

APRIL 2025

SPRING

# ECE-INSIDER

*Division of Child Care Provider Newsletter*



## From the Director's Desk

*Andrea Day*

With spring approaching, we take this time to embrace fresh starts, reflect on gratitude, and remind ourselves why we do this meaningful work every day.

Everyone at DCC would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation for all that you do for young children and families throughout Kentucky. Your dedication, patience, and kindness shape young minds, nurture hearts, and create a world filled with love and learning. Never forget—you are valued, appreciated, and making a lasting difference every single day!

*Truly  
Grateful  
for you.*

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IN ECE**

**KDE- PARENT NEWSLETTER  
TO SHARE WITH FAMILIES**

# CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH!

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month!

Our partners at Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky (PCAKY) have created a fantastic guide full of resources, calendars, data and activities to spread awareness around child abuse and neglect. They hope the guide helps you, your school or child care center, organization and community to empower all Kentuckians to be “Powered by Hope and Strengthened by Prevention”! Be sure to follow PCAKY on their social media platforms, and participate in Child Abuse Prevention Month activities using their tags!

## Resources:

Child Abuse Prevention Month 2025 Resource Guide:

- <https://pcaky.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/CAPM-2025-Resource-Guide-2.pdf>




Face It:

- <https://faceitabuse.org/>

Resources from Face It:

- <https://faceitabuse.org/resources/>

## Calendar of Events

April 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1  Door Decorating Contest begins	2	3  Shop with Kendra Scott for our give back event!	4  Wear Blue Day	5  Shop with Kendra Scott for our give back event!
6	7	8  Read our Resource post on social media!	9	10  Read our Resource post on social media!	11	12
13	14  Read our #CAPM Email Newsletter!	15  Read our Resource post on social media!	16  Digital Advocacy Day	17  Read our Resource post on social media!	18	19
20	21	22  Lean On Me Kentucky Training	23	24  Read our Resource post on social media!	25  CAPM Day of Giving	26
27	28	29  Read our Resource post on social media!	30  Door Decorating Contest ends			



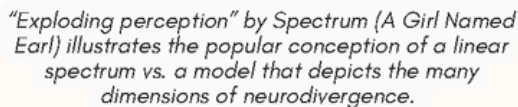
April 5-11, 2025			
	Program Celebrations	Infant/Toddlers	Preschool/Afterschool
<b>MUSIC MONDAY</b>	<b>Drop Off/Pick Up Dance Party</b> Play music during morning drop-off and/or evening pick-up times and encourage families to dance into the week together!	<b>Singing the Day Away</b> Singing songs with young children while going about your day is a great way to incorporate language, listening, relationship-building skills, and more.	<b>Music Exploration</b> Invite families to share any musical interests with your classroom. Providing children with opportunities to see, touch, and hear different instruments is a great way to foster culture and relationships.
<b>TASTY TUESDAY</b>	<b>Family Recipe Book</b> Invite families to share their favorite family recipes. Compile the recipes into a Family Recipe Book that can be shared and built upon as a community.	<b>Positive Meal Time Experiences</b> Creating positive experiences around meal times in your classroom is essential to establishing self-help skills and a healthy relationship with food. Take this time to reflect on your classroom mealtimes and plan ways to foster a calm and positive meal time experience.	<b>Snack Time Fun</b> Ask the children to vote on their favorite snack, then let them plan to make that snack together and enjoy it as a group.
<b>WORK TOGETHER WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>Family Play Time</b> Set up stations around your program for families to work through simple challenges together. Think about things like puzzles, stacking blocks, bowling, etc.	<b>Hi Friend!</b> Young children are naturally curious of others. Provide opportunities for infants and toddlers to occupy the same space while participating in activities such as tummy time, story time, block play, etc.	<b>Community Outreach</b> Talk with older children about ways we can help in our community. Gather ideas and work together with other older classrooms to participate in a community service project.
<b>ARTSY THURSDAY</b>	<b>Art Show</b> Collect and display various art pieces created by the children for a fun family art show. This could be an elaborate event or just simple displays set up to be enjoyed during drop off/pick up times. Involve the children in creating displays and showing off their work.	<b>Mess Free Art</b> When working with young children, finding time for art can be difficult. Mess free art opportunities with ziplock bags, paper, and paint can be a quick and easy way for young children to explore while providing you with a quick clean up.	<b>Open Ended Art Opportunities</b> Set up a table with a variety of art materials. Get creative and think of ways to utilize recycled items for canvases or collage materials. Provide an open invitation for children to create and watch their imaginations take flight.
<b>FAMILY FRIDAY</b> Wrap up an exciting week with a program wide, family pajama day!			

Share your Week of the Young Child experiences with DCC for a chance to be featured in a future ECE Insider!  
 Send photos & activity descriptions to: [Jessica.Abner@ky.gov](mailto:Jessica.Abner@ky.gov)



**Thank you to the Kentucky Office of Autism for Resources for the ECE-Insider for Autism Acceptance day. Please scan the QR Codes to learn more!**

AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH  
WORLD AUTISM DAY - APRIL 2



to download  
this resource  
guide for  
parents



**New Autism Diagnosis Resource Sheet**



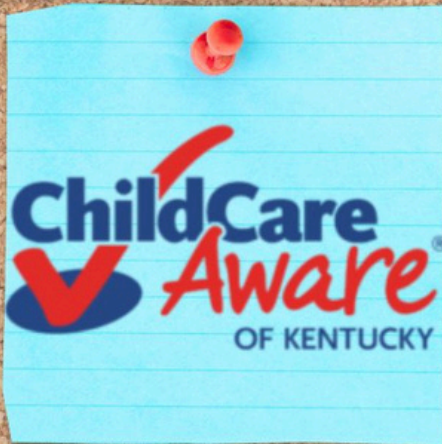
TEAM KENTUCKY.





