time of Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. Jan. 19</td>
<td>Challenging Behaviors: Where do we Begin?</td>
<td>PIR</td>
<td>III</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Logan Library 1 Wildcat Way, Logan</td>
<td>11:00-1:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues. Feb 21</td>
<td>It’s all in the Process: Open-Ended Art</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Boone County Health Dept. 213 Kennmore Dr., Danville</td>
<td>11:00-1:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. March 22</td>
<td>It’s all in the Process: Open-Ended Art</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Logan Library</td>
<td>10:00-12:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. March 30</td>
<td>Family Involvement</td>
<td>FC</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Mingo County DHHR</td>
<td>10:00-12:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Lincoln County**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title of the Training</th>
<th>Core Comp</th>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Targeted Age/Area</th>
<th>Location of the Training</th>
<th>Time of Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed. Feb. 15</td>
<td>Too Much of a Good Thing: Sensory Integration</td>
<td>C/PIR</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Hamlin Library 7999 Lynn St., Hamlin</td>
<td>10:00-12:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. March 24</td>
<td>Attachments and Separation</td>
<td>PIR</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Hamlin Library</td>
<td>10:00-12:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mason County**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title of the Training</th>
<th>Core Comp</th>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Targeted Age/Area</th>
<th>Location of the Training</th>
<th>Time of Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. Feb 23</td>
<td>Sing a Song with Me</td>
<td>C/CGD</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Mason County Public Library 508 Viand St., Pt. Pleasant</td>
<td>10:00-12:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Putnam County**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title of the Training</th>
<th>Core Comp</th>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Targeted Age/Area</th>
<th>Location of the Training</th>
<th>Time of Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon. Jan. 23</td>
<td>It’s Not Just Small Talk</td>
<td>CGD</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Putnam County Library 4219 Rt. 34, Hurricane</td>
<td>3:00-5:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. Feb. 13</td>
<td>Let’s Get Organized</td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Putnam County Library</td>
<td>3:00-5:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. March 15</td>
<td>Knock Out Bullying</td>
<td>PIR/CGD</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>PRE/ SAC</td>
<td>Putnam County Library</td>
<td>4:00-6:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For more information on the new My Plate Food Guidelines go to www.choosemyplate.gov.

**STRENGTHENING FAMILIES**

We have several items intended to help build the **STRENGTHENING FAMILIES** initiative in your program. For a complete list of these materials, please contact Nikki C. Rabel at (304) 523-9540 Ext. 106 or Nikki.C.Rabel@wv.gov.

**Family Child Care Provider Grants**

Family Child Care Providers are eligible to apply for grants of up to **$250**. These grants can be used to purchase resources required in regulations, curriculum materials and/or to pay for **WV STARS application fees**. We often have the following items in stock: First Aid Kits, Fire Extinguishers, Digital Ear Thermometers, Flash Lights, Carbon Monoxide and Smoke Detectors.

You must turn in receipts for the money you spend. Failure to do so will make you ineligible for future Family Child Care Grants and other grants that may become available through Link.

Contact Mary Bridgette at (304) 523-9540 or 1-800-894-9540 with questions or to request an application.

---

**Family Child Care Food Program by Tammy Leonard**

For more information on enrolling on the Family Child Care Food Program to help with the costs of meals and snacks you serve the children in your care, please contact the following agency in your area:

**Central Child Care**
Serving Boone County
304-382-0797

**Pride of Logan County**
Serving Logan County
304-752-6868 or 304 752-1047

**River Valley Family Day Care Food Program**
Serving Cabell, Wayne, Lincoln, Putnam, Mason and Mingo Counties
523-3031 or 1-800-581-3031

**Family Child Care Association (CWFCA) News by Kathy Baker**

Looking for a group of Family Child Care Providers to talk with, network with and build relationships with others who are also caring for children in their homes? Then this is the group for you.

The Cabell Wayne Family Child Care Association would like to invite all Family Child Care Providers to join us. All of our meetings are registered with WV STARS and you will receive one or two hours of credit. We also offer other training session, from time to time, which are WV STARS registered. We would like to see more providers take an active role in the Association. Please come join us and if you have any questions, feel free to contact Kathy Baker, President at (304) 529-6346.

