

EARLY LEARNING CONNECTIONS

PRESENTED BY CHILD CARE AWARE OF NW WA AND THE QUALITY CHILD CARE
DIVISION OF OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL

A Message From Our Professional Development Coordinator:

Happy Spring! This winter was one to remember, yet many of you were busy participating in several professional development opportunities and conferences in our region to help support the continuous quality improvement for your programs.



As we move into Spring and look at the many wonderful things that occur such as warm sunshine, blooming flowers and trees, opportunities to be outside more, and children preparing to transition to their next classroom or Kindergarten, we also have many choices for professional development to support the great work you do!

Spring professional development offerings in our region include:

- Many Early Achievers Level two trainings throughout the region for programs who need to complete their six mandatory classes (three in person and three online), by August 1, 2017 in order to maintain their Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) funding.
- Child Care Basics will be offered for a face to face training for providers who need their initial training requirements fulfilled to work in early learning centers.
- We have an Infant/Toddler series to support staff who are working with our very young population including trainings on their environment, interactions and infant cues.
- We have the Abriendo Puertas series continuing in April, May and June.
- We are offering administrative professional development from the McCormick Institute, A Great Place to Work.
- We are offering math training opportunities throughout the region that support teaching math concepts to young children.
- We continue to support and facilitate customized in-service trainings to Child Care Centers and cohort groups of Family Child Care providers who seek individualized professional development in meeting continued quality in their programs.

We hope you take some of the professional development opportunities listed on our website or request customized training with your program (or group of programs) from your Early Achievers Coach or with our region's Professional Development Coordinator. If you are not seeing the professional development topics in our schedule that are meeting your professional development goals, please let us know. You can email us at julie_wasilewski@oppco.org. Have a wonderful Spring!

EARLY LEARNING CONNECTIONS

Spotlight on: Julie's Loving Child Care

Obdulia (Julie) Jaramillo is the owner of Julie's Loving Care Child Care, an in-home family childcare located in Mount Vernon, Washington. Together with her two assistants, Martha and Brenda, they care for children ages 3 weeks to 13 years old. Her childcare serves Hispanic and English speaking families, and families qualified in the Working Connections program through DSHS. Julie has been operating her childcare for over 24 years.



Julie's Loving Care joined Early Achievers in October of 2016. With the support of her Early Achievers Technical Assistant and Coach, she has made many positive changes in her program to support the needs of the children in her care, and their families. She has recently gone through the rating process with Early Achievers, and will be receiving her rating in June 2017.

When asked what her thoughts about Early Achievers are, Julie responds with "As a child care provider, I think Early Achievers is an excellent opportunity, because the program gives providers the tools that we need to reinforce our knowledge of quality care." She goes on to state, "I knew our journey with Early Achievers would be a challenge for my assistants and I because we knew we needed to change in order to improve. In the end, our Technical Assistant/Coach taught us how to better serve the children and their families by showing us how to support their needs in through our environment and our daily interactions. I would tell other providers to take advantage of the Early Achievers program. Do not be afraid because Early Achiever's Technical Assistants and Coaches give one the resources and tools to help make changes in one's program worth the effort and time."

Julie is very happy with the changes she has made to her program. She believes the children have benefited from this as she has learned to implement new practices, such as developmental screenings. This has helped her and her staff focus on developmental needs, and include parents in individualizing a plan for each child in her care. With a smile she states, "Thank you to my Early Achievers Technical Assistant/Coach and to the Early Achievers program for giving me the opportunity to participate and learn from this process. We look forward to our continuous work with Early Achievers moving forward."

