



News From The Heart



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Summer 2015

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WV STARS Changes: What You Need to Know

Jaime Price, Early Childhood Specialist

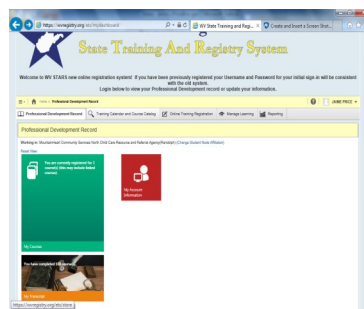
Changes have been made to the WV State Training and Registry System (WV STARS) that all providers must be made aware of. Previously, there had been eight core knowledge and competency areas; child growth and development, family and community, child observation and assessment, curriculum, health safety and nutrition, positive interactions and relationships, program management, and professionalism. There are now seven core knowledge areas; child growth and development, family and community relationships, child observation and assessment, environment and curriculum, health safety and nutrition, professionalism and leadership, and administration and management. You may notice positive interactions and relationships is no longer listed. This is because we should be building healthy and positive relationships with one another in everything that we do, right?

The training registration method is also going to be changing significantly after the July-September training quarter. MountainHeart will continue to distribute a newsletter, but it will only contain the training calendar and other like events.

Family home providers had never been required to register with WV STARS, but in order to register for professional development opportunities you must go to <http://wvstars.org/> and become a “registry participant.” Becoming a registry participant does not require all the documentation needed to obtain a career pathway credential. This simply gives you a WV STARS number so you can access the training calendar to register for trainings. Enclosed in the newsletter are instructions for going online to apply for a WV STARS Registry Profile Account.

If you are already credentialed with a WV STARS number, you can go to <http://wvstars.org/> and click the green “Professionals” tab. Then, you will click on the blue “login” tab. This brings you to a screen where you enter your WV STARS number as your login ID. Unless you have already been in the new system, logged in, and changed your password, your password will be your WV STARS number again. It is strongly recommended you change your password once you log in.

Once you have logged in, you will see a screen like this...



There you will see grey tabs toward the top portion of the screen, click on “Training Calendar and Course Catalog.” You will know you are on the right page because it will say “Welcome to the Course Catalog of the West Virginia State Training and Registry System!” You then have the option of searching by a drop down box of the core knowledge areas or you click the tab to get a calendar view. There is also a search bar to the right where you are able to narrow your search by entering any part of a course name or a city, county, or location.

Another change to be aware of is regarding certificates. During the transition, trainers may use the new system or may still hand out certificates until July 31, 2016. However, as of August 1, 2016 you will no longer receive an evaluation and certificate at the end of a class by the presenter. After a training has been conducted, trainers will have 5 days to enter attendance into the new system. You will have to check your WV STARS profile and click on the class you attended, which will show a tab which says “complete evaluation”. Once you have completed the online evaluation, you will be able to print the certificate for your records.

If you need assistance, you can call WV STARS toll free at 855-822-7827 or email wvstars@rvcds.org. Help is also available by calling staff at your local MountainHeart office. Elkins 304-637-2840, Grafton 304-265-0142, Weston 304-269-5332, Petersburg 304-257-9375 Martinsburg 304-262-1584



How to Apply for a WV STARS Registry Profile Account Online?

1. Complete the **Applicant Information** tab and select **NEXT**
2. Read and mark Agree to the **Participant Agreement** then select **NEXT**
3. Complete the **Employment Information** tab information and select **NEXT**
4. Complete the **Demographic Information** tab information and select **NEXT**
5. Complete the **Next Steps** tab by choosing WV STARS Registry Applicant and select **REGISTER**

[Apply Online Now](#)



West Virginia
State Training And Registry System

ENROLL NOW

Now Offering Two Enrollment Options

Type of Applicant	Requirements	Benefits
Career Pathway Participant <small>*Required for Qualified Staff working in a Licensed Child Care Center</small>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete an Online or Paper Career Pathway Application • Attach a Copy of Resume indicating years of experience • Attach Education Documentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View Professional Development Record Online • View/Print Training Certificate Online • Enroll in Training on the Training Calendar online • Awarded a Career Pathway Credential
Registry Participant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete an Online Application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View Professional Development Record Online • View/Print Training Certificate Online • Enroll in Training on the Training Calendar online

As of August 1, 2016 all Training Certificates will be awarded online through your WV STARS Registry Profile.

Go To wvstars.org Today To Enroll

West Virginia State Training and Registry System
 611 7th Ave, Suite 322 Huntington, WV 25701
 Phone: (304) 522-7827 Fax (304) 529-2535 Email: wvstars@rvcds.org

"There are three ways to ultimate success: The first way is to be kind. The second way is to be kind. The third way is to be kind." Fred Rogers

Important Information for Child Care Providers Regarding Changes Be sure to read this important information!

TRAINING CERTIFICATES:

As of August 1, 2016, trainers **will no longer** be issuing training certificates at the end of a training session. You **MUST** go on-line to the WV STARS registry site, complete a training evaluation and then you will be able to print your certificate. Trainers **WILL BE UNABLE** to issue you a certificate at the end of the training.

In order to print your training certificate, you **MUST** be either a **WV STARS registry participant or credentialed on the WV STARS Career Pathway.** There is no charge for either of these options.

(See detailed information on page 1 and the top of page 2.)

