

The 4C Connection

From Our Services to Yours - December 2021

4C For Children is the Child Care Resource & Referral Agency (CCR&R) serving the Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Washington, and Waukesha Counties in Southeastern Wisconsin



4C For Children



Main Office

1736 N 2nd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53212
Phone: 414-562-2650
Fax: 414-562-2651
www.4cfc.org

Racine Office

6233 Bankers Rd, Ste 14
Racine, WI 53403
Phone: 262-633-0959

4C Family Center Of Washington County

2376 W Washington St
West Bend, WI 53095
Phone: 262-338-9461

Be sure to follow us on
Facebook and Instagram!

Facebook:
[4C For Children](https://www.facebook.com/4cforchildren)

Instagram:
[4cforchildrenwi](https://www.instagram.com/4cforchildrenwi)

Child Care Counts: Stabilization Payment Program

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) has launched an updated Child Care Counts: Stabilization Payment Program to support Wisconsin's early care and education community. Regulated child care providers will be eligible to receive monthly payments through 2023, providing the financial stability they need to stay open, to recruit and retain qualified staff, and to continue providing high-quality care for children.

The next application/update week is January 17-21, 2022

A total of \$351 million in funds will be available over the next 18 months and will be distributed through two programs targeting the challenges early care and education providers are facing.

Details can be found here: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/childcare/payments?accactive=6>

WE NEED YOUR HELP!



If you have haven't done so already, please update your 2021-2022 Business Information Form (BIF).

Provider regulatory and YoungStar rating information is now continuously being shared between 4C, DCF, and SFTA. The information collected from the BIF will be displayed in DCF's Provider Portal and a subset of it will be included in Child Care Finder so it is important that your information is current and up to date.

If you have a current e-mail address you should have received a unique link asking you to complete the BIF. By doing so you will have an opportunity to win a raffle prize including an American Girl doll, Amazon gift card, 4C training correspondence packet, etc.

If you did not receive an email or need another link sent to you, please call our office at 414-562-2676.

Training News

Visit our website to register or for more information - www.4cfc.org

CPR IS BACK!!! We now offer the full 5 hours of training through a Blended Course. This blended learning course will include an online portion and an instructor-led classroom testing session. The English course is 3 hours with an online interactive video that you do at home and then bring in your certificate to the 2 hour in-person test out session. Multiple dates are available. The online portion must be completed before the test out date that you register for. The Spanish CPR session offers a 3 hour virtual Zoom video walk through with instructor then a 2 hour in-person test out session.

Beginning in the new year, we are offering self-paced online trainings on Exploring the Third Edition of ECERS - the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scales. We are also now selling all of the Environment Rating Scale tool books. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, they are available for pick up at our Milwaukee office for \$25.00 or by mail for \$28.00 per tool book. All four tools are available. If you are looking to purchase a copy of the tools, please us at 414-562-2650.

Looking for continuing education? New course titles include:

Relationships Matter – Using the Wisdom of Mr. Rogers to Support Powerful Interactions in your Classroom Relationships are the foundation to healthy social and emotional development of children. This workshop is designed to help participants create intentional relationships with the children in their classrooms.

Date: December 29, 2021 Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Virtual: ZOOM meeting

Fee: \$30.00
Registry Event ID # 859246

Creating Positive Outcomes for Challenging Situations - This virtual workshop will take a deep dive into why children exhibit the behaviors they do. Participants will look at different strategies to change behaviors and guidance techniques to work with the child to have different behavioral outcomes by taking current scenarios and developing solutions and a plan to create different outcomes. This workshop will reframe the way the participant approaches challenging behaviors and situations.

Date: January 13, 2022 Time: 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Virtual: ZOOM meeting

Fee: \$30.00
Registry Event ID # 859243

Have you Ever Said What's Wrong with This Kid? Understanding Trauma and How it Effects Behavior Understanding how trauma effects children's behaviors and ways the environment can cause trauma triggers. Tips for understanding the ways your environment can reduce or trigger trauma related behaviors will be explored. Walk away with an understanding of how you can help the little ones that you work with.

Date: January 21, 2022 Time: 1:00 pm -3:00 pm
Virtual: Zoom meeting

Fee: \$30.00
Registry Event ID #859263

Thanks for Choosing 4C for Children for all of your training needs.

