

NEWSLETTER

March 2024



Contact Information

Care About Childcare at Utah Valley University is a Child Care Resource & Referral agency that serves Utah, Juab, Summit, and Wasatch counties.

Phone: (801) 863-8589

Fax: (801) 863-7904

Email: childcare@uvu.edu

Mailing Address: Utah Valley University
800 West University Parkway - MS 163
Orem, Utah 84058

Physical Address: 1052 South 400 West
Orem, Utah 84058
(Park in back cul-de-sac, walk in front or back doors)

Phone Hours

Monday
11:00 AM - 5:30 PM
Tuesday
8:00 AM - 5:30 PM
Wednesday
8:00 AM - 5:30 PM
Thursday
8:00 AM - 5:30 PM
Friday
Closed

**Final Deadline to apply for these
scholarships is May 31, 2024:**

- Early Education Payback Program
- College Course Scholarship
- Conference Registration Scholarship
- Professional Development Incentive (PDI)
\$250 bonus per level
- Program National Accreditation
Reimbursement Grant

**Please make sure you apply with all the correct
documentation attached by
May 31, 2024.**

Reach out to Utah Registry for Professional Development
(URPD) with any questions at urpd@usu.edu.

Salt Lake Community College Corporate Training is pleased to announce the next opportunity for the Business Fundamentals program for Home-Based providers. This 8 Week Course focuses on the foundational skills needed to build a sustainable business. Topics include:

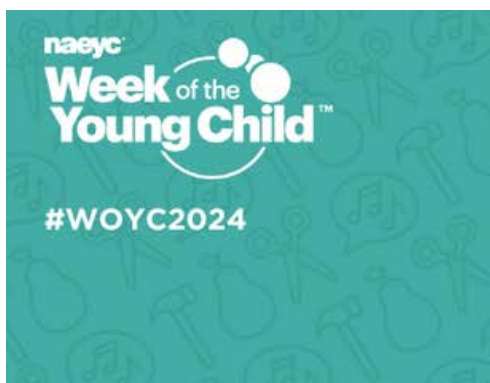
- Understanding budgeting and financial statements
- Strategies to maximize the potential of your business
- Building a business plan to help create opportunities for grants, funding, and long term sustainability

Lessons will be taught via Zoom, so you need a computer with a working camera and a microphone. Class starts **March 19, 2024 at 7 PM** (will repeat every Tuesday evening for 8 weeks).

Those who complete the program are eligible to receive 16 hours of Business and Leadership Career Ladder credits, along with 16 hours of NAC continuing education units

Space is limited!

Email: reed.coombs@slcc.edu



Have you ever wanted to earn Early Childhood College Credits online? The Office of Child Care has an opportunity for you through Early EdU!

Here is the information for Summer 2024:

- Courses will be held **April 25 - August 15, 2024**.
- There will only be **one course** offered this summer- **Child Development and Brain Building**.
- Participants will usually spend an average of **10-15 hours weekly** completing coursework.
- Upon successful completion of a course, participants may earn **THREE college credits** through Southern Utah University for just **\$69** (which may transfer to other Utah universities).
- There will need to be a **minimum** number of participants to run this course.

Interested?

Complete and submit the application found [HERE](#) by Wednesday, March 13, 2024. A Rubric explanation of how applicants will be prioritized is posted [HERE](#).

Applicants will be notified by Wednesday, March 20, 2024 of their acceptance into the course.

If you want to learn more, [CLICK HERE](#) to watch a pre-recorded webinar about Early EdU.

Please email earlyedu@utah.gov with any questions.



MARKET RATE SURVEY (MRS)

- The Utah Office of Child Care is conducting a Child Care Provider MRS and needs your help!
- Please remember to complete the 2024 MRS in the Care About Childcare website if you haven't already done so.
- If you have any questions or need technical assistance with the CAC website or completing the survey, please contact your local CAC agency.

Why is the MRS important?