TRAINING REGISTRATION:

After the July – Sept. 2016 training quarter, child care providers will have to register for trainings by accessing the Training Calendar on the WV STARS website. The Elkins office will no longer be registering people for training sessions, beginning with trainings offered after Sept. 30, 2016.

News from the Heart newsletter:

After this issue, the newsletter will have a different format. It will only contain training information. Please see the article *Change in Upcoming Newsletters* on page 6.

If you need assistance to prepare for the upcoming changes, please call the Elkins office at 304-637-2840.

MountainHeart Appreciates our Child Care Providers!

Jaime Price, Early Childhood Specialist



National Child Care Provider Appreciation Day was May 6th. This day is set aside as a day to recognize child care providers, teachers, and other educators of young children everywhere. We hope each provider enjoyed the “flowers” of appreciation in the form of a postcard that was sent out at the beginning of May.

In addition, each office in our MountainHeart North region wanted to make sure the child care providers in their area felt especially appreciated. Staff from all five offices showed their gratitude to providers in a variety of ways, from hosting fun trainings, playing games, and offering refreshments, to giving away an assortment of gifts to providers who came in the office and to some who attended trainings offered by our Professional Development Team. Items given out ranged from flower seed packets with Morning Glories, Shirley Poppies, and Phlox, adorable pens with flowers attached, STEM materials, board games for preschool and school agers, block sets for toddlers, books, sand/water table toys, a parachute for gross motor play, and art supplies. While we wish we could do so much more, we hope that each and every one of you felt the appreciation you so deserve!



It takes a big
heart
to help shape
little
minds.



**"There is no normal life that is free of pain. It's the very wrestling with our problems that can be the impetus for our growth."
Fred Rogers**

The Early Years: The Older Infant Part 3 of 3

Shannon Nichols, Infant/Toddler Specialist

The first 3 years of a child's life are full of stages of development. These early years lay the foundation for lifelong learning. Caregivers help infants with the developmental issues of security, exploration and identity. During different stages of infancy, the type of help children need will change. In part 3 of this 3 part series of articles, we will focus on identity, as it takes center stage as the older infant (16-36 months) becomes more independent.

Older infants are continuing to try out their expanding abilities and have the desire to take charge of what they will and won't do. "No" becomes a popular word for this age group in an attempt to establish their own identity and gain some control over what happens to them.

A well designed environment gives older infants a chance to be in control. They need areas for individual and group play activities. Spaces should be set up to allow the children to access materials on their own, which builds their feelings of competence, confidence and sense of self.

Older infants are fascinated with fantasy and make-believe play and enjoy you becoming part of their "picnic" or "shopping trip." Older infants are definitely different from young and mobile infants. Older infants are more able to play in groups, think more "out of the box" and act more independently. You can help develop sense of identity by:

- ♥ Respecting self-assertion and being patient when children say "no"
- ♥ Providing social guidelines/rules
- ♥ Offering choices when possible
- ♥ Supporting fantasy play and creative expression
- ♥ Allowing for individual and group experiences
- ♥ Helping children in their play
- ♥ Initiating new and exciting activities

Mangione, Peter L., PITC, "The Ages of Infancy: Caring for Young, Mobile, and Older Infants". California Department of Education. 1990.





Happy Retirement Erla Ault



Erla Ault, receptionist/clerical worker in the Petersburg office, is retiring after over 15 years of service to MountainHeart. Erla was one of the original workers hired when MountainHeart was awarded the Child Care Resource and Referral grant by the WV DHHR.

During the 2016 MountainHeart Staff Appreciation Day training and recognition event, Erla was recognized for her many contributions in serving the families, child care providers, community members and agencies within our region. She was presented with a token of our appreciation. Erla's last day of work at MountainHeart was May 20, 2016.

We thank Erla for her many years of service. Please join us in wishing her a wonderful and happy retirement!



“Just know, when you truly want success, you'll never give up on it. No matter how bad the situation may get.” – *Unknown*

Congratulations, Lori Stuttts

Lori Stuttts, Behavior Consultant, earned a Master's degree from Marshall University on May 7, 2016. Lori's Master of Arts degree is in Elementary Education with a focus in Early Childhood. While pursuing her degree, she continued to work full time and attend early childhood trainings and conferences.



Marshall University is accredited as an institution of higher learning by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Marshall has been accredited by the Higher Learning Commission since 1928.

We wish to offer our congratulations to Lori on obtaining her Master's degree. We are extremely proud of her accomplishment.

Welcome New Staff Members



My name is Vivian Baylor. I am a temporary Case Manager at the MountainHeart office in Martinsburg, WV. I graduated from West Virginia University May of 2015 with my Bachelors of Arts in Psychology and a minor in Sociology, so I'm relatively new to the field. I plan on furthering my education and eventually receiving my Master's Degree in Social Work or a Law Degree. I'm still trying to figure it out! I'm the mother of a little Jack

Russell/ Miniature Pincher mixed named Molly and the Aunt of a Jack Russell named King! MountainHeart has been a wonderful organization to work for and I am so grateful for this opportunity.