Family Center of
Washington
County



WELCOME

Please welcome our new Family
Engagement/Program Specialist,
Sarah Mitchell!

A huge Thank You to the West
Bend Meijer store for choosing
the Family Center of
Washington County for their
#MeijerCommunity grant.





4C For Children has received a grant funded by the Greater Milwaukee Foundation to develop a resource room for early childhood providers.



Our resource room will be stocked with equipment and materials for you to develop curriculum, schedules, guides, and learning centers. We'll have toolkits, a laminator, dye cut machines, a copier and printer.

Additionally, our resource room will provide access to technology and computers that may be used to create engaging and enriching environments, lesson plans, and tools for family engagement.

Stay tuned for more information!



What's New???

The Accreditation Facilitation Project - AFP - is a 3 year project funded through Milwaukee Succeeds with an overall goal of supporting 45 programs in receiving accreditation. Ashley Harrell is the Coach for this project. She is offering information sessions and recruiting programs that are interested in achieving accreditation through either NAEYC or NAFCC. This project is for both Family and Group Providers. Any program within the zip codes 53204, 53206, 53210, 53215, and 53218 is eligible to participate. Programs do not need to be connected to YoungStar to participate. Contact Ashley at AHarrell@4cfc.org for more information.

Bridges to School is a new collaborative project that will begin the implementation phase in early 2022. This project, funded by a grant from the Department of Education through the MPS Community Schools, has two primary outcomes. 1 - To connect parents and families to information and resources that support optimal development for young children. 2 - To establish connections between parents/families, Early Care and Education programs, and the neighborhood MPS Community School to create a smooth path to the formal education system. This transitional path includes the areas of social/emotional health, academic readiness, and parent/family engagement, among others. The MPS Community School will be the 'hub' of this community approach to supporting parents in preparing their children for school readiness. 4C will house the Bridges to School Coordinator, Sarah Hernandez. Sarah will be the contact between the staff at both the Early Learning Programs and the Community School Early Education departments. We are looking forward to this exciting opportunity to create a smooth, supportive path for families as their children grow and transition to school.

Look for more information about Bridges to School in 2022!

The 2021 Pathways to Quality Conference and Resource Fair was held December 4-12th. Held virtually again this year, the conference had updates from DCF, exciting speakers, and a variety of exhibitors the attendees could visit. New this year was an opportunity for participants to win a prize for attending the live sessions. We're hoping to be back in-person in 2022. Plan now to join us as we celebrate Pathways '10+1' anniversary!

YoungStar News and Updates



We would like to introduce you to our new YoungStar Quality Coaches Matt Rodriguez, Sabrina Kranjac, Tameka Thompson and Mallory Wilson. Our new coaches bring to the team a wealth of experience working in the field of early childhood education as both teachers and directors. They are excited to meet you and support you!

Renewal Year / Off-Year/ Off-Year.. oh my!!

Tips for knowing what year you need your next rating:

1. Look at your last rating year... 19/20/21
2. Look at your current anniversary year... 22/23/24
3. If you have completed your 2019 rating, your next rating year will be 2022, if you have completed 21/22 your next rating year will be 2024.
4. If you have completed your 2020 rating your next rating will be 2023.

We understand with the addition of an extra off-year services year for technical assistance knowing when your next rating is due can be confusing. If you need additional support, please do not hesitate to reach out to your YoungStar Quality Coach or the YoungStar department.

Last but certainly not least, on behalf of the YoungStar department I want to say Thank you for all that you have done these past 22 months to support the children, families and communities that you serve. You have been a positive shining star! You are truly amazing!

Marie Miller
YoungStar Manager



4C Food Program News and Updates

Effective October 1, 2021, ounce equivalents will be the required method for determining serving sizes of grains in the CACFP. A webinar is available on how to use ounce equivalents for grains for CACFP providers. Click on underlined to go to site for more info - [Ounce Equivalents for Grains | Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction](#)

Here are the Q&As from the webinar: [Ounce Equivalents for Grains Q&As](#)

Follow this link for tools and resources for CACFP Providers using Grains. Control + Click to follow link here, [Family Day Care Home Component Training | Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction](#)

Available Waivers to Apply For:

Nationwide Waivers (click on underlined to go to site)

Waiver Form to Complete

[Allow Specific Meal Pattern Flexibility in the CACFP for 7/1/2021 thru 6/30/2022](#)

[Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver Request Form](#)

Must receive approval from your Sponsoring Agency prior to implementing this meal pattern waiver.

