



“Promoting Quality Care”



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Child Care Connections says good bye to Stacy Wesen!

After nearly 20 loyal years, Child Care Connections says goodbye to Stacy Wesen. Upon graduating from Montana State University, Stacy joined the CCC staff as the CACFP coordinator and began building the program. At one point she was managing over 100 participating providers. After 12 years in the food program Stacy was promoted to Assistant Director and Coordinator of the Safety Program. In the Safety Program she promoted safety in the lives of families through the Safe Kids Coalition and Buckle Up Montana. Stacy has made a difference in the lives of many as she was a volunteer shopper for the Bozeman Jaycees

Christmas Wish program and a Big Sister with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Gallatin County. Stacy mentored and impacted the lives and careers of a number of students who completed their internships at CCC. Stacy’s dedication and passion is a quality that will be missed by all CCC staff and the community partners she worked with over the years. The staff at CCC would like to thank Stacy for all she has done for the agency. We will miss you and wish you the best of luck on your new journey!

Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday
 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Office Closures
 1/2/2012
 2/20/12



Calling all coffee, tea and hot cocoa drinkers!



Need a warm drink to chase away those winter chills? Stop by Sola Café at 290 W. Kagy! In the month of January, every time you use a personal/reusable mug, Sola will give 10¢ to Child Care Connections. When you use a Swap mug, the donation **DOUBLES!** Swap mugs are mugs you never have to wash. You bring it in dirty, they give you a clean one and wash it for the next person to use. For more details check out our Facebook page or visit www.childcareconnections.info or www.solacafe.com.

Notary Service
 Kami Doney is a certified Notary of the Public. Please schedule an appointment at CCC for notary.

Board of Directors
 Kate Comstock, *President*
 Elizabeth Linsky, *Treasurer*
 Debbie Berg, *Secretary*
 Ann Klaas
 Jessica Burch
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From the Professional Development Office

Congratulations!

These providers have completed the following trainings:



MT Infant/Toddler Course:

Brenda Townsend	Elisa Bruce	Amber McMullen
Tammy Fitzgerald	Aly Peterson	Sadie Hoe
Leighann Minter	Amanda Kesterson	Sally Hull



MT Preschool Teacher Education Course:

Amiee Gustafson	Barb Limpus	Denay Flansaas
Shanon Rammell	Secilia Marino	Emily Veltkamp
Rebecca Dilday	Kathleen Wiersma	Sukhui Graham

Upcoming Trainings

CSEFEL Preschool Series begins 1/10/12

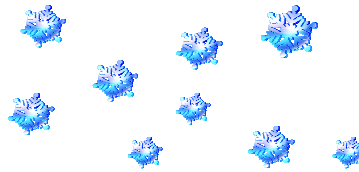
“NutureShock” Book Series begins /12/12

Tax Time 1/19/12

Developmentally Appropriate Play Book Series begins 1/24/12

Toys and Materials: Increasing the Playability with

Simple Adaptations *Date has changed to 2/16/12*



Farewell, Shauna Gaona!

The staff at CCC says good bye to Shauna Gaona. Shauna has accepted a position within the Belgrade school district as an Academic and Behavior Interventionist. The staff at CCC will miss Shauna greatly but wishes her the best of luck in her new adventure!



See insert for information regarding Spring Conference 2012!

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Jane Arntzen-Schumacher
Executive Director
Suzanne Spitzer
Finance Manager
Office Manager
Lynn McHann
Administrative Assistant
CPS Case Manager
Shardai Urdahl
Administrative Assistant
Super Sitter Coordinator

PROVIDER SERVICES

Nannette DuCuennois
Early Childhood Specialist

FAMILY SERVICES

Kami Doney
Program Coordinator
Case Manager: Cases A-K
Alyssa Suckow
Case Manager: Cases L-Z,
TANF
Annie Aschim
Case Manager:
Self Employment

FOOD & NUTRITION

Lisa Curry
Program Coordinator
Joanie Slaybaugh
Program Specialist

CCC's Wish List

Flip charts
Crayola markers
Copy machine
400- 1 inch white binders
New children's story books
Tabbed dividers
Pocket folders
Smart board/ media cart
Ceiling mounted projector
Six section classification folders

From the Family Services Office



Best Beginning Scholarship

If a parent is changing providers, the parent needs to contact Child Care Connections within **1 business day**. If we are not notified within 1 business day new authorizations will not start until the day the case worker is notified of the change.

If a parent is absent for more than 5 consecutive days, the **child care provider is responsible** for notifying the case worker. IF we are not notified of 5 or more absences, no CE days will be paid out past those 5 days.