Allison Linger has recently joined MountainHeart as a Case Manager in the Weston office. She has spent the past 22 years working in early childhood education, teaching Arabic, teaching children with behavioral disorders and working as a behavioral specialist. Allison graduated from the University of Jordan (Amman, Jordan) in 1997 and from Fairmont State University in 2014. In her leisure time she enjoys traveling, spelunking, reading, and participating in family

activities with her 3 children

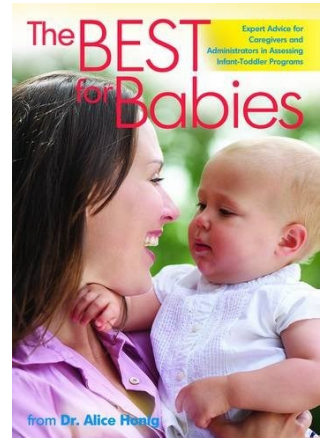




Early Childhood Mental Health

Lori Stutts, Behavior Consultant

I recently had the privilege of participating in the Infant/Toddler Summit in Martinsburg. The focus of this year's Summit was on a book called *'The Best for Babies: Expert Advice for Caregivers and Administrators in Assessing Infant-Toddler Programs'* by Alice Honig. A section of the book was devoted to Mental Health. You may be thinking, *Can infants display symptoms of mental health issues?* Yes, they can, but the good news is most potential mental health problems will not become mental health problems if responded to early. Teachers and caregivers play a valuable role in promoting positive mental health by providing small, intimate acts of kindness and reassurance, providing relaxed and skillful attentiveness, paying close attention to individual differences in children's readiness and supporting children as they work toward attaining balance between needing nurturance and exploring their environment. If you have questions about early childhood mental health, contact Lori Stutts, Behavior Consultant for MountainHeart North, at 304-257-9375 or Lori.C.Stutts@wv.gov.



" The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intentions." -Oscar Wilde

Dramatic Play and Thinking Outside the House

Carrie Frasch, TRAILS, Early Childhood Specialist

What do you think of when you think of a Dramatic Play Area? Most of us probably think having the area setup like a house with a fake stove, refrigerator, food, and table. We may even add dress-up clothes and dolls. While such setups are a great start to a dramatic play center, there should also be variety.

Children need varied experiences over time to learn and develop. A good dramatic play area should be changed fairly regularly, at least each month. You may want to change your dramatic play area based on the students' interests or maybe a theme you are teaching.

Here are a few examples:

- Restaurant: include play food, aprons, chef hat, tables set for dining, play money, cash register, dress-up clothes, menu, cookbooks, order pads and pencils
- Firehouse: include a phone, small hoses, fire truck created from a box, coats, rubber boots, fire hats, fake extinguisher, fire safety posters, maps
- Veterinary Clinic: include stuffed animals, medical equipment (stethoscopes, gauze, Band-Aids), white doctor coats (small adult button-down dress shirts work well), magazines for waiting room, appointment book, medical charts

As always, give the TRAILS team a call if you would like to borrow any of these items!



Grafton TRAILS: 304-265-0142

Martinsburg TRAILS: 304-262-1584





Internet cafés



MountainHeart realizes that many people do not have access to a computer and/or printer or have internet access. To assist with this issue, an internet café (computer, printer, and internet) is available for use by child care providers and clients in each of our MountainHeart offices. The café enables providers to take on-line classes, print paperwork, etc. Clients may use the café to print needed documents for determining their eligibility for services. The internet cafés are for business use only and not for “surfing” the internet.

If you have questions or need more information about the internet cafés, please contact your local MountainHeart office.

“Kindness is the language which deaf can hear and the blind can see.” - Mark Twain



Change in Upcoming Newsletters

After this issue of the *News from the Heart* newsletter, the format and content will be changing. Effective with the next issue, only training sessions and upcoming conferences will be listed in the newsletter. Informational articles will no longer be a part of the newsletter. This change will affect the newsletters of all Child Care Resource and Referral agencies within West Virginia.

We highly encourage you to visit other reputable early childhood and child care websites including:

West Virginia Early Care Share at www.earlycaresharewv.org - This site offers information on early childhood issues, research, provides information on marketing your child care business and so many other topics. It is a wonderful resource!

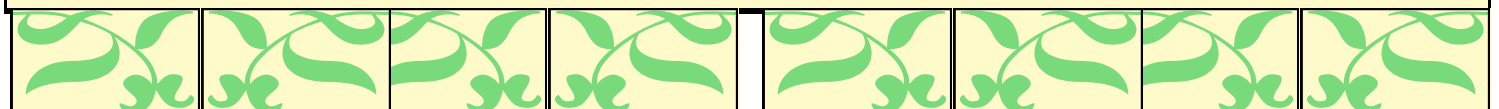
West Virginia DHHR Bureau for Children and Families at www.wvchildcare.org – This site provides information on child care policy, quality initiatives, tiered reimbursement and a variety of other topics.

West Virginia Early Childhood Training Connections and Resources at www.wvearlychildhood.org – This site provides information on WV STARS, WV state wide training calendar, ACDS, T.E.A.C.H. WV, occasional grant opportunities and lots of other topics.

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) at www.naeyc.org – This site offers a wide variety of information including conference opportunities and is worthwhile to visit.

National Association for Family Child Care at www.nafcc.org – This site is geared towards home child care providers. It offers information on public policy, accreditation, resources for parent, conferences, etc.

If you need assistance in finding information or want additional reputable websites, please feel free to contact any of the members of the Professional Development team at MountainHeart .





Save The Date



Annual Early Childhood Conference

Don't Miss Early Bird !!
Register NOW

<http://www.etsu.edu/ecconference>

July 14th Preconference Sessions

Kathryn Sharp, Ed.D, ETSU, will present a full day session focusing on literacy strategies that strengthen content integration, concept integration, and higher order thinking skills.

