Research on best practices has taught us that Technical Assistance (TA) relationships with early childhood professionals increases the quality of care. In an effort to move toward offering more hands-on, specific training that will meet your individual needs, we will begin offering more On-Site Technical Assistance in our region.

Technical Assistance can be long term or short term. Long Term TA could include an in-depth center wide approach utilizing the Environment Rating Scales (Harms, Clifford, Cryer) to assess the physical classroom setting and interactions to determine areas of strengths and weaknesses. Short term TA, could include observations, modeling, support and guidance with on-going follow-up, as needed.

Technical Assistance can be registered as a WV STARS training, if it meets the criteria. The goal of Technical Assistance is for the Early Childhood Specialist, in collaboration with the caregiver and administrator, to develop an individual plan of action for quality improvement based on the scale results or observations made by the Early Childhood Specialists. Short term and/or long term goals will be developed and the Professional Development Training Team at Link will work with individuals to meet the identified goals.

Technical Assistance is available to Child Care Centers, Facilities and Family Child Care Providers.

If you are interested in scheduling a Technical Assistance visit, contact Nikki Cavalier Rabel, Professional Development Training Team Supervisor at Nikki.C.Rabel@wv.gov or (304) 523-9540 Ext. 106.

Site-Specific Technical Assistance is available to you through the Link Professional Development Training Team.

Save the Date
September 14 & 15
Waterfront Place Hotel
Morgantown, WV
Hello! I hope everyone is doing well and that your summer is off to a good start!

I wanted to take this opportunity to tell you about a book I stumbled upon recently...some of you may have even heard of it already!

It’s called “Personal Space Camp” by Julia Cook. It is geared toward ages 4 and up, and is a wonderful resource for helping children who have difficulty understanding and respecting the personal space of others. Within the story, a teacher uses a unique strategy with hula hoops to help a boy named Louis understand the concept of personal space.

As a child care provider, you could introduce this story during Circle Time (or even read it to the children as they are engaged in other activities such as meal times, puzzles, blocks, etc.) and then practice implementing the same strategy with your own hula hoops. (If you do not have hula hoops, you can borrow them from the TRAILS Van!)

The story is told from the perspective of Louis, and I believe children will have an easy time relating to his thought process as the story-line progresses. I found this book online for around $10, but it is also available as a resource to check out on the TRAILS van. If you have a child in your care who gets a little too close for comfort, then “Personal Space Camp” may be the book for you!

Until next time, enjoy the rest of your summer and don’t let anyone invade your personal space!

Warmest regards,
Shannon

Many child care centers currently transport in 12 or 15-passenger vans. Effective September 1, 2012, these vehicles will be prohibited for use at all licensed child care centers. Beginning September 1, 2012, the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (WVDHHR) will require that all vehicles the child care agency operates or are otherwise under its direction or control that are designed to carry ten (10) or more passengers, conform to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) governing either “large” school buses, “small” school buses or “multifunction school activity busses” (MFSAB), as applicable. These standards are described in 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 571, or as such Part may be amended. This rule will not affect providers who transport in family cars, SUVs and passenger vans which are designed to carry nine or fewer passengers. Please note that all vehicles operated by a licensed child care center are required to comply with all passenger restraint requirements.


Infant/Toddler Corner by Paula Stewart

SAVE THE DATE!
It hardly seems possible that it is time once again to make plans to attend Great Beginnings! This year’s conference is September 14-15 at the Waterfront Place in Morgantown, WV. The cozy room for providers was a hit last year and will be available to you again this year. We have great speakers lined up for you all this year. Just a reminder, to be eligible to attend an administrator from your center must have completed the WVIT for Administrators module. You must be a participant or have completed WVIT or have completed the first two semesters of ACDS. Remember, your administrator must have a current WV STARS number.

This conference is a wonderful opportunity to network with caregivers from around state and learn more about infant/toddler care. Of course, all the sessions are WV STARS registered. You will be taking some of the resources back to your program, so remember to leave room in your travel vehicle to bring home your goodies.

You will receive a listing of items that will be available at the end of the conference in your confirmation packet. Mark items most urgently needed for your classroom. We will collect the list at the beginning of the conference to assist us with distribution of resources. Please do not send pictures this year.

Space is limited so remember to sign up soon! Give me a call or send me an e-mail if you need an application or more information.
304-523-9540 or 800-894-9540 Ext. 228 Paula.L.Stewart@wv.gov

FYI
Just a few summer time tips:

- Keep infants under six months out direct sunlight. Find a shade tree or umbrella.
- For infants and toddlers over six months apply sunscreen 30 minutes before going outdoors, it needs time to absorb into the skin.
- Sun exposure should be limited between the hours of 10:00 am and 2:00 pm when the sun’s rays are the strongest.
- Wear a hat or cap with a brim that faces forward to protect the face.
- Use a sunscreen with a SPF rating of 15 or higher.
- Go outside and enjoy some fun in the sun!

