



CHILD CARE
RESOURCES
OF ROCKLAND
INCORPORATED

Rockland Child Care News

childcarerockland.org | info@rocklandchildcare.org | 845-425-0009

September-December 2018

AWEsome

by Jane Brown, Executive Director

I recently read an article by Paula Spencer Scott entitled, "Feeling AWE May Be the Secret to Health and Happiness." What is *awe*? Psychologist Dacher Keltner says, "Awe is the feeling of being in the presence of something vast or beyond human scale that transcends our current understanding of things." I wonder if *awe* is the feeling Jean Piaget felt as he observed children all those years in order to understand child development.

I know that I am in *awe* every day as I observe, listen to, talk and play with children. They absolutely never cease to amaze me with their shining eyes of curiosity, smiles, laughs, cries, jumps, rolls, hugs and snubs. Is that making me healthy and happy? Well, after reading more about *awe*, I do believe that my work with and for children has made me a happier and healthier person.

Maybe if more adults looked at *all* children (not just their own) with the same feeling of *awe*, we would provide more of what children need. Our early childhood industry is yelling for those in power to understand the needs of children and, thus, put children first. Children really are not a priority in most adult's lives. You know the saying, "we spend the first three years of a child's life trying to get him or her to walk and talk; while spending the rest of her or his life trying to get him or her to sit down and be quiet." Is that putting children first? Is that being *awed* by children?

The lack of respect adults have for children is disturbing. We do not realize the impact on a child's development when we swoop up a toddler for a diaper change without a warning or eye contact or any connection – just grab and go!

Nor do we consider the impact on a baby's brain when many different adults are in her life holding her, changing her, feeding her – thus denying her the opportunity to attach and bond with a special adult. These are actions we see in all settings for children. However, in early childhood programs, we should know better. Assigning one major adult to provide for infants and toddlers is crucial for their social and emotional well-being.

I am so tired of people talking about school readiness. *Awe* for children is at all ages – a three-month-old is *awe* inspiring. Why can't we just let him have the best three-month-old experience possible instead of *waiting* until he can talk or sit up?

As people hear that I am leaving Child Care Resources of Rockland at the end of December, they ask me what I will do. Actually, I do not know, except spend more time with children. I have come to realize that their well-being is my passion. It does not matter if I know them or if I will never meet them; I want to be *awed* by their being on this earth. I want to help adults see that by valuing children with whom they encounter, they will make a positive difference in the lives of those children.

Delight in the person each child is at whatever the stage of development he or she is in. Talk about children to others in ways that show respect for them as human beings. Be the voice for children that they cannot be. Insist that we always think about children when making any decisions:

Is it good for the children?



Jane and Tony Brown's grandchildren.

Executive Director

Jane Brown

Board President

Phyllis Tucker

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Christopher Jensen

Donna Perreca

Directors

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Vicki Caramante

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Nancy Cutler

Una Diffley

Vickie Frelow

Jan Jason

John Lagana

Anne Nissen

Scott Salotto

Nycole Smith

Ira Steinberg

Ann Taylor

Mission Statement

Our mission is to promote, support and enhance the healthy development of all children by:

Providing resource and referral services for families seeking accessible, affordable, quality early childhood and school age care and education;

Offering training, support and resources to the early care and education workforce as well as public and private schools;

Connecting with business leaders and public officials to emphasize the value of quality child care to the economic vitality of Rockland County;

Advocating for increased investment in quality child care and education;

Collaborating with strategic partners to enhance our collective abilities to address the needs of the community now and in the future.

A Warm Welcome to all New and Renewed Licensed/Registered Child Care Programs

FAMILY CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

Sandra Alarcon

Lorriane's Day Care

GROUP FAMILY CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

ABC Kid's Corner, Inc.

Brilliant Minds Day Care

Early Bird Nursery and Child Care

Rachel Fuchs

Toddlerama, Inc.

CHILD CARE CENTERS

Prime Time for Kids

SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE

FestaVille, LLC

CONGRATULATIONS!



Teresa Ortega earned the CACFP Child Nutrition Professional Certification from the National CACFP Sponsor's Association.



This is a special designation for those in the CACFP profession committed to continually learning best practices and keeping up with changing trends in the field.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

THANK YOU TO THE FAMILY AND GROUP FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS, CENTER-BASED PROGRAMS, SCHOOL AGE CARE PROGRAMS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO PAID MEMBERSHIP BETWEEN APRIL 3, 2018 AND JULY 30, 2018.

