

April - June 2025



IMPORTANT TRAINING INFORMATION:

In this 2025 MountainHeart South training calendar, the Professional Development Team is beginning to transition, with your safety in mind, to more face to face trainings.

For the April through June quarter, the training calendar offers face to face trainings at a variety of times and locations. You may register for trainings on your WV STARS account. Please make sure your contact information is correct.

When face-to-face trainings are held, class sizes will be limited and social distancing guidelines per the CDC will be implemented and must be followed by all participants.

This Spring quarter some professional development sessions will be face to face.

Registration information can be found at www.wvstars.org/

Alphabetical List of Training Topics for April - June 2025

*This Spring quarter some professional development sessions will be face to face.
Registration information can be found at www.wvstars.org/*

Topic: A Different Way of Seeing Autism

Core Knowledge and Competencies: 1 hr. Child Growth and Development & 1 hr. Child Observation and Development

WVELSF: All Domains **Target Audience:** Toddler to Teenage Caregivers **Tier:** Advanced

Summary: During this training you will learn about what Autism is and how it affects individuals in a variety of settings. There will be discussion about the difficulties interacting socially, problems in communicating, sensory challenges and repetitive behavior patterns. The aim of this training is to not try to fix a person by eliminating these symptoms, but to understand the individual's experiences and what is causing their underlying behaviors. **This training will be in person.**

Topic: ACEs 101

Core Knowledge and Competencies: 1.5 hrs. Child Growth and Development

WVELFS: All Domains **Target Audience:** Adult



Tier: Basic

Summary: During this one-hour professional development the participant will be introduced to the concept of Adverse Childhood Experiences through awareness and education. **This training will be in person.**

Topic: Autism, Putting the Pieces Together

Core Knowledge and Competencies: 2 hrs. Child Growth and Development

WVELSF: All Domains **Target Audience:** Adults

Tier: Intermediate

Summary: During this professional development session, participants will learn about what Autism is, how it affects individuals in various settings and about the challenges of interacting socially, difficulties in communication, sensory challenges and repetitive behavior patterns. The aim of this training is not to try to fix a person by eliminating these symptoms, but to understand the individual's experiences and what causes their underlying behaviors. **This training will be in person.**

Topic: Back to the Basics: How to Set up your Environment for Success

Core Knowledge and Competencies: 1.5 hrs. Environment and Curriculum & 0.5 hr. Child Growth and Development

WVELSF: All Domains **Target Audience:** PK Adults

Tier: Intermediate

Summary: In this professional development session, participants will leave feeling confident in setting up a classroom that is developmentally appropriate. Participants will understand how children learn best and be able to implement that knowledge into their daily routines. **This training will be in person.**

Topic: Being a H.E.R.O Showing Honesty, Empathy, Respect and Open-Mindedness for children

Core Knowledge and Competencies: 1 hr. *Environment and Curriculum* & 1 hr. *Professionalism and Leadership*

WVELSF: Social Emotional Development **Target Audience:** Adults **Tier:** Intermediate
Summary: Children learn through their environment. We want children to develop the social/emotional skills of showing honesty, empathy, respect and open-mindedness (acceptance) towards the adults and peers in their lives. In this developmental session we will learn that it takes the adults in the lives of children to help them learn these necessary skills. Participants will learn ideas and strategies to become the Hero's in the lives of the children they encounter by using the skills of honesty, empathy, respect and open-mindedness. **This training will be in person.**

Topic: Being Intentional About Mindfulness

Core Knowledge and Competencies: 2 hrs. *Environment and Curriculum*

WVELSF: All Domains **Target Audience:** Adults **Tier:** Intermediate

Summary: "Our life is shaped by our mind, for we become what we think." - Buddha. In this professional development session, participants will learn what mindfulness is, how to practice mindfulness activities, and how to intentionally seek out moments to promote mindfulness in the classroom. **This training will be in person.**

Topic: Introduction to High Scope Curriculum

Core Knowledge and Competencies: 2 hrs. *of Child Growth and Development* & 2 hrs. *of Environment and Curriculum*

WVELSF: All Domains **Target Audience:** Adults **Tier:** Intermediate

Summary: Learn more about instituting a curriculum for your child care. Participants attending this Professional Development will receive one HighScope Preschool Curriculum kit plus instructions on how to get started using this curriculum. **This training will be in person.**

Topic: Planning Your Professional Growth

Core Knowledge and Competencies: 1 hr. *Professionalism and Leadership* & 1 hr. *Administration and Management*