Resource: Caring for Our Children 2011 Pg. 126
Keep on the lookout for WVIT II in 2013.

Cooking Matters for Child Care Professionals at Huntington’s Kitchen

The next Cooking Matters for Child Care Professionals Module at Huntington’s Kitchen will begin on Saturday, June 30th and run through five consecutive Saturdays, ending on July 28th. Huntington’s Kitchen is located at 911 3rd Ave. in Huntington, across from Pullman Square.

Each class begins at 10:00 am and ends at noon. There is no cost to attend this module. Upon graduation, each participant will receive Cooking Matters gifts along with the participant book containing numerous hands-on activities, child friendly recipes, and nutrition related tips for the classroom.

Contact Marisa Blatt at Huntington’s Kitchen to register or for more information. You can reach Marisa at (304)840-5399 or by e-mail at marisabhatt@emohealth.org.

WVIT Dates

WVIT for Administrators
July 12, 10:00 – 5:00
WVIT Session One
July 26, 10:00-3:30
WVIT Session Two
August 2, 10:00-2:30
WVIT Session Three
August 9, 10:00 – 3:30
WVIT Session Four
August 16, 10:00 – 2:30
TACIT 1
WVIT Session Five
August 30, 10:00-2:30
WVIT Session Six
September 6, 10:00 – 12:30
WVIT Session Seven
September 20, 10:00 – 2:30
WVIT Session Eight
September 27, 10:00 – 4:00
WVIT Session Nine
October 4, 10:00 – 3:30
WVIT Session Ten
October 11, 10:00-12:30
TACIT 2
* We will not have a WVIT session on September 13th as I will be in Morgantown preparing for Great Beginnings.

Link is Going Green!

If you would like to receive an electronic copy of this quarterly newsletter, as opposed to the paper copy in the mail, please e-mail your request to Tracey.D.Salyers@wv.gov.
**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.

**TO REGISTER** for a training or to cancel your registration, please call Link at (304) 523-9540 Ext. 106 or 1-800-894-9540 or e-mail Nikki Cavalier Rabel at Nikki.C.Rabel@wv.gov. When e-mailing or leaving a message, please clearly state the date and location of the session(s) you wish to attend and leave a contact phone number. Thank You.

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://www.wvearlychildhood.org](http://www.wvearlychildhood.org)

### Training Calendar and Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of the Training</th>
<th>Title of the Training</th>
<th>Core Comp</th>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Target Age/Area</th>
<th>Location of the Training</th>
<th>Time of Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning July 26</td>
<td>West Virginia Infant Toddler Modules (WVIT) See page 3 for more information.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Link CCR&amp;R</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. July 19</td>
<td>Learn to Plan, Plan to Play, Play to Learn</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>SAC</td>
<td>Link CC&amp;R</td>
<td>6:00-8:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues. July 24</td>
<td>1-2-3 Grow with Me: Child Development from A-Z</td>
<td>CGD</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Link CCR&amp;R</td>
<td>10:00-12:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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

*Notes:*

- Cabell and Wayne Counties
- Dates and times subject to change.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Target Audience</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues., July 24</td>
<td>Discoveries of Infancy</td>
<td>CGD</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>IT</td>
<td>C-K Library 1200 Oak St. Kenova</td>
<td>3:00-5:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs. Aug. 2</td>
<td>Introduction to the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale—Revised (ECERS-R)</td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>PRE</td>
<td>Link CCR&amp;R</td>
<td>5:00-7:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. Aug. 24</td>
<td>Family Involvement</td>
<td>FC</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Link CCR&amp;R</td>
<td>2:00-4:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Sept. 10</td>
<td>Knock Out Bullying</td>
<td>PIR/C</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>PRE/SAC</td>
<td>Link CCR&amp;R</td>
<td>4:00-6:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. Sept. 12</td>
<td>Let’s Give ‘em Something to Talk About</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Link CCR&amp;R</td>
<td>5:00-7:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed., Sept. 19</td>
<td>Developmentally Appropriate Practice</td>
<td>CGD/PIR</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>C-K Library 1200 Oak St. Kenova</td>
<td>2:00-4:00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Logan, Mingo and Boone Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Target Audience</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues. July 24</td>
<td>It’s All in the Process Open Ended Art</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Mingo County DHHR 205 E. 3rd St. Williamson</td>
<td>1:00-3:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. Aug. 17</td>
<td>1-2-3 Grow with Me: Child Development from A-Z</td>
<td>CGD</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Logan Library</td>
<td>10:00-12:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues. Aug. 21</td>
<td>Safety Net: The Internet and Kids</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>III</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Boone County Health Dept. 213 Kenmore Dr., Danville</td>
<td>1:00-3:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. Sept. 20</td>
<td>Food For Thought: Eating Well on a Budget</td>
<td>HSN</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Logan Library</td>
<td>1:00-3:00</td>
</tr>
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### Lincoln County