Sara Cohen
Eileen Gerber
Gladis Gomez
Erin Higgins
Carols Merlande Francois
Irma Pachter
Synthia Philippe

Oana Popa
Maria Rodriguez Vega
Lidia Santana
Olga Santos
Luz Valentin
Sophia Zuniga

A Starting Place
JCC-Y of Rockland
New City Jewish Center
RCC—Campus Fun and Learn

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. is a contract agency of the County of Rockland, NYS Office of Children and Family Services, NYS Department of Health, the NYS Education Department and the United Way of Rockland County. Additional funding for Special Needs Services is provided by the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities. We are also supported by Rockland Community College and by our members. Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. is Best Practices/Quality Assurance Certified by Child Care Aware of America demonstrating the competence in the field of Child Care Resource and Referral in New York State.



Child Care Aware® of America Member

Jane Brown

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SPOTLIGHT

What do you do at CCRR?

I am the Executive Director, which means that I am responsible to the Board of Directors for all of CCRR. I joined the agency in November of 1991 as a part time trainer, coordinator of a project for setting up family child care homes and helping programs become accredited. I became full time in June of 1992 and have held several positions since that time. I moved into the role of Executive Director in March of 2003.

Tell us about yourself.

I am a person of faith and look to God for guidance. That has strengthened me through my 65 years. I have a soul mate in my husband and best friend, Tony. We will celebrate 45 years of marriage in November. We have two pretty terrific kids who are married to two more terrific people. Between them they have seven children. In October of 2017, Tony and I sold our home in Newburgh of 26 years and moved in with our daughter, her husband and three boys. Their fourth boy, Kyle, is in heaven. Our son, his wife and three girls live about 10 minutes away. We live in Gardiner, NY, now and plan to stay there.

Do you have a favorite hobby?

Not really. I do like to read but have not had too much time for that lately. I hope that will change once I leave CCRR. I also like to garden and try to keep up with that now, but will be more caring of the garden with more time. I also like to sing and dance.

What did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to own a horse ranch in Montana. I grew up in Missouri and knew a lot about farming, but thought ranching would be more glamorous. However, as I became more involved in sports in high school, I decided to become a Physical Education teacher. So I received my BS degree in Physical Education and Health. I went on to teach junior and senior high school classes and I also



coached swimming, track and cheerleading. It was a lot of fun. We moved to Germany in 1981 when my husband took a job with the Department of Defense for the United States Army. We lived there for 10 years. There were no jobs available in my field, so I did not teach in the schools but became very involved with fitness classes and taught adults. While there, I realized my passion for young children. Our children were young and I so enjoyed that time with them. Then I was asked to teach and direct at one of the Army Child Development Centers. I fell *in love with young children* and decided to seek a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education with Boston University while in Germany. Then my husband was offered a job at West Point, so we moved to NY. Ellen Galinsky, who I met when she visited our AEYC affiliate in Europe, connected me with Phyllis Helbraun at CCRR. The rest is history.

Do you have a philosophy by which you live?

Love the Lord first and everything else will fall in place.

Kindness matters!!

Build bridges, not walls!!

Congratulations!

Child Care Professionals who
recently received their CDA

Marianne Garrecht
Sandy Weiner
Angelina Leone

LEARN HOW YOU CAN GROW PROFESSIONALLY!

We are now accepting registration for our
2019 CDA class. Contact Ellen Mitchell to
learn more: ellenm@rocklandchildcare.org

845-425-0009, x456



Board Membership

WE ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Nancy Cutler and Una Diffley



Are you committed to improving the quality,
accessibility and affordability of child care in
the community?

Do you enjoy working with a dynamic team
of caring professionals?

We are interested in finding qualified and
enthusiastic people to join our Board of Direc-
tors. Would you like to learn more?

We'd love to hear from you!

Please contact Karen: 845.425.0009, x630
karenr@rocklandchildcare.org

Pre-K Update for 2018-2019 School Year

CCRR Administers PreK Services for the Following Rockland County School

Districts: Clarkstown, Nanuet, North Rockland, Nyack, Pearl River, South Orangetown,
and Suffern Central.

A lottery was conducted for each school district mid-April by several Board members—
none of which had a child eligible for PreK. All seven school district slots are full for the
2018-19 school year. There were 234 children on the wait list as of late June.