WVELSF: All Domains **Target Audience:** Adults **Tier:** Intermediate

Summary: This training focuses on professional growth of early education providers and how to identify goals for the future. **This training will be in person.**



Topic: Power Interactions: Connecting with Children

Core Knowledge and Competencies: 1 hr. *Family and Community Relationships* & 1 hr. *Environment and Curriculum*

WVELSF: Social and Emotional Development **Target Audience:** Adults **Tier:** Intermediate

Summary: Our interactions make a difference to children's development and learning. In this professional development session, participants will take a step back and carefully look at how they interact with children. **This training will be in person.**

Topic: Quality Counts**Core Knowledge and Competencies:** *1 hr. Professionalism and Leadership***WV ELSF:** All Domains**Target Audience:** Adults**Tier:** Intermediate**Summary:** Why does high - quality childcare matter? Because the need for quality childcare has never been greater! But what does it look like in our state? And how can we help?

Through group discussion and the use of media, early childhood educators will examine program supports that are necessary to achieve and maintain quality childcare and the important role they play within the process. **This training will be in person.**

Topic: STEM, STEAM, STREAM What Does it Mean?**Core Competency:** *3 hrs. Environment and Curriculum***WV ELSF:** All Domains**Target Audience:** Preschool**Tier:** Intermediate**Summary:** Prepare for a hands-on experience learning about STREAM. (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art, and Math) Participants will learn from this professional development, new concepts to encourage exploration and creativity using STREAM in your day to day childcare activities. **This training will be in person.****Topic: Utilizing the Environmental Rating Scale to Achieve Higher Program Quality****Core Knowledge and Competencies:** *1 hr. Professionalism and Leadership & 1 hr. Administration and Management***WV ELSF:** All Domains**Target Audience:** Adults**Tier:** Intermediate**Summary:** This session will include an overview of the most recent versions of the Environment Rating Scales as well as information on how to use the information from the self-assessment to improve program quality through goal setting and the creation of action plans and professional development plans. This training will be applicable to staff and administrators of childcare centers, facilities, and family child care home programs. **This training will be in person.**

Professional Development Calendar April-June 2025


Greenbrier County/MountainHeart Office, 248 Red Oaks Shopping Center, Ronceverte, WV 24901

April 10	6:00pm-8:00pm	Being a H.E.R.O
May 1	6:00pm-7:30pm	ACE's 101 
May 14	10:00am-12:00pm	Stem, Steam, Stream, what does it mean?
May 15	10:00am-12:00pm	Back to the Basics: How to Set up your Environment for Success
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Being Intentional about Mindfulness


Mercer County/Concord University Child Development Center, North Tower, 1000 Vermillion St, Athens, WV 24712

April 3	6:00pm-8:00pm	Back to the Basics: How to Set up your Environment for Success
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Mercer County/MountainHeart Office, 1411 N. Walker St., Princeton, WV 24740

April 2	6:00pm-8:00pm	A Different Way of Seeing Autism
April 13	1:00pm-2:00pm	Quality Counts 
May 21	10:00am-12:00pm	Back to the Basics: How to Set up your Environment for Success
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Being Intentional about Mindfulness
June 25	10:00am-1:00pm	Stem, Steam, Stream, what does it mean?

Nicholas County/MountainHeart Office, 1020 Broad St., Summersville, WV 26651

April 24	12:00pm-4:00pm	Hightscope Curriculum
May 18	10:00am-12:00pm	Planning Your Professional Growth 
June 10	10:00am-12:00pm	Back to the Basics: How to Set up your Environment for Success
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Being Intentional about Mindfulness

Raleigh County/MountainHeart Office, 300 N. Kanawha St. Suite 100, Beckley, WV 25801

April 9	10:00am-12:00pm	Back to the Basics: How to Set up your Environment for Success
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Being Intentional about Mindfulness
June 10	6:00pm-8:00pm	Autism, Putting the Pieces Together

Braxton, Fayette, Monroe, Pocahontas, Summers, and Wyoming Counties/See Trainings for other counties.



UTILIZING THE ENVIRONMENTAL RATING SCALES

Want to achieve higher program
quality?

Date: March 12th, 2025

Time: 1:00pm-3:00pm

**Where: 300 N. Kanawha St, Beckley
WV 25801- Suite 102**

**Contact: Josie Alton at
Josie.l.alton@wv.gov or 681-238-6448
or Register on WV Stars**

MOUNTAINHEART
Community Services, Inc.