# Did You **KNOW?**

**Child Care Aware of KY offers FREE relationship-based coaching and technical assistance.**



TA offered by Child Care Aware coaches is collaborative and relationship-based.

They offer assistance and support designed for professionals working in early care and education (ECE) including child care providers and trainers. Coaches work with you free of charge.

Four different coaching types offer personalized TA based on your needs and goals.

Quality Coach

Training Coach

Health and Safety Coach

Professional Development Coach



Want to learn more about resources and tools available to child care providers through Child Care Aware of Kentucky? Copy and paste the link below into a web browser.

<https://www.childcareawareky.org/support/providers/>



# Spring Into New Training!

If your licensed program is interested in **FREE** online or in-person Pediatric Abusive Head Trauma training, Child Abuse or Domestic Violence training, Nutrition 101 class and more health and safety related topics reach out to your local CCHC consultants!

<https://www.kentuckycchc.org/contact-us>

Online trainings cannot be completed more than once in a 5 year period.

Always verify the ECE-TRIS calendar for approved trainings.



Home	Calendar/Approved Trainings	Trainer Search	Contact Us	Resources
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**Title**   
*Specify some keywords about the training you would like to find*

**Conference Title**   
*Can search on full conference title or keyword in the conference title*

**Sponsoring Agency**   
*Specify sponsoring agency of the training*

**Location/County**   
*Select the location for Face to Face, Teleconference, or Webinar trainings you would like to see*

**Start Date - End Date**  -   
*Specify a date range in the format mm/dd/yyyy to filter*

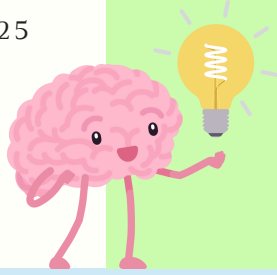
**Cost** ☒ Free  
*Check to see free trainings*

**Delivery Method**

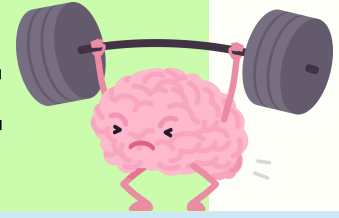
<input type="checkbox"/> Face to Face/Classroom	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Study
<input type="checkbox"/> Teleconference/Conference Call	<input type="checkbox"/> Web-based On-Demand Learning
<input type="checkbox"/> Webinar: Live Online Event	

## REMINDER!

**You don't have to wait until June to complete your annual hours! Search FREE approved trainings on ECE-TRIS and send in any completed and approved training certificates ECE-TRIS to be processed!**



# Strength-based Approach in ECE



## Re-framing Our Perspective with Positive Intent

Strength-based approach is a strategy to identify the strengths each child instead of focusing on the child's deficits. **This strategy starts with the Teacher.** Teachers need to be able to shift their own thinking to a more positive intent. Even as adults, we sometimes struggle with how to react to a situation, so it's important to remember that children's behavior is a way of communicating. We have to shift our thoughts when we experience children's negative behavior to be with positive intent in order to be in the right headspace to react to their behavior appropriately and help coach them through their own behaviors and emotions.

Below are some examples from Conscious Discipline of common negative intent thoughts and then how intent can be shifted to positive intent:

**Negative:** I've told her 1,000 times not to come in without knocking!

**Positive:** She gets excited and forgets to knock.

**Negative:** Devon is acting crazy!

**Positive:** Devon has a lot of energy and needs help to focus.

Read more about positive intent and 6 steps from Conscious Discipline to help re-frame our negative intent to positive intent!

<https://consciousdiscipline.com/memberships/free-resources/discipline-tips/>

## Additional Resources:

### Division of Child Care

<https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dcbs/dcc/Pages/default.aspx>

### Division of Regulated Child Care (DRCC)

<https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/os/oig/drcc/Pages/default.aspx>

### Child Care Aware Tips and Tools

<https://www.childcareawareky.org/tips-and-tools/>

### Family Child Care Network

<https://www.fccnky.com/>

### ECE-TRIS

[ecetris@eku.edu](mailto:ecetris@eku.edu) Phone: (859) 622-8811

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM EST, M-F

### Child Care Health Consultants

<https://www.kentuckycchc.org/>

### Help Me Grow Kentucky

<https://www.childcareawareky.org/tips-and-tools/>

<https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dcbs/dcc/Pages/hmg.aspx>



## KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FAMILY NEWSLETTERS

The Kentucky Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL) provides access to a monthly newsletter, Helping Children Learn, written by The Parent Institute, and an activity planner to support families with early learners. These resources are filled with engaging daily learning activities that parents and caregivers can do with their children!

Please click on the links below for the current newsletter.

[Helping Children Learn-Family Newsletter \(English\)](#)

[Helping Children Learn-Family Newsletter \(Spanish\)](#)

[Daily Learning Planner for Families \(English\)](#)

[Daily Learning Planner for Families \(Spanish\)](#)

