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https://www.asurams.edu/ccrr

Quarterly Bulletin and Training Calendar for Early Childhood Educators

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2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 754, East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334 (404) 656-5957

Brian P. Kemp Governor Amy M. Jacobs
Commissioner

Dear Child Care Professionals of Georgia:

First, I just want to say how much I appreciate all that you do for Georgia's children and families. I know that the last few years have not been easy, and it seems that, as an industry, we are thrown curveball after curveball. It is my hope that many of the programs and initiatives that we are undertaking in both the Quality Innovations and Partnerships Division, as well as DECAL, are providing you with much needed support. Second, as we move into the final quarter of the year, I know that all our calendars are filling up with activities. It is certainly a busy time at DECAL. I'd like to use this opportunity to update you on two high-priority projects.

The first project is the Quality Rated Restoration Grant (QRG) Program, which is funded through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act. As the child care industry works to rebound from the effects of the pandemic, we are committed to developing resources and supports to assist programs in raising quality and becoming or remaining Quality Rated. The QRGs are specifically designed to support programs with on-site Quality Rated assessments occurring between July 1, 2022 and December 31, 2023 and include awards of \$5,000 per eligible classroom (up to \$50,000 per program). The classroom funds can be used to purchase materials, equipment, and online Environment Rating Scale (ERS) training to support providers in raising and maintaining quality. I know that there are many questions about these grants. Rest assured that we are working as fast as we can to get the grants up and running. This is a massive undertaking, and it just takes some time to get contracts and systems in place. We expect to begin distributing funds in early November. I promise that more information is forthcoming. In addition to the classroom funds, the QRGs also include a \$500 bonus for eligible staff. These will be distributed after a program's rating is awarded. Again, more information will be coming about the bonuses.

The second project is really a group of activities, and I hope you have heard about some of them, commemorating the 10th Anniversary of Quality Rated. While it's fun to plan a celebration, we think the Anniversary will help us achieve the important goals of publicizing Quality Rated's many achievements since its inception, spotlighting providers that have attained star-rated status over the years, and engaging with the program's longstanding stakeholders and partners. We kicked off the celebration during Labor Day weekend with Quality Rated Day at the Atlanta Braves–Miami Marlins game where we hosted a tent outside the Truist Park 3rd Base Gate and visitors met DECAL mascot CALi, collected prizes, and learned about the benefits of high-quality child care and ways to find star-rated providers. Inside, fans watched Quality Rated promotional videos and saw Commissioner Jacobs throw out the ceremonial first pitch during a pregame ceremony. Over the next three months, DECAL will host three Anniversary events to recognize providers that were among the first to become Quality Rated. We will also send books to Quality Rated providers and provide them with new Quality Rated sidewalk signs. These events are designed to take place over the current school year. Be on the lookout for more information.

Again, I know that the last few years have been hard and I just want to let you know how much we appreciate all you do. If you have questions about anything here, feel free to contract the Help Desk at QualityRated@decal.ga.gov or call 1-855-800-7747 for information and guidance. Also feel free to contact me directly. Hope you all are doing well.

Sincerely,

Bentley Ponder

Deputy Commissioner for Quality Innovations and Partnerships



Albany's South Georgia Early Learning Committee is pleased to announce the return of:

A Director's Institute: Igniting Team Spirit!

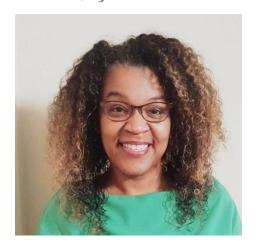
with sessions,

Begin with the End in Mind

and

Identifying and Overcoming Behaviors that Prohibit Teamwork in the Workplace

Presented by: Consuella Carter, of CC Educational Training Services, LLC





Scan here to register now!

Friday, October 7, 2022
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., 4 hrs. DECAL training credit
Phoebe Education Center, 1000 N. Jefferson St.,
Albany, GA 31701
\$50.00 registration fee, lunch included
Space is limited; register now!



For additional information call: CCR&R Training Administrator, Margo M. Sanders @ 229.500.2897 or margo.sanders@asurams.edu

6 Habits of Highly Effective Child Care Managers

- 1. They put the needs of their staff on par with the needs of the children.
- 2. They give sincere praise regularly.
- 3. They treat their team members as equals.
- 4. They take time out for themselves to recharge.
- 5. Great managers communicate openly and often.
- 6. They look for ways to build on other people's strengths.

www.geteduca.com



Did you know that our Technical Assistance Coordinators (TACs) can offer you and your staff private trainings for a very low cost? Our staff that provide your TA for Quality Rated, can assist your program in its continuing efforts for early education and training. We can provide professional development on a wide variety of topics or areas of direct need for your staff and/or program virtually or onsite at your program. Our TACs can help assess your needs for professional development and offer trainings specifically to meet those needs.