EARLY LEARNING CONNECTIONS

Spring Training Schedule

Our Early Achievers Level 2 trainings as well as our Enhanced Trainings for Spring are now available to register on our website. Please register online at <http://www.opppco.org/cca/calendar/> or call us at 360.734.5121 ext 227

In- Service Trainings

Our experienced, state approved, professional trainers will offer training and times and locations convenient to you. For more information please contact Child Care Aware of NW WA at 1.888.444.1862 ext 227 or via email at childcare@oppco.org

Spring Professional Development Classes and Dates:

April 8- Introduction to Cultural Competency- Everett, WA

April 8- Strengthening Families- Everett, WA

April 8- Sigamos abriendo puertas- Mt. Vernon, WA

April 8, 22, and May 6- Child Care Basics (30 hr STARS)- Mt. Vernon, WA

April 15- School Readiness - Everett, WA

April 18- A Great Place To Work- Bellingham, WA

April 18 & April 20- Two Part Strengthening Families - Mt. Vernon, WA

April 20- Introduction to Cultural Competency- Everett, WA

April 22- Strengthening Families- Everett, WA

April 22- Counting and Cardinality- Anacortes, WA

April 29- ITERS Eye Openers- Everett, WA

April 29- School Readiness - Mt. Vernon, WA

May 6- Nuestra Salud es Primero- Mt. Vernon, WA

May 11- Introduction to Cultural Competency -Everett, WA

May 11- Toddler CLASS Observation Training, Everett, WA

May 13- Strengthening Families - Everett, WA

May 20- Early Mathematics: Math Operations and Algebraic Thinking, Everett, WA

May 20- Introduction to Cultural Competency- Everett, WA

May 20- Strengthening Families - Everett, WA

May 20- School Readiness- Everett, WA

June 3- Nuestra salud es primero parte dos- Bellingham, WA

June 17- Promoting First Relationships- Infant Cues- Everett, WA

June 22- Promoting First Relationships- Infant Cues- Mount Vernon, WA

June 24- Introduction to Cultural Competency-Lynnwood, WA

June 24- Strengthening Families- Lynnwood, WA

June 27 & June 29- Two Part School Readiness- Mt. Vernon, WA

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News From the Network:

Getting Ready to Rate

Getting Ready to Rate in Early Achievers is an exciting time. It can also be challenging making sure everything is 100% ready before you officially sign-off on being ready for the University of Washington data collectors to visit. Don't be afraid to lean on your CCA of WA Rating Readiness Consultant (RRC) during this time. She/he has likely helped hundreds of child care providers get ready to rate and together you can get ready with confidence. Here's a few tips:

- Make sure all of your education, and that of your staff's (if applicable), is verified and accurate in MERIT
- Make sure your File of Supporting Materials is complete and easy to navigate
- Make sure that release forms have been signed by parents so that children's files can be reviewed



EARLY LEARNING CONNECTIONS

Bellingham Office:

1111 Cornwall Avenue Suite 200,
Bellingham, WA 98225
360.734.8396 ext 227



Jeannie Lamphiear
Child Nutrition Program Supervisor
(360) 734-8396 ext. 426

I have devoted my entire career to early learning. I began as a family home childcare provider. I then earned a degree in Education from Western Washington University, and worked as a substitute teacher in Bellingham and Ferndale Schools. For the past 20 years, I have worked as the Program Coordinator for the Child Care Nutrition Program at

Opportunity Council. I am a state approved trainer, and I work with a fantastic group of family home child care providers in three counties.



EARLY LEARNING CONNECTIONS

Sue Duncan
Administrative Program Assistant
(360) 734-8396 ext. 380

I began working with children as a teenager through my local YMCA in Southeast Everett. Through these before and after school programs and day camps, I was introduced to diverse populations and nonprofit work. After graduating with a Spanish degree from Western Washington University, I discovered the works of Maria Montessori and Bev Bos, and started my professional journey in the early childhood world while growing my young family. I felt fulfilled working with children, supporting learning through play, context and discovery. I grew into a variety of roles: teacher, program coordinator, parent liaison.



Today in my role at CCA, I have the unique opportunity to serve even more children by providing support to their caregivers. I find it very rewarding to support both families and providers by connecting them to the right people and resources they need. I love talking with you, listening to your needs and finding out how we can best support you.