Universal PreK Slots

Clarkstown=192	Nyack=56	Suffern Central=95
Nanuet=42	Pearl River=29	
North Rockland=283	South Orangetown=70	

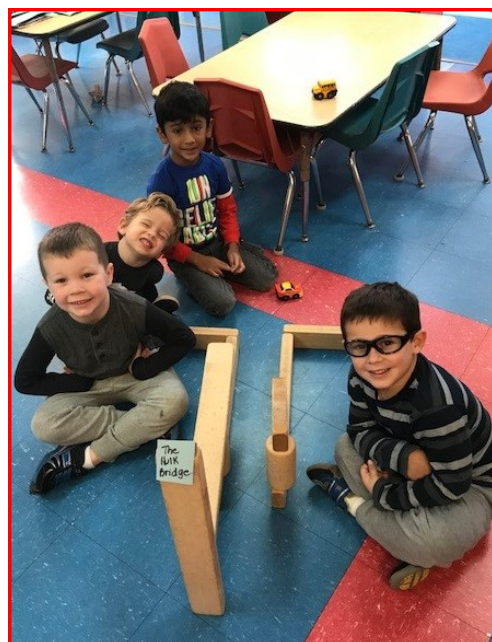
Statewide Full-day Slots

PreK-children must meet income and language eligibility requirements

North Rockland=15	South Orangetown=30
Nyack=10	Suffern Central=20

Number of early childhood programs providing PreK services=42

PreK staff will kick-off the new school year by attending a selection of full day
professional development seminars in the areas of screening, assessment, and
curriculum development.



2018 Annual Meeting: Celebrating Early Learning



Our **2018 Annual Meeting** provided an opportunity to celebrate teachers, parents, and all those in the community who help to support accessible, quality early care and learning. Our thanks to the panelists who shared great insights highlighting the benefits of early learning for all children: *Harriett Cornell, Ariel De La Cruz, Ryan Erbe, Lynette Marshall, James Montesano, Jaime Naddeo, E. Diane Rivera.*

We were very pleased to welcome two new members to the CCRR Board of Directors—Nancy Cutler and Una Diffley. We also had the pleasure of recognizing Haverstraw Head Start for attaining national accreditation with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH



In May, the Better Baby Care Campaign of Rockland County, a coalition of Rockland County family-centered organizations (including CCRR), observed Mental Health Awareness Month by focusing on postpartum depression and perinatal mood and anxiety disorders. County Executive Ed Day proclaimed May 31 a Community Health Education Day to help increase awareness throughout the county. Several awareness events were hosted by campaign partners.

If you or someone you know is suffering from depression or anxiety during pregnancy or after the birth of a child, help is available. Talk to a health care provider ASAP and visit <http://rocklandgov.com/departments/mental-health/>.

Stay Safe, Feel Safe!

with Debbie Silver and Elaine Trotta

Many child care providers have called with questions about how to keep children and their programs safe in these challenging times. To address these very current concerns, Child Care Resources of Rockland will be presenting a seminar entitled: **Stay Safe, Feel Safe!**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27 • 6:30–8:30 PM: For Center Staff, School Age Staff and Family/Group Family Child Care Providers

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14 • 9:00–11:00 AM: For Center and School Age Directors

In what may seem to be an out of control time, parents and providers more than ever are concerned with the safety of children in early childhood settings. How do we help children feel safe in ways that are developmentally appropriate? What steps should we be taking to keep everyone safe? In this seminar, you will participate in discussions and activities centered on how your child care program can prepare for a variety of predicaments.

3 Ways to Register: Complete the registration form located in the Professional Development Calendar, register on our website: childcarerockland.org, or call: 845-425-0009 x0.

Fee: \$15 CCRR Members/\$70 Non-members | Payment MUST accompany registration!



Judy Kesselman Early Childhood Memorial Gardening Program

Judy Kesselman was a beloved advocate and educator in Rockland County who inspired countless early childhood teachers and parents to explore the natural world with children.

This program was designed to commemorate Judy by helping young children in early childhood programs develop an understanding, respect, and love of the natural world.



Campus Fun and Learn Center at The Theresa Morahan Simmons Center for Children and Families, Rockland Community College

BOARD SPOTLIGHT

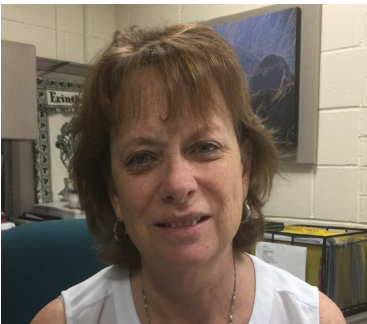
Meet our Board of Directors—Part II



VICKI CARAMANTE

Vicki is a strong advocate for children and education from birth to college. She has served on the Board of Directors of Child Care Resources of Rockland for nine years and is currently Chair of the Board Development Committee, as well as a member of the Sustainability Committee. Vicki is currently serving her fourth term as President of the South Orangetown Council PTA, and has been or continues to be a member of the South Orangetown Central School District Policies Committee, Curriculum Council, Professional Development Committee, Building Level Teams, and School Quality Task Force. In addition, Vicki is currently President of the Tappan Library Board of Trustees.