Raleigh County

Location:

**MountainHeart
Community
Services 300
North Kanawha
St., Suite 102,
Beckley WV 25801**

30 WVSTARS Hours

Resources Available

APRIL 1, 2025 **WV ELEMENTS OF FAMILY CHILD CARE SERIES**

WVEFCC

This series provides family and facility childcare providers with a comprehensive overview of Curriculum for Family Childcare and the *Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale Revised*. Participants of these sessions must complete all eight sessions and two 1-hour visits to be eligible for a certificate and resources.

Training Dates and Times:

Tuesday, April 01, 2025	5:00 pm-8:00 pm
Thursday, April 03, 2025	5:00 pm-8:00 pm
Tuesday, April 08, 2025	5:00 pm-8:00 pm
Thursday, April 10, 2025	5:00 pm-8:00 pm
Tuesday, May 06, 2025	5:00 pm-8:00 pm
Thursday, May 08, 2025	5:00 pm-8:00 pm
Thursday, May 15, 2025	5:00 pm-8:00 pm
Tuesday, May 20, 2025	5:00 pm-8:00 pm

Please Note: If you are interested in attending, please notify me or register on the WVSTARS website by March 27, 2025. You must be registered with WVSTARS as a Registry Participant or as a Career Pathway Participant prior to the first class.

Questions?

Please Contact

Samantha McClure

Phones: 304-647-3800 ext.111
304-228-9017

samantha.mcclure@wv.gov

Quality Counts

Why does high quality childcare matter?

Date: April 15th, 2025

Time: 1:00pm-2:00 pm

Location: Princeton Conference Room

1411 N. Walker St, Princeton WV 24740

Contact: Josie Alton at

Josie.L.Alton@wv.gov or 681-238-6448 OR

Register on WVSTARS



MOUNTAINHEART
Community Services, Inc.
"Together We Can"



West Virginia Infant/Toddler Professional Development WVIT II

Presented Face to Face at 300 N. Kanawha St. Suite 102 Beckley, WV

WVIT II Professional Development Program is a 45 hour course for Infant/Toddler Caregivers who has completed WVIT I or WVIT I-R. In this class there are 35 classroom hours and a 20-hour practicum that equals to 10 classroom hours. WVIT II builds on key concepts presented in WVIT I related to building respectful, nurturing relationships with children, families and colleagues. Information and strategies from relationship-based resources such as the Program for Infant Toddler Care (PITC) and the Pyramid Model from the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) is incorporated throughout the training sessions.

The director **and** staff member **must** be credentialed on the WV STARS Career Pathway **prior** to beginning the class and caregiver **must** email a copy of their WVIT I or WVIT I-R certificate to show WVIT I completion. Please note, a director **or** assistant director is **required** to attend and complete the Administrator's module to send staff to WVIT II. Administrator class will be virtually via TEAMS on April 25th @ 1:00 PM

Caregiver Modules

All sessions are 12:00-3:30pm

Session 1: April 23	Session 6: May 21
Session 2: April 29	Session 7: May 28
Session 3: May 7	Session 8: June 4
Session 4: May 9	Session 9: June 13
Session 5: May 15	Session 10: June 25

For additional information or to register please contact Kathy Milam at 681-238-6448 or by e-mail at katherine.milam@wv.gov by April 11th



THE GROWING BRAIN

Overview:

The crucial development of the growing brain is one of the most important topics in early childhood development. Research on the topic is exploding, underscoring the need for early childhood professionals to stay up to date on brain development and strategies to best support the growing brains of children, birth to 5 years old, in their care.



21 WVSTARS HOURS

Location:
MountainHeart 248
Red Oaks Shopping
Center, Ronceverte
WV

Dates: May 1st, 8th,
15th, 22nd, 29th, June
5th, 12th

TIME: 5:00pm-
8:00pm

Register on
WVSTARS

OR BY CONTACTING

Evelyn Davis, Early
Childhood Specialist

Evelyn.s.davis@wv.gov

681-238-6448 ext. 210



PLANNING YOUR PROFESSIONAL GROWTH



WHERE: SUMMERVILLE CONFERENCE ROOM
1020 BOARD STREET, SUMMERVILLE WV 26651



TIME: 10:00AM- 12:00PM

DATE: MAY 14TH, 2025



Register with Josie Alton at
Josie.L.Alton@wv.gov OR
681-238-6448 OR ON WV STARS



On-Line Training

West Virginia
Early learning Standards
For Infants & Toddlers



Core Knowledge & Competencies: 9 Hrs. Child Growth & Assessment

WVELSF for Infants & Toddlers: Applies the process of observation, assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation to support children's growth through developmentally appropriate practices.