**WV Family Child Care Association News by Tammy Eubank**

The West Virginia Family Child Care Association is kicking off their Annual Membership Drive on December 1, 2011. The provider turning in the most paid memberships will receive a new baby bed. Remember parents, friends, family, business partners can join. We want to encourage everyone to work toward our goal of supporting West Virginia’s children. We wish everyone the best of luck and remember all family child care providers can use their grant money towards their membership fees.

On October 30, 2011 we had our first Annual Board Meeting in Parkersburg. Our President, Melissa, announced several great ideas for this upcoming year. We will meet again on November 13 at 2pm at the Cross Lanes Golden Corral. Any members wishing to participate on the membership or the conference committees are encouraged to attend. We are looking forward to another great year supporting the family child care providers in our state.

Join today at www.westvirginiafamilychildcare.com
First Aid and CPR Classes

This list of agencies offering First Aid and CPR is made available to you for resource purposes only. Link is not responsible for the following trainings or registration for these trainings.

Boone County  First Aid and CPR available at Kanawha Co. Red Cross (see below) or by request at Charleston 340-3650.

Cabell County  First Aid and CPR available at Triad Tech 431 5th Ave. Huntington—529-7020.
CPR available at St. Mary’s Medical Center—526-1302.
First Aid and CPR Classes at Cabell County EMS—526-9797.
CPR with First Aid available at American Red Cross. 1111 Veteran’s Memorial Blvd. 304-526-2900.
First Aid and CPR available at Salt Rock Fire Dept. Instructor—Darrell Ennis. 733–9040.

Logan County  First Aid and CPR available at LEASA County Public Rescue 26 1/2 Main Ave, Logan—752-0917.
Classes also available at Logan Regional Medical Center 831-1556.

Lincoln County  For First Aid or CPR Contact Dorothy or William Frazier 778-3873.

Mason County  Pleasant Valley Hospital offers First Aid and CPR Classes. Call 675-4340 to make an appointment.
CPR 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Mason County Health Department. Call (304) 675-3050 to register.

Mingo County  Williamson Memorial Hospital—Contact Tracey Booth at 235-2500, Ext. 147.

Putnam County  First Aid and CPR available at Red Cross Building in Kanawha Co.—340-3650 or www-redcross.org. Evening classes are available.
Classes also offered at Red Cross Building in Putnam County—3268 Winfield Rd. (Rt. 35) — 586-0238 or 340-3650
CPR and First Aid is offered by Tina Kyle. 561-4674.

Wayne County  First Aid and CPR available. Instructor Kathy Parsons. 486-5991.

You can contact local Hospitals or Fire Departments for other options.

Remember all of these fees are tax deductible.

TRAILLS Corner by Tiffany Marcum

Happy Holidays from the T.R.A.I.L.S. Van!!!

Winter has arrived! What an exciting time this can be for children of all ages. Although it does mean colder weather and probably a little snow, that does not mean we have to become bears and hibernate inside all winter long. In fact, that is the last thing we would want to do with our children. There is a movement spreading here in our state, but also, throughout the nation as a whole. This new idea is called “I am Moving, I am Learning.” Possibly you have heard of it, or better yet, maybe you have already incorporated it into your curriculum. I have just recently been introduced to the idea and believe it is a great way to get our children active and healthy in an educational fashion. “I am Moving, I am Learning” focuses on the idea that children need to be up and active during their day. Childhood obesity is becoming an epidemic across the nation. The more we can have the children moving and active the more we are helping with their nutritional health.

“Childhood obesity is becoming an epidemic across the nation. The more we can have the children moving and active the more we are helping with their nutritional health.”

Anniversary to the TRAILS Program!

Welcome Tiffany Marcum, our new TRAILS Specialist, pictured above with Virena Elkins, our TRAILS Associate.
Link CCR&R

Link Child Care Resource and Referral a Program of River Valley Child Development Services
611 7th Ave., Suite 200
Huntington, WV 25701
Phone: (304) 523-9540 or 1-800-894-9540
Fax: (304) 697-4821
Web Address: www.wvdhhr.org/Link

River Valley Child Development Services
Serving Children and Families since 1971

We’re on the web!
www.wvdhhr.org/Link

Happy 10th Anniversary to the TRAILS Program!