Susan Wirth, Nature Explore Outreach Director, will present a full day session focusing on using outdoor classrooms and engaging art experiences inspired by nature.

Dr. Jean Feldman, our most requested presenter, will be here! She will provide an evening session focusing on engaging young children through music, movement, and hands-on fun.

July 14, 15 & 16, 2016

Millennium Centre

Johnson City, Tennessee

Featured Speakers Friday and /or Saturday

[Peggy Ashbrook](#), early childhood science teacher and columnist for *Science and Children* .

[Dr. Jean Feldman](#), inspires teachers across the country with her engaging songs and creative activities that help make teaching and learning fun!

[Deborah Rowe, Ph.D.](#), Vanderbilt University, Professor of Early Childhood Education with a focus on development of literacy, including writing.

[Maria Sargent, Ph.D.](#), Professor, Ashland University, focusing on education, special education, brain research and behavior support.

[Andrew Stremmel, Ph.D.](#), Professor whose academic interests include Reggio Emilia and inquiry based early childhood teacher education.

[Carole Stephens](#), Miss Carole of Macaroni Soup, will return with her active, engaging music.

[Cheryl Turner Smith, Ed.S.](#), CEO [REACH Teaching Learning Solutions \(TLS\)](#), providing educators with the insight and training for improved instructional strategies that contribute to a positive climate for learning.

[Susan Wirth](#), Outreach Director, Arbor Day Foundation & Dimensions Educational Research Foundation's collaborative [Nature Explore](#) program, a national initiative designed to help children re-connect with the natural world as an integral part of daily learning

July 15—16 Conference Sessions:

Over 70 sessions for teachers, administrators, and other professionals working with children between birth and 3rd grade.

Special Activities

Administrator Workshop Track
Reggio Inspired Workshop Track
STEM/STEAM Workshop Track
Home Visitor Track
Program Tours



What is STEM?

Cheryl L. Wolfe, TRAILS Early Childhood Specialist

STEM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math education. STEM will help children to explore, observe, ask questions, predict, and have hands on learning experiences. It is now summer and the best time to start making those great scientists and engineers in your own back yard. A young mind is equipped with the natural instinct to learn. It is never too early to take your children outside and start STEM.

Science is just putting some seeds in the ground and watching what happens. Technology can be capturing the growing process with a camera taking pictures each day of the seeds growing into plants. Engineering is building a fence around the seeds to keep animals out. Then finally use those math skills of measuring and graphing those plants to see how tall or how short each plant grows. This is a whole summer project that will enhance the child's world of learning and make memories that could developed into a lifelong career or love.

Let's not wait another day to take young children outside to start engaging them in STEM education. The Grafton TRAILS's office has three new STEM kits that are waiting to be used. You will be the first to start a young person into a career of Archaeologist, Environment Scientist, or Civil Engineer. Call Brenda or Cheryl at 1-877-811-5437.



Shown above in our Petersburg Office staff dressed in blue for the Child Abuse Prevention Month. All of our offices participated with this event.



"Some people strengthen others just by being the kind of people they are." - John M. Gardner

Sun Safety for Kids

Glenna Baily, Nurse Health Consultant

The warm weather and long days of summer beckon children to enjoy the outdoors. While there are many pleasures in being in the sun, there are also precautions that need to be taken to keep children safe. Exposure to heat and sun can cause sunburns and heat-related illnesses in the short term and skin cancer and eye damage in future years.

To protect children from the damaging effects of sun exposure, follow these simple tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics:



- *Keep babies younger than six months out of direct sunlight. Find shade under a tree, umbrella or stroller canopy.
- *Use a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15.
- *Sunscreens should be applied 30 minutes before going outside and reapplied often.
- *Kids should be dressed in cool, light-colored clothing that covers the body.
- *Hats with a brim should be worn so that it faces forward to protect the face.
- *Eyes need protection from the sun too. Children should wear sunglasses with at least 99% UV protection.
- *Provide areas of shade in outdoor play areas.

Outdoor play can also bring on heat-related illnesses such as heat cramps, heat exhaustion or the life-threatening heat stroke. These illnesses are brought on by prolonged activity in the heat without proper rest and hydration. Take these measures to prevent heat-related illnesses in children.

- *Limit outdoor activity during the peak hours of 10 am -4 pm.
- *Make sure kids stay well hydrated. Have them take regular breaks to rest and drink water.
- *Heat stroke is a medical emergency which warrants calling 911. Observe children for changes in consciousness, irritability and confusion. Cool the body through cool compresses and fanning. If the child is unconscious or vomiting do not offer water.

Summer time is fun time. Use these safety tips to ensure summer is also a safe time.





MountainHeart News & Notes

Getting your degree in Early Childhood Education just got easier!

T.E.A.C.H. WV has funding available for eligible early childhood educators and directors who would like to earn their degrees in early childhood. We offer scholarships ranging from 3-12 credit hours per year.

T.E.A.C.H. will provide:

- Partial Tuition
- Partial Book Reimbursement
- Travel Stipend
- A Bonus Upon Completion of Contract

Find us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/TEACHEarlyChildhoodWV>

Check out our Blog at:

<http://teachwv.blogspot.com>

Visit our website at:

www.wvearlychildhood.org

Contact T.E.A.C.H for More Information !!!