Target Audience: Adult caregivers of Infants & Toddlers

TIER: Basic

Summary: This is a 9-hour module series, broken up into three, two hour sessions, and three hours of homework. This course will provide an opportunity to explore the WV Early Learning Standards Framework for Infants and Toddlers by focusing on two developmental domains every session. Each session will discuss the purpose, content, application, and benefits of the early learning standards, as well as how to incorporate each domain into a lesson plan.

Training Dates & Times

May 23rd - 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

May 30th - 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

June 6th - 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM



WE ARE HIRING MENTORS

Mentors support ACDS students that do not have direct supervisors. Mentors meet with students monthly and offer guidance as needed.



Minimum Requirements

- ACDS JOURNEYPERSON OR BA IN ECE
- CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE

Mentor Compensation

- MENTORS ARE CONTRACTED FOR A SIX MONTH PERIOD
- COMPENSATED \$200.00 UPON FULFILLMENT OF SERVICE AGREEMENT
- REIMBURSED MILEAGE AT CURRENT GSA PER DIEM

Mentor Responsibilities

- PROFESSIONAL ROLE MODELING
- VISIT MENTEE'S ACDS CLASS ONCE PER SEMESTER
- COMPLETE SUPERVISOR EVALUATIONS EACH SEMESTER
- VERIFY AND SIGN STUDENT ON-THE-JOB TRAINING LOGS
- MEET WITH MENTEE A MINIMUM OF TWO HOURS PER MONTH
- VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON MENTORING OPTIONS

*FOR FULL LIST OF EXPECTATION REVIEW MENTOR JOB DESCRIPTION
AVAILABLE ON ACDS WEBSITE*

ACDS Contact Information

- Phone - 304.523.0433
- Email - wvacds@rvcds.org
- Website - www.wvacds.org





RIVER VALLEY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES



ACDS REGISTRATION

ABOUT ACDS

ACDS is a four semester apprenticeship program for individuals working directly with children birth to age 12 for a minimum of 20 hours a week. Classes are one evening a week for 15 weeks a semester. Virtual classes are available for counties that do not offer an in-person option.

PARTICIPATION

Registration for the fall term starts June 1 and for the spring term November 1 each year. Interested participants should follow the outlined steps to register for class each term.

REGISTRATION



STEP ONE

Visit the WV STARS training calendar and search self-paced courses for all ACDS orientations.



STEP TWO

Complete registration that is linked at the end of each orientation.



STEP THREE

Submit \$25.00 registration fee to ACDS program. Checks and cards are accepted. Credit card form is on ACDS website.



304-523-0433



www.wvacds.org



wvacds@rvcds.com

COMING SOON

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT: PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION TOOLS FOR HIGHER QUALITY

Attention Child Care Directors!

Please join our Quality Improvement Specialists for a one day professional development summit discussing us of the Program Administration Scale to improve overall program quality.

Date and location to be announced soon!



Home Childcare Providers and Home Childcare Facilities

SUPER SATURDAY TRAINING!

IN PERSON

SIGN UP AT

WWW.WVREGISTRY.ORG

**RALIEGH CO
LIBRARY
BECKLEY, WV**

- Medication Administration
- Ear Infections
- Morning Health Checks

**April 12 2025
9:30am
to 3:30pm**



FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT:

KELLY AMOS, RN • KAMOS@RVCDs.ORG • 304-840-2165

ATTENTION: ALL CHILD CARE PROVIDERS:

Starting January 2025...

We are LAUNCHING a brand new Health and Safety Program!

We will have a few new guidelines for the application process to receive a check.

Amounts: \$250 for Homes
\$500 for Facilities/Centers
OR....

Don't Feel Like Shopping?



Our Professional Development Team staff have created some wonderful pre-packaged grant items and resources with a variety of early childhood themes!

You will now have the option of selecting one of the pre-packaged grant items in place of a monetary grant.

Thank you for bearing with us!

We will announce the Health and Safety Grant launch in January and at that time you will be instructed on the new application process!

More details to come...

The Staff of
MountainHeart Child Care Resource and Referral
Program, Region VI, South.



WV Child Care Credential



The Division of Early Care and Education understands the importance of the work you do, and it wants to help produce the best caregivers and childcare programs possible for West Virginia families. With that in mind, the Division of Early Care and Education has created a voluntary program, the West Virginia Child Care Credential, that recognizes individual childcare providers who go beyond the requirements of State licensing and registration regulations for training, education, and experience.