She, her husband, and three teenage children live in Tappan.



UNA DIFFLEY

Una retired as Director of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention in June 2017 after 32 years with the Rockland County Department of Health. She obtained and managed several grants, working with community partners, including Child Care Resources of Rockland, to improve nutrition and food choices and increase access to physical activity for children in child care and pre-school centers. Una was active in many community coalitions and committees in Rockland County and looks forward to working with staff again and furthering the mission of CCRR.



CHRISTINE CAHILL, ESQ

Christine Cahill is an Associate Professor of Business Administration at St. Thomas Aquinas College, and Assistant Dean in the School of Business, where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in business law and other general law courses. She earned a B.A. in political science, with high honors, from Binghamton University (SUNY), and a J.D. from Indiana University School of Law (Bloomington), where she was a member of the Indiana Law Journal. As a former partner in the corporate department in the Chicago and New York offices of Winston & Strawn LLP, Prof. Cahill has experience in the areas of corporate finance, secured and unsecured lending transactions and other general corporate matters. Serving as a board member for Child Care

Resources is a great privilege for Christine, and she is happy that it allows her to use her expertise to give back to the community and help support CCRR's mission to promote, support, and enhance the healthy development of all children.

Continued on next page.

BOARD SPOTLIGHT



JOHN GREGORY

As a principal at Benefits Exchange Alliance BXA, John handles a select group of national clients while serving as the “great communicator” on compliance and ACA related issues. In addition to serving on the Child Care Resources of Rockland Board of Directors as treasurer, John is also an active member in the Sons of Italy in America, Vincent Linguanti Lodge. John holds a New York and New Jersey State Life, Accident and Health Agent license and is one of the few New York agents to also achieve ACA credentials as a Certified Health Care Reform Specialist.



SCOTT SALOTTO

Scott Salotto currently serves as the Director of Communications and Governmental Relations at Rockland BOCES in West Nyack. Prior to joining BOCES, Scott filled the role of Director of Strategic Communications for the County of Rockland. His professional career also includes 22 years as a radio news reporter, with more than a decade at WABC Radio in New York City. Scott's introduction to Child Care Resources of Rockland came in 2004 when he and his wife were seeking a high-quality, affordable nursery school for their daughter. Since then, he has been an advocate for safe, healthy and nurturing environments that parents want and children deserve.

A Lasting Legacy: Heart, Soul, and Vision Statement from the Board of Directors

With much fondness, the Child Care Resources of Rockland Board of Directors reluctantly prepares to say farewell to Jane Brown as the long-serving Executive Director of CCRR as she retires from our organization in December and moves onto new things. For the past 15 years, Jane has been not only the face of CCRR but its backbone. With strength, perseverance and a clear vision, Jane has guided not only CCRR but child care providers, resource and referral agencies state-wide, elected officials, school districts, and the nonprofit community in working together for stronger communities. *All of the glowing adjectives* that typically come to mind apply to Jane – dedicated, resourceful, passionate, fierce, determined, giving, caring, knowledgeable, supportive; yet, what strikes us most about Jane is her personal commitment to every single child, because that is truly the essence of her heart and soul. In her time with CCRR Jane has rightfully earned the respect of scores of policymakers, advocates, anyone with whom she speaks about the importance of early childhood development and early education. Jane is known far and wide because she personifies her vision for children, a passion she demonstrates unhesitatingly each and every day. *While we are all* very sad to see Jane leave, we know that her lasting legacy will be the heart and soul that she will have imprinted on every single person with whom she has ever crossed paths. We wish Jane all the best in the next chapter of her life.

Earning My CDA Credential *A Path to Fun and Success*

by Diane Minunni, Head Teacher, 3-Year-Old Class, Riverview Nursery School

When I first started looking into all the work that had to be completed to earn my CDA, I must admit I was a bit nervous and unsure if I would ever be able to get it all done. Although I knew in my heart that my experience as a child care provider had given me the foundation for this course, I still felt a bit uncertain I would be able to put it all in writing—even with having so many years of classroom experience. As I began to start the assignments it became more apparent to me, that not only did I truly think about each assignment, but I began to self-evaluate my way of thinking, teaching and communicating with the families.