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Target Audience</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues. Aug., 14</td>
<td>What Do You Do with the Mad That You Feel?</td>
<td>PIR</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Hamlin Library 7999 Lynn St., Hamlin</td>
<td>10:00-12:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mason County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Target Audience</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri. July 6</td>
<td>Food For Thought: Eating Well on a Budget</td>
<td>HSN</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Mason County Library 508 Viand St., Pt Pleasant</td>
<td>1:00-3:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. Sept. 6</td>
<td>Making a Difference: Mandate to Report Responsibility to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect</td>
<td>HSN</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Mason County Library 508 Viand St., Pt Pleasant</td>
<td>4:00-6:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Putnam County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Target Audience</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed. July 25</td>
<td>Cooking with Kids</td>
<td>HSN</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>PRE</td>
<td>Putnam County Library 4219 Rt. 34, Hurricane</td>
<td>3:00-5:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. Aug. 29</td>
<td>Lesson Planning with Math and Science</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>First Baptist Academy</td>
<td>1:00-3:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. Sept. 17</td>
<td>Young at Art</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Putnam County Library 4219 Rt. 34, Hurricane</td>
<td>5:00-7:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Family Day Care Food Program Corner

For information on enrolling in 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
304-752-6888 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

In accordance with the Federal Law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age or disability. USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The Child Care Food Programs funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is administered by the West Virginia Department of Education.

Family Child Care Association News by Kathy Baker

The Cabell Wayne Family Child Care Association is open to all counties now, not just Cabell and Wayne. All of our meetings are registered with WV STARS and you will receive ONE or TWO hours credit. We also offer other trainings, from time to time, which are WV STARS registered.

We want to thank the new providers that attended our May meeting and made for great discussions. We are excited about starting to pursue GRANTS that will provide family providers with needed equipment and supplies for our Family Child Care Homes. Come join so you can take advantage of these grants and discussions. If you have any questions feel free to call me Kathy Baker, President, at 304-529-6246 or email me at mrskathys@comcast.net so I can add you to our email list. You will receive information about the Association and other helpful information. Our next meeting will be Aug. 11 at 10:00 at the Link Office.

Family Child Care Grants Are Available

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. 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.

We often have the following items in stock: First Aid Kits, Flash Lights, Fire Extinguishers, Digital Ear Thermometers, Carbon Monoxide and Smoke Detectors.

Contact Cristie Dunbar at (304) 523-9540/1-800-894-9540 Ext. 121 or Cristie.R.Dunbar@wv.gov for more information.

Remember to serve fresh fruits and vegetables when in season. Seeds are available from the TRAILS Van to plant your own garden with children.
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.

First Aid and CPR (Heartsaver class) available at St. Mary’s Medical Center— 529-1302.

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 LEAS 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

**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.**

TRAILS Corner by Tiffany Marcum

Summer is fast approaching, and a lot of us are extremely busy preparing for it and all it brings. Schools will be letting out and Headstarts and Pre-K Classrooms will be closing for the season. Summer is a fun time for everyone. Those who enjoy it the most though, are the children that have been in school for the last nine months, and are now ready to “kick back and relax.” The summer months are a well deserved, much needed break for those children. However, during these months, we as parents and educators do not want our children to lose what they learned over the last nine months, nor do we want our children to cease learning over the summer. Although the children will not be in a formal classroom, that does not mean they do not have the ability or resources to continue to foster and mature their minds. Much research has been done proving that children often learn best when “playing” or just carrying out everyday activities. These everyday life experiences and encounters are what stick with children the most. When we actually participate in a new activity or have some sort of “hands-on” experience, our minds retain that. We remember it a little better than if we have just read or studied the idea of the activity. Please do not be afraid to allow your children or the children in your care to play and have a good time indoors and out. Instead of trying to be a “teacher,” be their guide and coach them along. By the end of summer, when school is getting ready to begin next year, you will not see a loss of knowledge. Instead you, and maybe even the child, will see how far they have come and the new things they learned. If you do not have resources, games, toys, books, or even ideas for what to do with the children over the summer, DO NOT FRET! We here on the T.R.A.I.L.S. Van have just what you need to get you through. We are available all summer long. We can come visit you at your home or center, or you can make an appointment to meet us at our office. You can reach us at 304-523-9540 or 1-800-894-9540 ext. 112 or 122.

We will do as much as we can to accommodate you and your needs. We hope you enjoy the warm weather and hopefully learn a little something along with the children.

**TRAILS Corner by Tiffany Marcum**

TRAILS Corner by Tiffany Marcum, TRAILS Specialist, and Virena Elkins, TRAILS Associate at (304) 524-9450 to schedule a visit!
Link Child Care Resource and Referral

c/o 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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Link Child Care Resource and Referral
Child Care Provider’s Newsletter and Professional Development Information

Link Child Care Resource and Referral is a program of River Valley Child Development Services and is funded through the WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Children, Division of Early Care and Education.

Visit us on the web at www.wvdhhr.org/Link