EARLY LEARNING CONNECTIONS

San Juan Office:

62 Henry Road
Eastsound, WA 98245



Ady Walker
Early Achievers Technical Assistant Specialist
and Coach
(360) 303-7910

I fell in love with working with young children while participating in my own children's coop preschool program. Like many in the field, witnessing my own children's growth and development was inspiring. I applied my Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting and new love to working with young children as a preschool art teacher for several years. In 2014, I went back to school for a Masters in Early Childhood Inclusive Education from Portland State University. In January of 2017, I joined CCA of NW Washington as an Early Achievers Coach and Technical Assistant. I live on Orcas Island with my family and serve San Juan and Island County.



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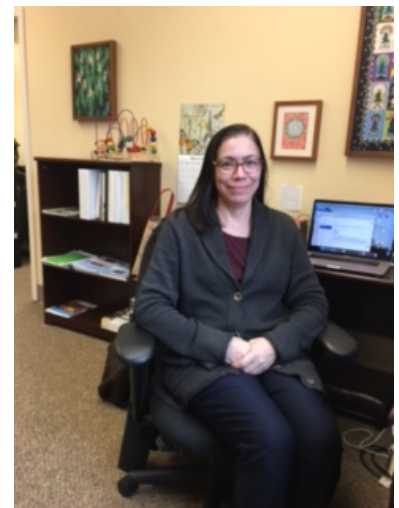
Mount Vernon Office:

415 Main street
Mount Vernon, WA 98273



Josephine (Jodi) Escalante **Early Achievers Technical Assistant Specialist and Coach** **(360) 303-5030**

I believe that working in the field of Early Learning, Care and Development is the most impactful way to serve and improve the world. There are many ways to serve in this field and I have had the privilege of working in a variety of capacities. I have been a kindergarten teacher, a preschool teacher, a public school early learning coordinator, a school district math consultant, and a private non-profit early learning center director. With a Master's degree in early childhood education, I am certified to teach both general and special education. I am a State-approved trainer and enjoy working with adults as well as children. Prior to working in early learning, I was an investment banker and I like to help early learning folks to develop business practices that will make it easier for them to improve the lives of young children and their families.



EARLY LEARNING CONNECTIONS

Everett Office:

3900 Broadway Ave
Everett, WA 98201



Kristen Bowler- Marere
Early Achievers Technical Assistant Specialist
and Coach, Trainer
360-543-3650

I have worked with children since 1998. I began working in Early Childhood Education almost by accident. I was a new teacher with a Masters in Human Development who just moved to South Whidbey Island. The only work I found was as a substitute teacher at a preschool. I fell in love with the program and children and ended up working there for 12 years. I was a toddler teacher, preschool teacher, lead teacher, the Assistant Director, and have been a literacy coach for David Matteson's Foundations in Literacy. Now I am a Technical Assistant Specialist, Rating Readiness Consultant, Coach and Trainer for Early Achievers. I live with my husband and daughter on beautiful Whidbey Island.



EARLY LEARNING CONNECTIONS

Melanee Renfrow
**Early Achievers Technical Assistance Specialist
and Coach**
(360) 603-0173

Over the last 10 years I have worn a variety of hats in the early education field.

I started in the field as an assistant teaching Pre-kindergarten and as the children touched my heart I had a thirst for knowledge and education about these young human beings. I received trainings and mentoring from seasoned teachers around me and moved on to lead teaching Pre-kindergarten, Infants and then Toddlers. I received my Bachelors in Education in 2012. I wanted to share my knowledge and start teaching teachers so I became the Education Coordinator for a childcare center. I have been with the Opportunity Council/Child Care Aware since September 2015 as an Early Achievers Technical Assistant. Working closely with providers encouraged me to go back to school to gain more knowledge about early childhood. I will be returning to school for more ECE credits. My two young daughters drive me to want the best care and education for young children.



Elyssa Yunker
Early Achievers Technical Assistant Specialist
(360) 303-3286

I received my B.S. in Psychology and B.A. in Fine Arts with the hopes of going into the field of Social Work. During this time I worked at the child development center on campus. This is where my love for early education was solidified. I added on a minor in Human Development with a focus on early education and family systems. Since completing my degrees I have worked as a teacher, program supervisor and director in the early childhood field. My passion is in learning, growth and development in any age and strengthening the awareness of the importance of early childhood education and professional development. I currently live in Snohomish County with my two lively dogs.