I do not believe I would have even thought about making any adjustments if it were not for these assignments and for taking the time to think about each one and then put those thoughts in writing.

Week after week, as I completed each assignment, I would look forward to seeing all the things that came more easily to my teaching methods and at the same time I made adjustments to areas I may not have found as comfortable.

The process of earning my CDA really defined my strengths and weaknesses. If you are honest enough with yourself, this course will give you alternative ways of teaching children and communicating with families. Earning your CDA will help to give you a clearer picture of how you can help set up each child, their family, and yourself for a successful and fun year.

Learn how you can earn your CDA! Contact Ellen Mitchell: ellenm@rocklandchildcare.org 845-425-0009, x456

Employee Spotlight:

Haiana Doro, Program Standards and Support Specialist

What do you do at CCRR? As a Program Standards and Support Specialist, I provide technical support to Family Child Care Providers and School-Aged Child Care Programs. I also ensure that these programs are complying with New York State Regulations by going out to the sites and conducting inspections multiple times throughout the year.

Tell us about yourself. I was born in Brazil and moved to the United States when I was 10 years old. I started working in child care right out of high school and graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a Bachelor's in Communication Disorders. Prior to joining CCRR I worked in child care for nine years—and loved every second of it. Children are my passion and ensuring that from an early age they are educated in high quality programs is extremely important to me.

Do you have a favorite hobby? My favorite hobby is spending time with the people I love. Being outdoors, dancing or just relaxing at home are also some of my favorite things. I love to travel and discover new hidden gems the world has to offer. I recently found a love for food trucks! I mean, who doesn't love good food, right?

What did you want to be when you grew up? Ever since I can remember I wanted to become a teacher. My mom, grandpa, and aunts were all teachers, yet I was always advised against it. While I ended up not going to school for education, I found something somewhat similar, Speech Therapy (communication disorders) and have always found ways to bring teaching into my life. Since I haven't fully fulfilled my dream of being a teacher, when I grow up I want to be a teacher!



Do you have a philosophy by which you live? I have many philosophies in life; but in this moment of my life, where I'm still figuring things out, this quote from *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho is very relative and I definitely try to live by it: There is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: the fear of failure.



Nurse's Notes: Why Should I Become Approved to Give Medications to Children (MAT)?

By Kristin G. Saunders, RN, BSN

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Many children, as do adults, require medication on a daily basis and as needed. When parent(s)/guardian(s) are looking for child care, they will often select a program that is already MAT approved, knowing that the program has received detailed training on proper administration techniques. This way, they have peace of mind should their child need medication administered while in care.

When a program is not MAT approved, family members would need to go to the program to administer the medication(s) to the child. While this is inconvenient for the parent/guardian, it is often not even feasible resulting in the child having to forgo those dose(s) of medication until a later time. The child is the one who suffers in this situation, as well as all parties involved. Being MAT approved, lessens the stressful burden for the families and allows for seamless transition of the medication routine for the child.

Being MAT approved is also a way to market your program! Be proud to inform parents and advertise that you are medication approved! Plus, you will have acquired new skills and knowledge that will help to better the health and safety of your program! Along with all these new acquisitions, you will have also satisfied eight of the 30 hours of required training set forth by OCFS. Additionally, SUNY Professional Development Program will send you a rebate for taking the class: \$100 for the classroom class and \$70 for the independent study class.

Another benefit of being MAT approved is that you have the foundation to be compliant with the American's with Disabilities Act (ADA). In your program's health care plan, you have agreed that you will comply with the provisions of the ADA. This can be found in sections 11 and 20:

The program will comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If any child enrolled in the program now or in the future is identified as having a disability covered under the ADA, the program will assess the ability of the program to meet the needs of the child. If the program can meet the needs of the child without making a fundamental alteration to the program and the child will need regular or emergency medication, the program will follow the steps required to have the program approved to administer medication.

Have you heard the saying, it is better to be proactive rather than reactive? Why wait for a child to be enrolled? Obtaining MAT approved status will require a period of time in order for you to register for a MAT class, attend and successfully complete the class, possess current First Aid and CPR certificates (you may need to renew these during this time), meet with your health care consultant to change over your health care plan to reflect MAT status, submit the plan to your licenser, await approval and then receive the change in your license. As you can see, there are many moving pieces to this process which could delay the accommodation of this child by a month or even more.