T.E.A.C.H. WV
611 7th Ave, Suite 322
Huntington, WV 25701
TEACHWV@rvcds.org



Visit our site or contact T.E.A.C.H. WV for information on our scholarships for Family Home Providers!

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® WEST VIRGINIA is a licensed program of Child Care Services Association



Upcoming events



Fall Conference 2016
Saturday, October 15, 2016
Buckhannon High School

Must register by October 7, 2016

See insert for more information and registration form.

The 2016 NAEYC Annual Conference, taking place November 2-5 in Los Angeles, CA will be the early childhood education event of the year! The Annual Conference is a great place to showcase your materials, services, and ideas through exhibits, and advertisements in the Conference Program. There are millions of children in early education programs—from preschool and child care to the early elementary grades. If you're interested in connecting with the teachers and directors of those programs, Los Angeles is the place to be in November 2016!

For more information visit their sight at www.naeyc.org

Read Across America

Jaime Price, Early Childhood Specialist

"You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child."



In 1997, the National Education Association started a year-round initiative called "Read Across America" to encourage children of all ages to read. It is celebrated on March 2nd which just so happens to be the birthday of Theodor Seuss Geisel, commonly known as Dr. Seuss. Books written by Dr. Seuss are great for beginning readers because his mastery of repetitive sounds, rhyming, and ability to keep the vocabulary simple supports children's efforts to enhance their speech skills by reading aloud. Many of Dr. Seuss's books also have some type of life lesson to be learned. For example, the Lorax teaches children that it is important to take care of the earth.

During the week of February 29th-March 4th, the five MountainHeart Community Services, Inc. offices participated in the celebration. Children visiting the Elkins office were greeted by Ann Pitzer, Clerical, Becca Sainato, Case Manager, and Kim Hammer, Administrative Assistant, and given goodies such as One Fish, Two Fish lunch boxes, reusable Seuss character water bottles, pencils, stickers, and more. Melodee Price, Early Childhood Specialist, visited the Davis Memorial Presbyterian Church's After School Program to set up Dr. Seuss stations for children to visit. There was a reading station to encourage exploration of books, a table with Seuss word searches and puzzles, and a kitchen activity where children could make a snack related to Green Eggs and Ham. They also made Oobleck from the story "Bartholomew and the Oobleck." Jaime Price, Early Childhood Specialist, read "One Fish, Two Fish" to preschool classrooms at Hardy County Child Care Center and also did an art activity. At another visit, she read "What Pet Should I Get?" to children at Play and Grow in Preston County.

The Grafton office staff, comprised of Amanda Roy, Suzanne Hess, Hannah Dixon, Brenda Epperley, and Cheryl Wolfe provided refreshments and books to children and child care providers that visited the office. The TRAILS staff, with Brenda dressed as The Cat in The Hat, traveled to Preston County to visit with Carolyn Fizer at her home. Brenda read "The Foot Book" and Carolyn was presented with a book "There's a Wocket in My Pocket." Children were given Dr. Seuss tote bags, water bottles, and green egg snacks made by the Grafton office.

In Petersburg, Supervisor Kim Perrine read "Green Eggs and Ham" at Hardy County Child Care Center and "One Fish, Two Fish" at Little Place Child Care in Grant County. Josephine O'Haver, Case Manager, read to Wee Care in Mineral County. They did photo booths, handed out Dr. Seuss bookmarks and distributed activities related to books that were read. Erla Ault, Clerical, handed out water bottles and other assorted goodies to children who stopped by the office that day. Lori Stutts, Behavior Consultant, read "My Many Colored Days" to the two year old classroom at Hardy County Child Care Center.



Clerical staff, Diane Walker and Caitlyn Viands, at the Martinsburg office distributed Dr. Seuss books, stickers, lunch bags, water bottles, and book marks to children who visited the office. The TRAILS staff, comprised of Carrie Frasch and Jen Gorman, read "What Pet Should I Get?" to children and distributed Cat in The Hat headbands at Michele Bishop-Basey's home daycare in Berkeley County. Children and providers who visited the office were also given homemade treats inspired by the book "Green Eggs and Ham."



The Weston office also had a display of Dr. Seuss items to be given out as children and providers visited the office that week. Clerical, Cathy Fisher, helped distribute goodies to children who came in to the office. Shannon Nichols, Infant/Toddler Specialist, also gave books to providers participating in her WV Infant Toddler Professional Development Program.

Dr. Seuss epitomizes a love of children and learning. When we celebrate Dr. Seuss and reading, we send a clear message to America's children that reading is fun and important. MountainHeart takes pride in providing services to parents and providers that improves the quality of early education experiences for young children and their families.





Amanda Roy, Supervisor

Child Care Providers to See Increase in Reimbursement Rates

The Department of Health and Human Resources is pleased to announce an increase in reimbursement rates for child care providers participating in the child care assistance program. The Department increased reimbursement rates to more closely match what parents in the private market are paying. These new rates will be effective retroactively to March 1, 2016, so providers will see the increase on the check they receive in April 2016. Below is a summary of the base rate increases:

Child Care Centers:

	Infants	Toddlers	Preschoolers	School Age
Old Daily Rate	\$28	\$24	\$23	\$19
New Daily Rate Effective 3/01/16	\$32	\$30	\$28	\$25

Family Child Care Facilities:

	Infants	Toddlers	Preschoolers	School Age
Old Daily Rate	\$25	\$20	\$20	\$18
New Daily Rate Effective 3/01/16	\$27	\$25	\$25	\$25

Registered Family Child Care Homes

	Infants	Toddlers	Preschoolers	School Age
Old Daily Rate	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$16
New Daily Rate Effective 3/01/16	\$25	\$22	\$22	\$20

In-Home Child Care:

	Infants	Toddlers	Preschoolers	School Age
Old Daily Rate	\$18	\$16	\$16	\$16
New Daily Rate Effective 3/01/16	\$20	\$18	\$18	\$18

Note that there are no raises for Informal and Relative Family Child Care Homes or Out of School Time Programs.