Waivers for Off-Site Meals

The following three waivers apply to programs that want to distribute meals off-site: (click on each for more info)

[Allow Meal Service Time Flexibility](#)

[Non-Congregate Service Time Flexibility](#)

[CACFP Waiver Request Form \(distributing meals off-site\)](#)

[Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children](#)

Please welcome new staff members Kim Rivera, Corina Closner, and Noble Xiong to the 4C Food Program!

— HAPPY — Retirement

Congratulations to Debbie Hendricks from Debbie's Day Care And Preschool!

Debbie retired after 40 years of providing quality early care and education. Debbie plans to travel and spend more time with her grandchildren.



Congratulations to June Pluskota, one of Crescent Learning Center's most senior members. June is retiring from her 39-year-long career in child care.

June is a pillar of strength and an epitome of knowledge and experience. June will forever be an unforgettable friend, teacher, and employee at Crescent Learning Center. She began her career in the child care setting when she was just 19 years old. As a teacher at Crescent Learning Center, she was ambitious, organized, and developed inspiring relationships with all of her children. She has always been driven to develop her skills as a teacher. Her dedication to CLC was reflected even in her decision to postpone her retirement until after Crescent Learning Center went through the YoungStar Formal rating process. Because of her and the rest of the staff's vast knowledge and experience, Crescent Learning Center was able to obtain a 4-star rating. June, we appreciate your loyalty and dedication to our team, to our children and the CLC family. You will be missed by all.

Happy Retirement!



Work on our new parking lot is under way...we can't wait for you to see it when it's done!

4C For Children's offices remain closed to the public due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Our staff continue to work remotely during this time and will continue to provide all of our program services. If you have any questions, please reach out to us. The Milwaukee Office has a mail slot for dropping off any correspondence.

Child Care Referral Line: (414) 562-267
YoungStar Department: (414) 267-3434
Training Department: (414) 562-2670
Food Program: (414) 562-2652

Milwaukee Office General: (414) 562-2650
Racine Office General: (262) 633-0959
Washington County FRC: (262) 338-9461

General Email: 4c@4cfc.org

You are invited!

The Parent/Caregiver Equity Advisory Cabinet (PCEAC) is being formed to ensure that the state's early childhood programs, policies and services address the daily challenges facing families with children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. Members will meet quarterly to share their unique voices, lived experiences, and community reflections, and to inform and provide critical feedback on the state's child care policies, programs and services. Visit here for more information: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/pceac>

Parent/Caregiver Equity Advisory Cabinet (PCEAC)

Wisconsin's Department of Children and Families is developing a Parent/Caregiver Equity Advisory Cabinet (PCEAC) to ensure that the state's early childhood programs, policies and services address the daily challenges facing families with children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. Members will meet quarterly to share their unique voices, lived experiences, and community reflections.

The Cabinet will be structured around three core strategies to influence state-level action:

- **Connect** - The PCEAC will bring together 10-12 parents/caregivers who understand and can represent the urgent needs of their community.
- **Listen** - Cabinet members will work with community organizations to host feedback sessions to listen, share information and gather feedback on state policy.
- **Inform** - Cabinet members will represent their community's concerns, pose questions, and share information with DCF to inform state policy and priorities.
- **Act** - DCF will prioritize discussion, actions and decisions that directly address questions, concerns, and challenges raised by members of the Cabinet.

The PCEAC will be led by the Department of Children and Families, and will be co-chaired by members of the Cabinet, with support from advocacy organizations. The Cabinet's first meeting will be held in early 2022. Participants will receive stipends, training, and communications support to help in the facilitation of meaningful community conversations.

Please complete [this application](#) by January 9, 2022 to apply to join the Cabinet. ([Spanish version is here.](#)) For more information contact pceac@wisconsin.gov.



**All of us at 4C For Children
wish you a wonderful
holiday season and a very
happy, healthy, and safe
New Year!**