If you are interested in having a Technical Assistance Coordinator speak with you about scheduling a training, let your TAC know today, or call our Training Administrator, Margo Sanders: 229.500.2897 or margo.sanders@asurams.edu.

Tips & Tricks with the TACs

- When the weather changes, jackets are needed for outside play. While children are cleaning, bring their jackets to them to put on and when all cleaning is done, everyone is ready to go outside and no wait time at the door.
- For easy clean up, place an old or inexpensive shower curtain liner under art easels and sensory tables.
- Make homemade books using the children's drawings or pictures. Place in Ziplock bags or laminate and tie together with a ribbon.
- Get a bird feeder with suction cups that sticks to a window and position outside the classroom window. This serves as an easy reminder to talk about nature, birds, and caring for animals.
- Have a weekly challenge for your staff for adding new skills and practices into their daily instruction. Example: sing and dance to one song a day. End of the week, award the teacher with the most added activities that she/he put into practice, with something small such as Snickers bar and a coke, etc.
- Use visual daily schedules to help children understand the flow of the day and what comes next.
- Give 5, 3, and 1-minute warnings for clean-up; using a visual will help. Children need time to "finish" play before they can mentally move on to another task.
- Start each day with 5 sticky notes, each with a student's name. Throughout the day, jot a quick, positive note or observation about each student. At the end of the day, take pictures of your notes, print and stick them in the students take home folders or cubbies. By the end of the week, you will have made positive contact with each of your families (you can use the photos for documentation and to make sure you don't write the same thing next week!)
- Make cleaning-up a game! Toddlers love this and will participate when cleaning is made into a fun time. Example: Beat the Timer set a timer for a certain amount of time, depending on the age of children and the size of the mess. Five-minute increments may work well to complete smaller jobs. The object of the game is to see if they can finish their job before the timer goes off!



Congratulations

to these new and maintaining Quality Rated providers!



Buzy Bbb'z Too Child Care & Learning Center
Buzy Bbb'z Child Care & Learning Center
Calvary's Harvest Christian Academy
Chapman's Learning Center
Kidz Konnection
Kids World Academy 2 of Bainbridge
Alma's Baby World and Early Learning Center
Bright Beginnings
Kiddie Kollege & Learning Center
Polka Dots Early Childhood Development Center
Pride and Joy Daycare Learning Academy II
Stepping Stones Early Development Center
Lillie's Lil' Lamb Daycare & Learning Center II

Gresham, Jessica - Family Child Care Learning Home



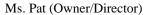
Quality Rated Provider Highlights

Pitty Pat Daycare Center, Columbus, GA 3-Stars!!!

I am Patricia Gibson, a retired Army veteran, who founded Pitty Pat Daycare Center in 2015. After retiring from the United States Army, I decided I wanted to do something I really loved and that was taking care of children. I went to college and received my associate degree in early childhood development at Columbus Technical College.

Opening a daycare center, I was not sure what I was getting myself into and enlisted the help of my daughter, Shanterra Scott. I knew she would help me navigate through all the requirements and processes of establishing a successful program and now she is my assistant director. We currently have three smart, funny, and enthusiastic employees:







Ms. Gail (Toddler room)



Mrs. Clema (Preschool room)



Mrs. Jackie (Infant room)

Ms. Clema Burch is our current preschool teacher employed with us four years, and has over 30 years of experience working with children. She is very understanding, pleasant, and caring with the children. She has been a great asset to the success of Pitty Pat Daycare Center.

Ms. Gail Osgood is the current toddler teacher with five years of experience working with children. She is very loving and patient with the children and has brought our program a great deal of joy.

Ms. Jacqueline King has been with Pitty Pat Daycare Center since we opened our doors and has worked with every age group. Coming from the school system, she has brought tremendous knowledge, skills, and ideas to our program that do not go unnoticed.

Once we established our team, we took on the challenge of becoming Quality Rated. We knew that by becoming Quality Rated, we would learn how to take our program to the next level for our current and future children. Throughout the process, we began to understand intentional teaching and how to incorporate it within the day.