Child care is a valuable support service for low-income families and TANF recipients, allowing them to participate in work or educational activities. This money will support the availability and affordability of child care for low income families and the quality of care for all of West Virginia families and children.

Tentative Schedule for Future WVIT I & II Classes

If you are interested in attending the West Virginia Infant/Toddler program, please contact Shannon Nichols in the **Weston office at 1-866-232-9227** for more information.

Space is limited and filled on a first come-first serve basis. The county with the most providers interested will likely be the county/counties in which class will be held.

July-October 2016 Grant, Hardy, or Mineral County (5 Person Minimum)

November 2016 - February 2017– Barbour, Lewis, Upshur, or Randolph County (5 Person Minimum)

March-June 2017- Berkeley or Jefferson County (5 Person Minimum)

If the listed minimum is not met at session 1, the course will not continue.





WV Make it Shine!

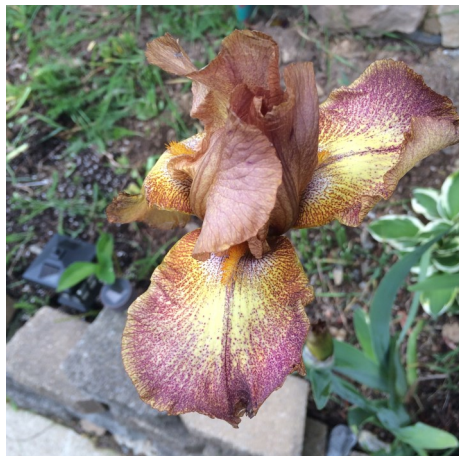

Melodee Price, Early Childhood Specialist

Child care providers from our 15 MountainHeart counties have been improving local parks, public spaces, hiking trails, sidewalks, playgrounds and streets by participating in the Department of Environmental Protection's WV Make it Shine campaign. It took place in the month of April. Child care providers were eager to have the children participate. Groups of adults and children planted flowers, raked leaves, swept sidewalks, collected yard debris and picked up trash to make the outside appearance of the child care setting look beautiful.

Children are learning to respect the environment when helping clean up litter. They are exercising both fine and gross motor skills while walking, carrying, bending over, and picking up. The children are socializing as they are on their walk with others so they are also increasing their vocabulary. You can talk about safety with the children; about looking both ways before crossing the street, putting sunscreen on before going outside, staying hydrated with water during hot days. They are also learning to be better stewards of the environment, participating as a group member, following directions and feeling a sense of community. Try and venture out in the community to participate in the WV Make it Shine campaign not only in the month of April but throughout the year. The children, yourselves, and the community will all benefit from your participation. If you would like further information feel free to contact Melodee Price at 877-862-3103 or e-mail at Melodee.b.price@wv.gov



"If you want to be successful, know what you are doing, love what you are doing, and believe in what you are doing." -Will Rogers

2016
KidStrong Conference
Building community and school partnerships
June 21-23, 2016
Charleston Civic Center
Featuring **Frank DeAngelis**,
former **Columbine High School Principal**
as the **Day 1 Keynote Speaker**

KidStrong will be bringing you a variety of informative topics to choose from in 2016, ranging from

- Community Schools and Out-of-School Time
- Health Education and Physical Education
- Physical Activity for Classroom Teachers and Administrators
- School Health
- Immunizations
- School Counseling
- Foundations of Reading
- Graduation 20/20
- Microsoft Imagine Academy - Computer Science Training for Teachers
- Safe and Supportive Schools
- School Climate and Substance Abuse
- Project AWARE
- Mental Health First Aid
- PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports)
- Speech & Language

CEUs and Graduate Credit Available

For more information, contact:

Conference Planning

304.558.2696

KidStrong is growing & we've added a Day 3!

June 23 will be a continuation of Professional Development for School Counseling, Graduation 20/20, Facilitated IEPs, Project AWARE Coordinators and Foundations of Reading.

SAVE THE DATE



TRAINING TOPICS OFFERED July—September 2016

Bed Bugs and Beyond. Beginner. Renee Stonebraker Child Health Educator, will provide information on bed bugs, head lice, mice and rats, and cockroaches, and how to manage them at a child care center. Target audience is all child care providers. *Core Knowledge Area: Health, Safety, and Nutrition.*

Communicable Diseases in Child Care. Intermediate. Glenna Bailey, RN will facilitate this seasonal training. Based on the recommendations for the American Academy of Pediatrics, this training covers common childhood diseases including identifying symptoms, how they are spread, how to control them, roles of the provider, and knowing when to exclude. Target audience is all child care providers. *Core Knowledge Area: Health, Safety, and Nutrition*