The four major goals of the Credential Program are to:

- Help develop a professional workforce qualified to provide care for young learners
- Improve your status and compensation
- Recognize your professional learning and ongoing education toward new innovations in child care and early learning
- Give you a structure for growth

Here is the list of trainings for the general credential:

- ⇒ The Growing Brain
- ⇒ Early Learning Standards Framework Overview Or WV Early Learning Standards Framework Overview
- ⇒ Pre-Service Training- Basic Health and Safety in Childcare
- ⇒ Making a Difference: Mandated to Report: Responsibility to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect (must have been attended after 2018)
- ⇒ WVIT Professional Development Program: Ethics (*onDemand course*)
- ⇒ Medication Administration (must have attended in the last three years)
- ⇒ Understanding ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) ACEs 101
- ⇒ RR Spreading HOPE: Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences

If you see this symbol next to a listed training, it indicates that the training meets the requirement for the Child Care Credential. Specific requirements are necessary to receive the credential.





NEWS ALERT/ Credential Specializations



The Division of Early Care and Education is pleased to announce West Virginia Child Care Credential Specialization! Once you have attained your West Virginia Child Care General Credential, providers can continue their journey with a Specialization in the following areas:

Director's Specialization – for child care program directors

Infant Toddler Specialization – for caregivers working with Infants and Toddlers

Preschool Specialization – for caregivers working with Preschoolers

Family Child Care Specialization – for Family Home Child Care providers

Once you achieve your specialization credential status, a bonus of \$250.00 is available through submission of verification to your local Child Care Resource and Referral Program.

For more information about this exciting new initiative, please contact the following MountainHeart Child Care Resource and Referral Offices: Beckley Ragland Rd. 253-7654 Beckley Kanawha Plaza (Professional Development) 681-238-6448 Princeton 425-3669 Matheny 682-8271 Lewisburg 647-3800 Summersville 872-9200 Thank you for all that you do for West Virginia families and your communities. Your service is greatly appreciated!





Margaret Younce
Program Director



Betty Hamrick
Assistant Program Director



Sara Mathes
*Professional Development
Team Supervisor*



Josie Alton
*Quality Improvement
Specialist*



Lena Graham
Early Childhood Specialist



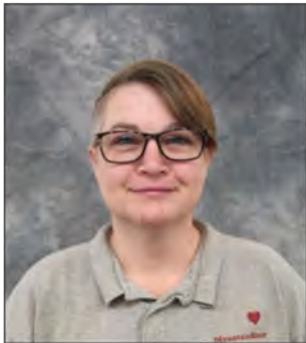
Evelyn Davis
Early Childhood Specialist



Bethany Houchins
Infant/Toddler Specialist



Kathy Milam
Infant/Toddler Specialist



Samantha McClure
*TRAILS Early
Childhood Specialist*



Sandra Cox
TRAILS Associate



Brianna Wesley
*TRAILS Early
Childhood Specialist*



Sarah Worley
*Child Care
Coaching Specialist*



Pam Nelson
*Infant/Toddler
Coaching Specialist*



Maxann Hamrick
Behavioral Consultant



Kaylyn Jennings
Behavioral Consultant



Professional Development Team (South)

MountainHeart Locations

Administrative Office

P. O. Box 1509 • Oceana, WV 24870 – (Mailing Address)
33 MountainHeart Lane • Matheny, WV 24860 – (Shipping Address)
Phones: 304-682-8271, 1-800-834-7082, Fax: 304-682-8274

Beckley Office

P. O. Box 966 • 228 Ragland Road
Beckley, WV 25801
Phones: 304-253-7654, 1-888-799-9217, Fax: 304-253-7690

Professional Development Training Division

300 N. Kanawha Street, Suite 100 • Beckley, WV 25801
Phone: 681-238-6448

Princeton Office

1411 North Walker Street • Princeton, WV 24740
Phones: 304-425-3669, 1-800-738-8531, Fax: 304-425-2301

Summersville Office

1020 Broad Street • Summersville, WV 26651
Phones: 304-872-9200, 1-866-598-4452, Fax: 304-872-9205

Lewisburg Office

P. O. Box 1610 • Lewisburg, WV 24901
248 Red Oaks Shopping Center, Suite 6 • Ronceverte, WV 24970
Phones: 304-647-3800, 1-855-843-0720, Fax: 304-647-3004