Consider this scenario as an ADA example: A parent/guardian contacts you to ask if you will accept a child who has diabetes into your program and you are not MAT approved. If you tell the parent you cannot administer medications and therefore are unable to enroll the child, you would not be in compliance with the ADA and could potentially be sued.

Believe it or not, child care providers have been sued and continue to be sued based on non-compliance with the ADA. Not having MAT is a liability, not the other way around! Don't let that happen to you! **Become MAT approved today!**

For further information on the ADA, please visit <https://www.ada.gov/childqanda.htm> or contact our Child Health Care Consultant, Kristin G. Saunders, RN, BSN at 845-425-0009 x493 or kristins@rocklandchild.org.

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Her Heart and Arms Were Open to All - Remembering Cherri Varvaro

Cherri Varvaro was the dedicated owner of Pig Tails Daycare in Bardonia, New York, for 43 years. On May 1, 2018, she passed away after a long hospitalization, leaving many loved ones and day care families heartbroken.

Cherri was always caring for others. After working as a nurse and nursery school teacher, she cared for her own two daughters and soon started caring for other children as well. When Cherri was not caring for children, she was taking care of her many animals. Dogs, cats, parrots, fish and pigs all became part of the child care program as well.

Cherri allowed children to be children. She had dirt piles to climb, bikes for everyone, and even had the fire department visit her program. Cherri made Thanksgiving celebrations for all the families and cheered on hundreds of children through potty training and other developmental milestones.

Cherri was full of life and love; she always had a smile, never complained or worried. She will live in the hearts of the hundreds of children she cared for, their families, and everyone who had the pleasure of knowing her.



44th Annual Early Childhood and School Age Care Conference



845-425-0009

info@rocklandchildcare.org

childcarerockland.org

Saturday, November 3, 2018
7:30 am-5:00 pm

Mark your calendar!
Details forthcoming.

Comings and Goings

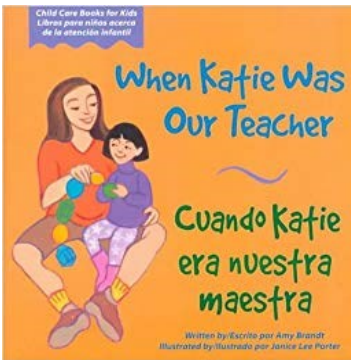
-OFFICE CLOSINGS-

Sept. 3: Labor Day
Oct. 8: Columbus Day
Oct. 19: Office Closed for
Board/Staff Retreat
Nov. 12: Veterans' Day

Nov. 22 + 23: Thanksgiving holiday
Dec. 25: Christmas
Dec. 31: New Year's Eve
-SAVE THE DATE-
Oct. 3: Jane Brown's Retirement Party
Nov. 3: Annual Conference

A BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Ellen Mitchell, CDA Coordinator, Special Needs Coordinator, and Quality Enhancement Specialist, recommends this book for all child care centers.



This book would be good to have available in classrooms to help the children transition to a new teacher/ staff member when one leaves. The back of the book has information and suggestions for parents and teachers to help with these transitions. When Katie Was Our Teacher by Amy Brandt is written in English and Spanish in the same book!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Check out
our offer-
ings and
contact us
today!

Register
by phone,
online, or
in person.



Image source: etsy.com

Staff Directory

Executive Director

Jane Brown x417

Director of Family, Community, and Operations Services

Karen Ross x630

Resource and Referral Coordinator

Christina Espindola x610

Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator

Lisa Kreisel x616

PreK Coordinator

Jenine Valentino x460

Director of Professional Development and Quality Enhancement Services

Debbie Silver x459

CDA Coordinator and Special Needs Coordinator

Ellen Mitchell x456

Quality Enhancement Specialists

Rachel Ambroziak x620

David Del Campo x451

Ellen Mitchell x456

Bonnie Parsekian x613

Maria Rivas x455

Director of Program Standards and Support Services

Elaine Trotta x421

Legally Exempt Enrollment Coordinator

Ines Ortiz x411

Program Standards and Support Services Coordinator

Priscilla Blanco x458

CACFP Coordinator

Teresa Ortega x633

Standards and Support Specialists, and Registrars

James Callahan x221

Haiana Doro x487

Edna Saravia x475

Registered Nurse

Kristin Saunders x493

Director of Finance and Human Resource Services

Gerd Schubert x615

Finance Coordinator

Kathleen Siuro x662

Contact us:

Child Care Resources of Rockland
235 N. Main Street, Suite 11
Spring Valley, NY 10977

Hours: M-F 8:30 am—5:00 pm

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Fax: 845-425-5312

info@rocklandchildcare.org
www.childcarerockland.org

INFANTS • TODDLERS • PRESCHOOLERS • SCHOOL AGERS

Fun & Educational Activities

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc.