How to Document for Observation. Beginner. Melodee Price will facilitate this session to help child care staff learn how to document an observation of a child or classroom by using factual descriptions. Child care staff are expected to take antidotal notes when working in a center. Learn what is considered best practice when note taking for the children's portfolios. *Core Knowledge Area: Child Observation and Assessment.*

Indoor/Outdoor Safety. Beginner. Renee Stonebraker, Child Health Educator, will review common injuries for children, including falls and poisonings, and preventative measures to reduce the risk of injury. Target audience is all child care providers. *Core Knowledge Area: Health, Safety, and Nutrition.*

Making a Difference. Beginner. This training will count towards two hours of child abuse and neglect that is required of center based staff within the first six months of employment, according to child care center regulations. The information provided in this training will help you to know when and how to facilitate a family's linkage to assistance and support before child maltreatment occurs. This training will focus more on preventative measures in regards to child abuse and neglect. Target audience is all child care providers. *Core Knowledge Area: Health, Safety, and Nutrition.*

Medication Administration. Intermediate. Glenna Bailey, RN, will provide the most up to date medication practices as per center licensing requirements. This training will count towards 3 WV STARS registered training hours. The target audience is all child care providers. *Core Knowledge Area: Health, Safety, and Nutrition.*

Picky Eaters. Beginner. Renee Stonebraker, Child Health Educator, will discuss with participants how to encourage children to eat a variety of foods, including different cooking methods, family style meals, and food shapes. Target audience is all child care providers. *Core Knowledge Area: Health, Safety, and Nutrition.*

Puppet Play. Intermediate. Carrie Frasch, TRAILS Early Childhood Specialist, will show how they can create a world of wonder for children through puppetry. You will discover how to enhance your circle time using various types of puppets and learn how to use puppets to inspire young children and support their early literacy skill development. Participants will create their very own puppet to take with them. Target audience is all child care providers. *Core Knowledge Area: Curriculum*

Signing with Daily Activities. Intermediate. Each participant will receive information about including American Sign Language into their daily activities and routines from Cheryl Wolfe, TRAILS Early Childhood Specialist. They will be able to make laminated cards with ASL words and signs on them to display in various areas of the child's learning and play environment. These cards will give the children and adults a visual aid to help remind them of the word and sign to use in appropriate area and situation. The participants will also learn some finger plays and songs using ASL to incorporate into their classrooms. They will be encouraged to provide these signs to their children's families so that everyone will know the signs that the children are using at their child care site. Target audience is all child care providers. *Core Knowledge Area: Child Growth and Development.*

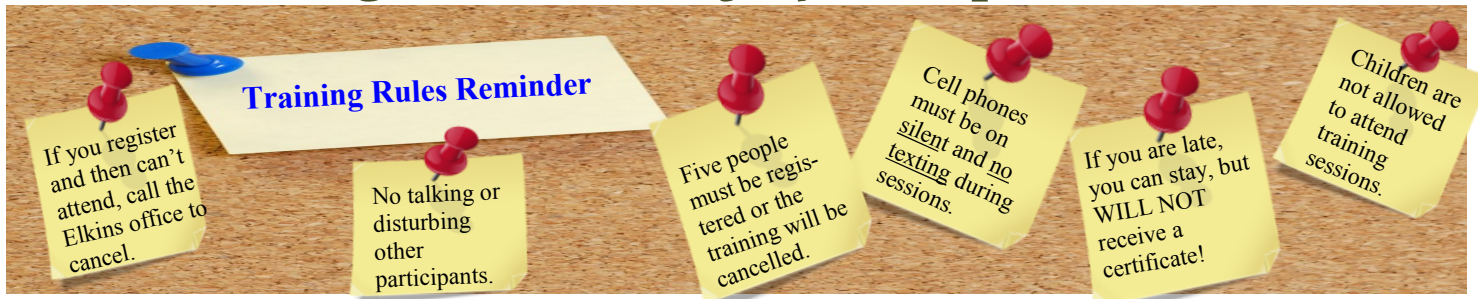
WV Early Learning Standards Framework. Beginner. Participants will learn about the WV Early Learning Standards Framework, why they are important, and how they can be incorporated into your daily routine. This training will count as the WV ELSFs training that is required of facility based staff when working toward the tiered reimbursement system requirements. Family child care providers and center based staff are also welcome to attend. *Core Knowledge Area: Administration and Management.*

WV Early Learning Standards Framework: Infants/Toddlers. Beginner. Participants will learn about the WV Early Learning Standards Framework for Infants and Toddlers, why they are important, and how they can be incorporated into your daily routine. Target audience is providers working with children 0-36 months of age. *Core Knowledge Area: Child Growth and Development*

WV STARS for Everyone. Beginner. Participants will learn about the changes that have taken place with WV STARS. All child care providers will be expected to complete an online application to be either a registry participant or on the career pathway as a participant. WV STARS wants to encourage child care providers participation so that they can capture the training that is being completed in the family child care field. Please come to learn and understand more about the many changes with the WV STARS program has implemented. *Core Knowledge Area: Professionalism and Leadership.*



Training Calendar for July — September 2016



Barbour County

Kid Care Child Development Center: 5540 Elk Creek Rd., Philippi, WV 26416

WV STARS for Everyone

August 9, 2016 (Tuesday)

6:00-8:00pm

Berkeley County

Shepherd University-Martinsburg Center: 261 Aikens Center, Martinsburg 25404

Puppet Play

July 7, 2016 (Thursday)