For example, something as simple as playing hopscotch with a small group of children can be an intentional teaching moment allowing the teacher to add value to the activity. With the drive, guidance, and patience of Mrs. Alicia Mills, our technical assistance coordinator, we received a clear understanding of each topic as well as how to overcome the challenges of each. After completing the Quality Rated process and receiving two stars, I am confident that myself and my team will apply what we learned to our everyday routine ensuring that children attending Pitty Pat Daycare Center, receive the best care and learning experience.

~ Patricia Gibson, Owner/Director

Visit our website often for a regularly updated training calendar and training registration information: www.asurams.edu/ccrr

You can also watch your email for weekly training reminders that keep you up-to-date on all upcoming training. If you are not receiving these, please send your email address to: margo.sanders@asurams.edu or call 229.500.2897.

Like us on Facebook @ccnofswga for the latest updates on events and highlights from our agency!

Quality Rated Provider Highlights

Kiddie Kollege Learning Center, Columbus, GA 2-Stars!!















Kiddie Kollege Learning Center Staff Here at Kiddie Kollege Learning Center, we had a great time with the entire QRVP (Quality Rated Virtual Process). The experience showed us areas we may have been lacking and helped us improve on them. We enjoyed working alongside our TAC, Alicia Mills, who was there for us every step of the way and as helpful as possible.

We were excited to have received our 2 star rating and will continue working hard to provide a happy, safe, and fun-loving environment for our kids.

~ Juanita Lewis, Director

CCR&R Staff Highlight

Hello everyone, I'm Alicia Mills, a Technical Assistance Coordinator for the Child Care Resource & Referral of Southwest Georgia at Albany. I have been with the agency for about five years and love my job! The great thing about my job is getting to work with a variety of child care programs in Muscogee and the surrounding counties. I also enjoy the opportunity to share my knowledge and passion for teaching with child care directors and teachers and at the same time learn from them.

Before I began working for the Child Care Resource & Referral, I was a Georgia Pre-K teacher more than three years at Fort Benning Air Force Base. Although I miss being in the classroom and building the foundation of learning for young children, my love and passion for early learning flourishes each day. I continue to share my passion, ideas, knowledge, and love for children.

I am a wife and mother of two young ladies. I hold a bachelor's degree in elementary education and hope to build upon my education by obtaining my master's in early childhood education. I love to travel, take pictures, and spend time with my family because I would not be where I am today without them.

Please remember you are one of the most significant parts of each child's learning experience and even though there are days where nothing seems to be going right, you can make a difference. We do not always know what home life is like for the children we serve, but you as the teacher can make their learning experiences at school fun and engaging by supporting, encouraging, and most of all, keeping them safe! You can make a difference in every child's life by taking a minute out of your day to show them how much they mean to you!



The Family Gathering: Ideas, Information, & Resources for FCCLHs

Ten Tips on How to Run a Successful Family Child Care Learning Home

- 1. Have Clear Policies and Follow Them
- 2. Don't Take Your Friends and Family's Kids
- 3. Always Ask For Parental Feedback
- 4. Have A Social Media Presence
- 5. Add Value With Unique Services
- 6. Have A Properly Trained Staff/Substitute Who Believes In Your Vision
- 7. Don't Forget To Take A Vacation
- 8. Simplify The Business Side Of Things
- 9. Try To Be Flexible (Within Reason)
- 10. Charge Upfront



TUIO.com



Back by popular demand!

We are bringing back the *Lunch and Learn* as an additional virtual training option to our regularly scheduled trainings. Come join us in a relaxed and friendly virtual setting to collaborate, learn, share knowledge, and gather insights with other early childhood educators. See page 8 of this newsletter for the details!

Focusing on The Big 3 to Improve Quality in Your ECE Program

October 25 - Module 1: Schedules, Transitions, and Routines

October 26 - Module 2: Building Positive Teacher-child Relationships

October 27 - Module 3: Positive Teacher-child Interactions.