All Best Beginnings forms can be found on our website www.childcareconnections.info. Please feel free to make copies as needed.

Please note the recent changes to the Self Employment Verification form. Forms can be mailed in, faxed, emailed or brought in to the office. Invoices may not be faxed or emailed.

Welcome, Annie Aschim!



This Montana native obtained her Bachelor's in Elementary Education from MSU Bozeman and her Minor in Early Childhood Education from University of Montana Western. Annie has provided childcare for families of the Gallatin Valley for 5 years as a Family Home Child Care program. Annie's experience in child care and knowledge of the Best Beginnings Scholarship and CACFP programs will be a valuable asset to CCC. Annie has a love for the outdoors, running in marathons, and loves spending time with her husband and two children. The staff at CCC is excited to have Annie as part of their team! Welcome, Annie!

From the Safety Office

A Letter From Stacy

Nearly 20 years ago I graduated from MSU and began my first professional position in a young non-profit agency...Child Care Connections. When I graduated from college, my goal was to find a position in Bozeman that focused on working with children. I was fortunate to find my first job here at CCC as the food program coordinator. After 12 years in that position, I decided to fill the position as coordinator of our child safety program and assistant director of the agency. I have now decided to leave the agency and start a position with Gallatin County later this month. I will be working in the Victim Assistance Program as a Victim Advocate. I am really looking forward to all that I have to learn and experience. To all of the child care providers, board members and community partners that I have had the pleasure of working with over the years, I thank you for your commitment to the children in our community. I will miss all of you more than you will ever know!

*Best,
Stacy Wesen*



Child Care Connections

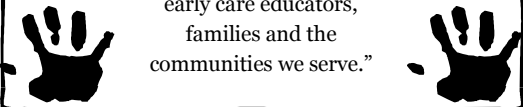
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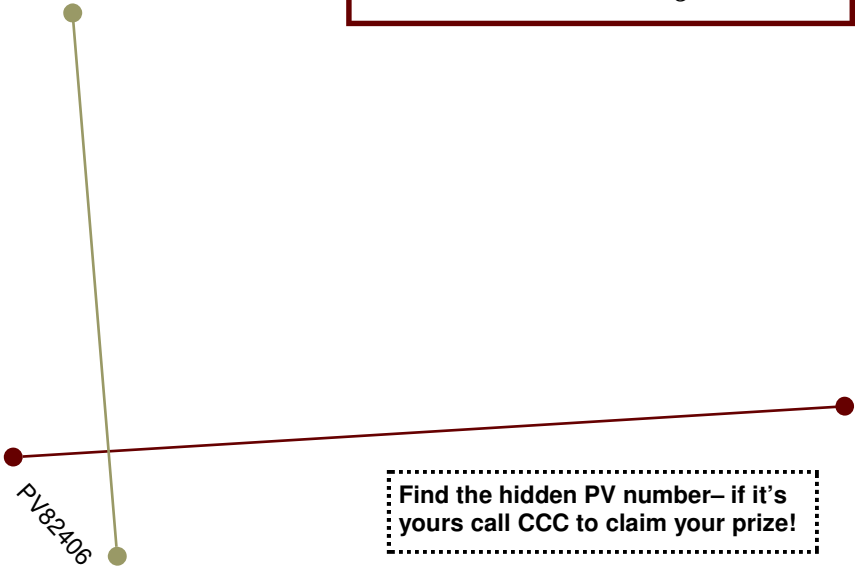
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Child Care Connections
Mission Statement
“Promoting quality child care by supporting early care educators, families and the communities we serve.”



CCC's Lending Library
We have a wide variety of resources and materials available for check out at no cost.
Please visit the Early Childhood Project website
<http://www.mtecp.org>



From the Nutrition Office

Chocolate Cherry Cookies

Ingredients:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1/3 cup all purpose flour | 3/4 cup packed light brown sugar |
| 1/3 cup whole wheat flour | 1 cup dried cherries |
| 1 1/2 cups rolled oats | 1 teaspoon vanilla extract |
| 1 teaspoon baking soda | 1 large egg, lightly beaten |
| 1/2 teaspoon salt | 3/4 cup bittersweet chocolate chips |
| 6 Tablespoons unsalted butter | Cooking spray |



Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Combine first 5 ingredients in a large bowl.
2. Melt butter over low heat. Remove from heat and add brown sugar, stirring until smooth.
3. Add sugar mixture to flour mixture and beat well. Add cherries, vanilla and egg; blend.
4. Stir in chocolate. Spray a cookie sheet and drop Tablespoons of dough 2” apart.
5. Bake for 12 minutes.