As a provider, it is in your best interest to provide data for your facility. Your participation is essential for the MRS to have valid/ reflective data that is representative of the statewide child care market. This data will provide advocates and government agencies with important information about the current costs of child care and identify child care needs in Utah.

How and When must it be completed?

This year the MRS has been simplified. Instead of completing a separate survey, **you will complete the MRS by updating information about your program in the [Care About Childcare \(CAC\) website](#) on the following 3 pages:**

- **Attributes**
- **Capacity**
- **Rates**

That's It! The survey data will be collected using responses/ updates entered from **January - March 2024**. Any information entered during 2023 will need to be **resaved** during this time period, even if the information has not changed. If you need to make multiple changes during January - March 2024, only the latest data submitted will be included in the survey.

Participants who complete or update information in all 3 CAC pages by February 28, 2024 will receive a voucher(s) for FREE training from Care About Childcare.

Utah Career Ladder

Congratulations to all youth and early learning professionals who have been working hard to improve their knowledge, skills, and care! We truly appreciate your efforts to advance on the Utah Career Ladder.

Congratulations to the following individuals:

Erica Acevedo - Level 3
Brittany Aime Gamble - Levels 3, 9, 10
Ariadne Albor Loeza - Levels 4, 5, 10
Jessica Allen - Level 2
Savanna Allred - Level 1
Viviana Arenas Viola - Levels 2, 3
Ariel Baker - Level 6
Ana Barrios - Levels 1, 2
Kenia Blanco - Level 4
Hannah Blatter - Levels 1, 2, 3
Melanie Brown - Level 10
Brandy Browning - Levels 1, 2, 3, 6
Taylor Cima - Levels 1, 2, 3
Gineska Dossantos - Level 4
Eridanny Gomez - Level 1
Erin Hagny - Level 10
Julie Harrison - Level 4
Ambrey Holloway - Level 3
Nelly Huaiquimilla - Level 5
Karli Hutchings - Level 3
Julie Jimenez - Level 1
Johanna Jimenez - Level 1
Meghan Kleinlein - Level 1
Norvina Lawrence - Levels 4, 5
Alaina Marchant - Level 1
Michaela Maxwell - Levels 2, 3
Natalia Meza - Levels 1, 2, 3
Hayley Mills - Level 3
Jaycee Mitchell - Level 2
Olivia Nelson - Level 3
Alexis Norman - Levels 4, 5
Emilia Perez Cuenca - Level 2
Camila Reyes Zapata - Level 4
Madison Rice - Levels 1, 2, 3
Karina Santafe - Levels 3, 4
Brittany Skinner - Levels 1, 2, 3
Jailey Stagg - Level 1
Katrice Stirling - Level 5
Mirtha Valdovinos - Level 6
Laura Weber - Level 10
Brittany Zoltz - Levels 1, 2, 3
Ashley Cady - Level 1
Claudia Marcela Diaz Chitiva - Levels 1, 2, 3, 4
Victoria Dworshak - Level 1

CLASS SPOTLIGHTs:

IN-PERSON CLASS

"Explore More: Enriching Activities"

Taught by Summer Green

March 14, 2024

7 PM - 9:30 PM

Register [HERE](#)

"Looking to Learn" *Virtual Class*

Taught by Tori Dunckley

March 19, 21, 26, 28, 2024

7 PM - 9:30 PM

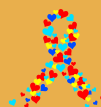
Register [HERE](#)

**Upcoming Resource &
Education Night:**

"Autism Awareness"

Thursday, March 21, 2024

7 PM - 8:30 PM



**There will be a Lakeshore PRIZE
drawing following the meeting!**

Register [HERE](#) for a Zoom Link

CDA credential at no cost!