Training Calendar – October, November, & December 2022

Tuesday, October 4, 2022	Core Rules and Regulations with Music to Minimize Citations! – 2 hrs.	Lori Sugarman,
7:00 p.m 9:00 p.m. \$10 Webinar	Let's use music as a way to review, discuss, and sing our way through BFTS regulations: Discipline, Diapering, Sleep Safety, Medication, Physical Plant, Playground, Hygiene, Swimming, Field Trips, Transportation, Ratios, and Supervision.	BFTS Approved Trainer
Tuesday, October 11, 2022 6:30 p.m 8:30 p.m. \$10 Webinar	Science Comes Alive in the Child Care Center – 2 hrs. Make science a part of your preschool classroom. This training helps teachers gain valuable ideas as they stress the importance of teaching science.	Polly Raike, BFTS Approved Trainer
Saturday, October 15, 2022 9:00 a.m 1:00 p.m. \$20 Webinar	Supervision Made Easy! – 4 hrs. Are you sure you have adequate supervision? Learn how to create a safe and secure environment for children and staff by following the rules and regulations.	Sandra Jackson, BFTS Approved Trainer
Tuesday, October 18, 2022 7:00 p.m 9:00 p.m. \$10 Webinar	Developing and Honoring Ways to Promote Partnerships with Families – 2 hrs. Learn how to become aware of the different barriers and communications that can create problems between staff and families. Knowing what to look for and how to decrease barriers will increase respect for families as well as teachers.	Linda Davis, BFTS Approved Trainer
Saturday, October 22, 2022 9:00 a.m 2:30 p.m. \$50 First Baptist Church CDC 205 East 13 th Ave Cordele, GA 31015	CPR/First Aid American Heart Association Learn how to recognize and alleviate airway obstructions, and the signs, symptoms, and corrective action for a stroke or heart attack. Also, learn to recognize and treat minor medical emergencies.	Judy Gaines, Certified Instructor
Tuesday, October 25, 2022 6:30 p.m 8:30 p.m. \$10 Webinar	Ready for Reading – 2 hrs. Learn about pre-reading skills and strategies for choosing good books in early childhood programs and infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.	LaKeshia Levi, County Extension Agent
Tuesday, October 25, 2022 11:00 a.m 1:00 p.m. \$10 Webinar, a lunch & learn!	Focusing on The Big 3 to Improve Quality in Your ECE Program Schedules, Relationships, and Interactions Module 1: Schedules, Transitions, and Routines – 2 hrs. Are you struggling with classroom management? Are your transitions out of control? Learn how to develop a daily schedule that sets a working foundation for your classroom, helps transitions run smoothly, and makes classroom management so much easier.	Tera Collins, BFTS Approved Trainer
Wednesday, October 26, 2022 11:00 a.m 1:00 p.m. \$10 Webinar, a lunch & learn!	Focusing on The Big 3 to Improve Quality in Your ECE Program Schedules, Relationships, and Interactions Module 2: Building Positive Teacher-child Relationships – 2 hrs. Relationships are key to positive learning outcomes. Join us to learn how relationships affect learning and strategies for building relationships with the children in your classroom.	Tera Collins, BFTS Approved Trainer
Thursday, October 27, 2022 11:00 a.m 1:00 p.m. \$10 Webinar, a lunch & learn!	Focusing on The Big 3 to Improve Quality in Your ECE Program Schedules, Relationships, and Interactions Module 3: Positive Teacher-child Interactions – 2 hrs. Did you know that interactions set the tone for relationships, learning, and behaviors in a classroom? Learn how to include interactions to help you better approach, respond to, communicate with and support children in all domains.	Tera Collins, BFTS Approved Trainer