Supplement to Rockland Child Care News
September-December 2018

Infants Promoting Healthy Attachments!



Promoting Healthy Attachments creates a greater chance that your child has to develop resilience which is the vital ability to cope with life and all its ups and downs. (Miller, 2001)

Activity: Photo Book

Take close up photos of family members and laminate. Put them in a book and talk about the photos to your child. This is a great idea to share and be used whenever your child becomes anxious when you are not there. These photos can also be added to a texture book.

Art Experience: Baggy Finger Painting

Materials: Washable finger paint, a gallon-size zippered freezer bag and tape

What to do: Squeeze a couple of dark colors of washable finger paint into a zippered baggy and seal tightly. Add duct tape for extra security. Spread the paint around to coat the inside of the bag, and place it on the floor in front of baby during tummy time. *Source: pinterest.com*

Toddlers Healthy Cognitive Development

Why do babies love to play peek-a-boo? Why do older children play hide-and-seek and enjoy magic tricks? It's all about healthy cognitive development. Things may leave for a moment but will come back again. The following activity identifies that when an object is put in a tube it will disappear for a moment and soon appear again.

Activity I: Tube Run

Materials: Cardboard tubing, tennis balls, tape, basket

What to do: Tape the tubing on its side to a flat wall. Place the bottom of the tube about 12" from the floor and angle the top about 18" from the floor. Place a basket on the floor under the tube and invite your toddler to put a ball into the top of the tube and watch as it pops out of the bottom. You can vary objects and encourage observations. A large pom-pom will slide down the tube more slowly than a toy car. *Source: littlebinsforlittlehands.com*



Looking for Child Care?

For information about child care, child care subsidy, or special needs services, contact CCRR at (845) 425-0009 x0 and ask to speak with the Resource and Referral Coordinator.

Newsletter Subscription

Subscribe to Rockland Child Care News via email, and enjoy our children's activities insert, too!

Receive information about our events, parent and grandparent seminars, advocacy and action updates, professional development opportunities, and more.

Sign Up Today

Send an email request to info@rocklandchildcare.org

Contact us:

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. (CCRR)
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Hours: M-F 8:30 am—5:00 pm



DEDICATED TO MAKING CHILD CARE
WORK IN ROCKLAND COUNTY

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www.childcarerockland.org

INFANTS • TODDLERS • PRESCHOOLERS • SCHOOL AGERS

Fun & Educational Activities

Preschoolers

Art Expression

The motivation for art comes from within the child. Young children continually deal with autonomy and initiative.

Activity: Nature Project



Materials: Natural items, large paper, paint, (optional: hairspray and cardboard)

What to do: Accompany your preschooler to explore the outdoors and collect items found in nature. Bring these materials indoors and glue them on large paper and allow the child to creatively apply paint. You can spray the finished product with hairspray to secure. If you want to display the project mount on cardboard.

Activity: Nature Bottle

Another project in which your child can use his/her nature collection is to create a "nature bottle" (similar to a snow globe).

Materials: plastic water bottle, nature items, colored tape

What to do: Place the nature items securely in a plastic water bottle. Add a few pine needle branches and fill with water almost to the top. Once the water is added you can add a few pinches of glitter. Secure the top of the bottle with colored masking tape to assure that it won't open. Then shake!



Source: [pinterest.com](https://www.pinterest.com)

School Agers

Thinking in Logical Steps

When your child is of school age he or she will begin to stay with activities for longer periods of time and start thinking in logical steps. A great activity for school ages during the colder months is an icicle craft. Provide the materials below and allow your child to be creative.

Activity: Button Icicles

Materials: white ribbon, scissors, glue or glue stick, and white buttons of various sizes

What to do: You can include a picture with written instructions for your child to follow. Have the child line up the buttons largest size to smallest size, allowing him or her to determine the length of each icicle. Then cut the ribbons to the appropriate lengths. Help the child put glue on the back of each button one at a time and have the child place the button along the ribbon.



When the glue has dried, the icicles are ready to hang in the window. Your school ager will feel so accomplished when hanging this decoration in the window or when giving icicles as gifts.