6:00-8:00pm

WV Early Learning Standards Framework

September 27, 2016 (Tuesday)

2:00-4:00pm

WV STARS for Everyone

September 28, 2016 (Wednesday)

9:00-11:00am

James Rumsey Technical Institute: 3274 Hedgesville Road, Martinsburg, WV 25403

Communicable Diseases

September 7, 2016 (Wednesday)

1:00-3:00pm

Making a Difference

September 7, 2016 (Wednesday)

3:00-5:00pm

Medication Administration

September 7, 2016 (Wednesday)

5:00-8:00pm

Making a Difference

September 8, 2016 (Thursday)

9:00-11:00am

Medication Administration

September 8, 2016 (Thursday)

11:00-2:00pm

Grant County

MountainHeart office: 93 South Grove Street Suite 139, Petersburg, 26847

WV STARS for Everyone

August 23, 2016 (Tuesday)

6:00-8:00pm

Making a Difference

September 28, 2016 (Wednesday)

6:00-8:00pm

Hampshire County

EACHES Head Start: 161 Bill Taylor Road, Romney, WV 26757

WV STARS for Everyone

September 30, 2016 (Friday)

10:00-12:00pm

Hardy County

Hardy County Child Care Center: 1989 State Road 55, Moorefield, 26836

How to Document Observation

August 11, 2016 (Thursday)

12:00-2:00pm

Jefferson County

Shepherdstown Day Care Center: 531 E German St, Shepherdstown, 25443

Indoor/Outdoor Safety

July 7, 2016 (Thursday)

6:00-8:00pm

Jefferson County DHHR: 239 Willow Spring Drive, Charles Town, WV 25414

WV Early Learning Standards Framework: I/T

August 8, 2016 (Monday)

12:00-2:00pm

Hillside Child Care & Development Center, Inc.: 385 Washington St., Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

Communicable Diseases

September 6, 2016 (Tuesday)

6:00-8:00pm

Tiny Tots Village: 1890 Middleway Pike, Bunker Hill, 25413

WV STARS for Everyone

September 15, 2016 (Thursday)

12:00-2:00pm

Wee Disciples Christian Academy: 114 Poor Farm Road, Kearneysville, WV 25430

WV Early Learning Standards Framework

September 28, 2016 (Wednesday)

1:00-3:00pm



Training Calendar for July—September 2016 continued

Mineral County

Keyser Wee Care: 2084 New Creek Way S., Keyser, 26726		
Puppet Play	July 21, 2016 (Thursday)	6:00-8:00pm
Mineral County DHHR: 18 N. Tornado Way, Keyser, 26726		
WV Early Learning Standards Framework: I/T	August 15, 2016 (Monday)	12:00-2:00pm
Keyser Wee Care: 2084 New Creek Way S., Keyser, 26726		

Morgan County

Little Learner's Village: (School Age Site): 10 Myers Rd., Berkeley Springs, 25411		
Bed Bugs and Beyond	August 25, 2016 (Thursday)	6:00-8:00pm
Little Learner's Village: 640 Fairfax Street, Berkeley Springs, 25411		

Preston County

Guardian Angels: 65 West Main Street, Bruceton Mills, WV 26525		
Signing in Daily Activities	August 16, 2016 (Tuesday)	6:00-8:00pm

Randolph County

MountainHeart Office: 1200 Harrison Ave., Suite 220, Elkins, 26241		
WV STARS for Everyone	August 2, 2016 (Tuesday)	6:00-8:00pm
Randolph County DHHR: 1027 North Randolph Avenue, Elkins, WV 26241		
WV Early Learning Standards Framework: I/T	August 22, 2016	12:00-2:00pm
MountainHeart Office: 1200 Harrison Ave., Suite 220, Elkins, 26241		
Picky Eaters	September 7, 2016 (Wednesday)	6:00-8:00pm

Taylor County

Little Feet Day Care and Preschool: 142 Blueville Drive, Grafton, 26354		
Making a Difference	September 27, 2016 (Tuesday)	6:00-8:00pm

Tucker County

Mountain Laurel Learning Cooperative, Inc.: 494 Riverstone Rd., Davis, WV 26260		
Medication Administration	September 9, 2016 (Friday)	9:00-12:00pm
Making a Difference	September 9, 2016 (Friday)	12:00-2:00pm

Upshur County

Child Development Center of Central WV, Inc., 20 Camden Ave., Buckhannon, WV 26201		
Signing in Daily Activities	August 9, 2016 (Tuesday)	6:00-8:00pm
Mountain CAP of WV, Inc.: 10 Tennerton Drive, Buckhannon, WV 26201		
WV STARS for Everyone	July 26, 2016 (Tuesday)	6:00-8:00pm
WV Early Learning Standards Framework	August 30, 2016 (Tuesday)	6:00-8:00pm

To register for trainings, please call the Elkins office at 1-877-862-3103 or 304-637-2840.
 You must register at least 5 days before the scheduled training.





News From The Heart

Visit us at: www.facebook.com/#!/mountainheartwv

Come visit us at: www.mountainheartwv.org/ccnorth

WISHING YOU A SAFE AND
FUN FILLED SUMMER!

THE MOUNTAINHEART
STAFF



MOUNTAINHEART
Community Services, Inc.

Child Care Resource & Referral Division

1200 Harrison Avenue, Suite 220

Elkins, WV 26241