Tuesday, November 1, 2022 6:30 p.m 8:30 p.m.	Positive Discipline – 2 hrs.	Polly Raike, BFTS Approved	
\$10	Help - my class is out of control! Surely it is not my fault!	Trainer	
Webinar	Learn the difference between punishment and discipline, and how to help children behave in appropriate ways.		
Saturday, November 5, 2022	Play and Learning: Understanding the Connection – 2 hrs.	Melvina Crawl,	
9:00 a.m 11:00 a.m. \$10	Play has a powerful impact on learning during the early years.	BFTS Approved Trainer	
Webinar	Come learn the benefits of play, the caregiver's role, and turn your play into meaningful early learning experiences!		
Thursday, November 10, 2022	Transitioning-Moving Right Along (Infants & Toddlers) – 2 hrs.	Linda Davis, BFTS Approved Trainer	
7:00 p.m 9:00 p.m. \$10	Verbal cues are an absolute necessity when encouraging young children to transition from one activity to the next.		
Webinar	Practicing and making it fun for the children will support a smooth transition.		
Saturday, November 12, 2022	Get Ready to Read with Alligator Allie - 2 hrs.	Lori Sugarman,	
9:00 a.m 4:00 p.m. \$30	Learn playful ways to introduce reading readiness with sounds of the letter A in music and activities.	BFTS Approved Trainer	
Super Saturday!!!	Get Ready to Read with Barney Buzzard – 2 hrs.		
Lifesprings Child Care Center 2010 GA Hwy 133 South Moultrie, GA 31788	Come learn playful ways to introduce reading readiness with the sounds of the letter B in music and activities.		
	Singing into Reading and Sounds with Curtis the Caterpillar – 2 hrs.		
	Developed around an illustrated song video starring Curtis the Caterpillar, this song comes with slides, "c" sight words, a coloring page, a poem, a story, and beginning reader-writer activities.		
Tuesday, November 15, 2022	Eat Healthy, Be Active – 2 hrs.	LaKeshia Levi,	
6:30 p.m 8:30 p.m. \$10	Come learn about healthy eating and physical activities for preschoolers and hands-on activities that teach nutrition and physical activity.	County Extension Agent	
Webinar			
9:00 a.m 1:00 p.m. \$20 Webinar	I've Got a New Attitude! Professionalism Starts With ME!!! – 4 hrs. Come join us and learn how to use the NAEYC Ethical Code of Conduct and Statement Commitment, to develop/amend your policies and procedures to include a section on ethics and professionalism that is specific to your program and learning environment.	Sandra Jackson, BFTS Approved Trainer	
Saturday, December 3, 2022	Make Every Move Count – 4 hrs.	Sandra Jackson,	
9:00 a.m 1:00 p.m. \$20 Webinar	Learn techniques to develop and implement ORIGINAL activities that enhance children's physical and cognitive growth and development. These activities will be focused on children from infancy to 5+.	hysical and cognitive growth and development.	
Saturday, December 10, 2022	Reframing And Responding to Challenging Behavior – 3 hrs.	Linda Davis,	
9:00 a.m 12:00 p.m. \$15	When we "reframe" a behavior, we can see the child in a new way and respond more effectively. Reframing focuses on student development instead of punishment.	BFTS Approved Trainer	
Webinar Tuesday, December 13, 2022	The Guidance Toolbox – 2 hrs.	LaKeshia Levi,	
6:30 p.m 8:30 p.m. \$10 Webinar	Learn reasons why children misbehave, why time-out can be ineffective, and a variety of strategies for handling common behavior problems in the early childhood program.	County Extension	
wedinar	at the curry chambon programs		

TRAINING REGISTRATION GUIDELINES

- To locate the training calendar and register for the training of your choice, go to
 <u>www.asurams.edu/ccrr/training.php</u>, where you can register and submit payment through Eventbrite, or for
 Quality Rated training register through the GaPDS.
- 2. Email blasts are sent twice a week as a reminder of upcoming sessions. Please check your email often.
- 3. **Webinars**-You must attend virtually and participate in all activities, polls, chats, and breakout sessions during the training to receive a certificate.
- 4. No one is admitted to the training without prior registration and payment if required.
- 5. Registrations must be received at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled training date.
- 6. Credit and refunds for cancellations are not allowed. Canceling your registration requires at least a 24-hour notice. When calling to cancel, you may apply your payment toward another scheduled training.
- 7. If you register for free training and do not attend, your registration for free training in the future may not be accepted.
- 8. Enjoy and thanks for attending our training!

How to Attend the Webinar Training Session

- 1. Register for the training through the <u>www.asurams.edu/ccrr/training.php</u> website by purchasing a ticket, if required, through Eventbrite for the training of your choice.
- 2. Once registration and payment have been received, you will receive an email with an invitation to join the session along with handouts as attachments on the day of the weekday training or the day before for a weekend training.
- 3. When it is time to join the session, you will need to click the link in the email.
- 4. You may need to download an application to your computer or phone in order to join so please be sure to log in early.
- 5. Once the application is downloaded, you will be able to join the session.
- 6. Upon entering the session, please type your name and county you work in the chat box.
- 7. Please participate in all activities, polls, chats, and breakout sessions throughout the training.
- 8. Be sure to complete the Survey Monkey after the training to let us know your thoughts so we can better serve your needs.

IMPORTANT:

YOU ARE NOT REGISTERED UNTIL FEES FOR TRAINING ARE RECEIVED.

For training information and questions, contact Training Administrator, Margo Sanders: 229.500.2897/866.833.3552 margo.sanders@asurams.edu



Like us on Facebook <u>@ccrrofswga</u> then follow us for the latest highlights, fun activities, updates and scheduled trainings! And visit:

https://www.asurams.edu/ccrr/index.php



Child Care Resource & Referral of Southwest Georgia at Albany Albany State University

Serving Early Care Professionals Toward Excellence in Quality Child Care

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