Source: [funcraftskids.com](https://www.funcraftskids.com)

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. is a contract agency of the County of Rockland, the NYS Office of Children and Family Services, NYS Department of Health, the NYS Education Department and the United Way of Rockland County. Additional funding for Special Needs Services is provided by the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities. We are also supported by Rockland Community College and by our members.

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. is Best Practices/Quality Assurance Certified by Child Care Aware of America demonstrating the competence in the field of Child Care Resource and Referral in New York State.



Jane Brown's Address

Rockland Business Women's Network

June 12, 2018

When I was told that I would be receiving this award and have an opportunity to speak for a few minutes this morning, I saw it as an opportunity to share my passion for children and hoped it might ignite a fire in you to advocate for children's needs.

It began when Tony, my best friend and husband of 44 years, and I began to raise our two children, Tab and Misty. What excitement to see them develop into the amazing citizens, spouses and parents they are today.

As I grew into parenting and teaching and then grand parenting young children, I realized how much I wanted to make a difference in their lives and even in the lives of children I would never meet.

As we consider the theme of Celebrating our Strengths, please indulge me for a few moments and close your eyes. Think back to your earliest childhood memory. Who strengthened you? For many of us, it is most likely a family member and/or a teacher and God. It was for me.

Now, I am still strengthened by and learn every day from family members along with the staff and board members with whom I work at Child Care Resources of Rockland. Thank you for helping me to continue to grow and look at varying perspectives. I want to publicly thank Dr. Kathleen Cuneo, one of our board members, who took the time to write and submit the nomination for this award from the Rockland Business Women's Network.

At CCRR, we work with families from all economic, social, cultural and racial walks of life who are struggling, need information or just want a listening ear. We represent an industry and a resource that is rarely mentioned in economic development strategies. I am referring to the early care and education industry which is comprised of nearly 260 businesses employing close to 20,000 people in Rockland County. This business sector cares for and educates about 10,400 children from infancy through age 12. If this sector did not exist, there would be many parents who would not be showing up for work and employers unable to operate or expand their businesses. Reliable, regulated child care has been shown to increase employee attendance, punctuality and productivity.

It is unfortunate that we cannot, as a society, help all families pay for early education for their children. In fact, for some reason many in leadership still believe that *mom*s should stay home with their children; unless, of course they are *poor* and should be out working so our society does not have to help them. You may not believe that (And I hope you don't), but many in our society still believe that archaic philosophy.

The reason for this idea is primarily because these concepts reinforce personal, not collective, responsibility for young children. We should all take responsibility for all our young children. We all pay taxes and vote to oversee our public school system, which generally starts at age five. Why are we not taking more responsibility for children's development and education starting at birth?



I was curious if anyone had any conversations about young children this morning? We do need to be more interested in children and here are some statistics to show you why:

- 90% of the brain is developed in the first five years of life
- There are fewer public dollars spent on Americans during their first five years than at any other time of our lives
- 22% of infants have a TV in their bedroom – one of the worst things for developing brains
- Parents are stressed and depressed now more than ever and children are at home with them because parents cannot afford for their children to be in an early childhood education setting. In many cases, little quality interaction is going on with parents who are depressed and stressed.
- Child care costs, \$15,000 for infants and \$11,000 for preschoolers, are double or triple the cost of SUNY college tuition but there are grants and loans available for all college students, no matter the income of the family.
- Little help is available for families to help pay for early care and education programs.
- 16 million American children live in poverty. 24% of children under age 6 in NY live in poverty.
- More than 3 million children are reported abused and neglected with over 69,000 in New York; and every six hours a child dies from abuse and neglect.
- 7 million children are uninsured, and more than half of the children enrolled in Medicaid do not receive dental care. Thankfully, New York leads the nation in insuring children with more than 97% insured.
- Twenty-five percent of New York’s children are hungry.

Children need our help NOW – they cannot wait until the deficit has been recovered, roads have been repaired, bridges have been built, tunnels have been dug, walls have been debated, elections have been won, the war against terrorism is over or global warming has been eradicated.

If you are a citizen who is passionate about making change for our children, please work with us to make more funding available. Do you ever meet with elected and appointed officials about children’s needs?

We need business and civic leaders and organizations to be engaged in early learning planning and advocacy at the federal, state and local level to consider ways to increase public-private investments for children.

Remember who strengthened you as a child? Who do you want to be strong for? Step up and make a difference for your own children and grandchildren, for the children you know and all the children you will never meet.

Before any decision is made, ask: IS IT GOOD FOR THE CHILDREN?