Provider Update Form

Please take a moment to complete this update form and return it to Opportunity Council/Child Care Aware of NW WA at
1111 Cornwall Avenue, Suite 200, Bellingham, WA 98225.

You can also update online at www.childcarenet.org/providers/provider_update
(Si necesita un formulario en español, por favor llame al 360.734.5121)

Program/Provider Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City and Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Type of Care: Family Child Care _____ Child Care Center _____

License ID Number: _____ License Expiration Date: _____

Email Address: _____

Would you like to receive our Newsletter via email? Yes____ No____

Rates: Have your rates changed in the last year? Yes____ No____

Capacity: How many children are you licensed for?

Total Number of Licensed Capacity: _____ Licensed Age Range: From _____ To _____

Infant Group 1: (Birth to 12 months) Licensed _____ Desired _____ Vacancies _____

Infant Group 2: (1-2 year olds, family child care only) Licensed _____ Desired _____ Vacancies _____

Toddler Group: (2-3 year olds) Licensed _____ Desired _____ Vacancies _____

Preschool Group: (3-4 year olds) Licensed _____ Desired _____ Vacancies _____

Kindergarten Group: (5 year olds) Licensed _____ Desired _____ Vacancies _____

School Age Group: (6 years and older) Licensed _____ Desired _____ Vacancies _____

Subsidy Accepted: Do you accept any of the following subsidies as payment method?

DSHS Working Connections _____ Opportunity Council Vouchers (checks) _____ Sliding Scale _____ Military _____

Multi-Child Discount _____ Tribal _____ Local Gvnt subsidy _____ DSHS Homeless subsidy _____

Hours of Operation:

Mon _____ to _____ Tues _____ to _____ Wed _____ to _____ Thurs _____ to _____ Fri _____ to _____

Sat _____ to _____ Sun _____ to _____

Additional Fees mark all that apply:

Registration _____ Supplies _____ Late Child Pickup _____ Field Trips _____ Transportation _____

Enrichment Activities _____ Provider Takes Paid Vacation _____ Provider Takes Paid Holidays _____

Care Offered: What type of care do you offer?

Full Time Only _____ Part Time Only _____ Both full time and part time _____ Drop-In _____

Temporary/Emergency Basis _____ Before & After School _____ Rotating Schedules Accepted _____ 24-Hour Care _____

Open on Holidays _____

Special Needs: Do you offer any of the Following:

Behavior/Supervision Supports _____ Communication Supports _____ Diapering/Toilet Assistance _____

Eating Assistance _____ Health Monitoring _____ Medication Monitoring _____

Mobility Assistance _____ Nursing Care _____ Physical Therapy _____

Respiratory Supports _____ Sensory Integration _____ Specialized Equipment _____

Vision Supports _____

Flexibility: Are you flexible with any of the following:

Opening Time _____ Closing Time _____ Occasional Weekend _____ Occasional Overnight _____

Part day _____ Part week _____ No flexibility in Operating hours _____

Experience: How much experience do you have?

Under 1 year _____ 1-3 years _____ 4-6 years _____ 7-10 years _____ 11-15 years _____

16 or More years _____

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Opportunity Council
1111 Cornwall Ave. Suite 200
Bellingham, WA 98225

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إذا كنت ترغب في ترجمة هذا المستند إلى لغة أخرى، يرجى الاتصال بالرقم 360.734.5121 إكست 227

Bellingham Office: 1111 Cornwall Ave, St. 200 Bellingham, WA 98225 (360)734-8396 x 227	Everett Office: Everett School District CRC 3900 Broadway Everett, WA 98201 (425)385-4139	Mt. Vernon Office: 416 Main Street Mt. Vernon, WA 98273	Child Care Referral Call Center: 8:30am - 4:30pm 1-800-446-1114
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