**Have you ever considered getting your
Child Development Associate (CDA)?
Just click on the link below and fill out
this interest form on how to get yours. If
you have any further questions call**

801-863-4589

**Click the [LINK](#) for the
interest form.**

CHILD CARE QUALITY SYSTEM

Building Blocks to Quality



Join us on Monday, March 18th
7pm to 9pm
via ZOOM

Learn how Child Care Quality System (CCQS) is a building block that supports program's efforts to serve the families with the best quality of care possible. This begins with a program maintaining a child care license in good standing, which is the default foundation of quality. The framework then builds to recognize a growing emphasis on quality through four additional certified quality ratings.

Registration (closes March 11th):

<https://forms.office.com/r/pV2yJZYEZD>

ZOOM link will be sent to those that register.



Attendees will be enter into
a drawing for \$100 of materials
from Lakeshore.



We want to celebrate those who have quality ratings with CCQS:

Licensed Family Child Care:

Made of Laughter Daycare
Vineyard Daycare
Bronk's Zoo
ABC Daycare
Lighthouse Montessori Academy, LLC
Cathy Harker Daycare LLC
It Takes a Village Daycare
ABC Educational Home Care
Denise Tubbs
Eagle Mountain Kids Care
Kindersteps Childcare

Licensed Center:

A To Z Building Blocks in Eagle Mountain
A To Z Building Blocks in Orem
A To Z Building Blocks in Spanish Fork
A To Z Building Blocks on 1st in American Fork
A To Z Building Blocks on 300 East in American Fork
ABC Great Beginnings- Saratoga
Adventure Time Preschool and Child Care
Kid Stop/American Fork Hospital
Little Geniuses Learning Center LLC
R-Kids Child Care Center/UVRMC
Sunny Center
Sunny Day Preschool & Daycare LLC
Sunny Daycare Inc
UVU Wee Care Center
Way To Grow

If you are interested in participating with CCQS, please contact our CCQS specialist at 801-863-7453 or email: wellsva@uvu.edu

Attention: Child Care Center and Licensed Family Programs

Utah's Environment Rating Scales (ERS) are research-based early childhood observation tools that view child development from a comprehensive point of view, examining a wide variety of areas that contribute to positive child development. They are tools used for Child Care Quality System (CCQS) evaluations in Utah.

For more information about having a **PRACTICE** observation, call Lisa McKay (Early Childhood Specialist Region Anchor) at 801-863-8562.

Welcome Newly Licensed Providers:

Cool Kids Daycare
Nanna's Childcare

Center

Keilani Lauti

March is National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month: ***Tips for Playdates with Kids with Special needs***

Playdates are an important part of childhood. They offer time for kids to interact socially without the structure of school or extracurricular activities. They also help kids learn to share, socialize, and play freely while still having support from their parents as needed. Kids with special needs are no exception and benefit from playdates as much as their peers. While they might take a little more planning and patience, it is well worth the efforts for everyone involved. Here are some tips for hosting a playdate with kids with disabilities:



BE OPEN: Our natural reaction might be to avoid talking about any disabilities a child might have, but it is better to address any questions or concerns beforehand, so everyone is more comfortable and knows what to expect. It is a good idea to talk to your children openly about differences they might have with their friends. Explain that just because others might seem different or express their joy differently, doesn't mean they don't enjoy playdates or making new friends as well. Also, check with the other parents about whether there are any food allergies or restrictions.

BE STRATEGIC: Prior to the playdate, discuss with the other parents about the best location to have a playdate. For some, their home is more comfortable and successful. For others, it might be better to go to a public place like a park, museum, or zoo.

BE PATIENT: Whenever kids are involved, patience is important. Try to understand that kids might have different reactions to situations, things might not go exactly as expected, and that it might take time for some kids with special needs to warm up to the situation. Some children with special needs might prefer to participate in parallel play, where the kids play beside each other but do not interact with one another. They can still enjoy time together and are usually interested in what the other children are doing. If things don't go as planned, it is okay to cut the playdate short and try again in the future.

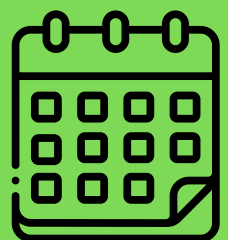
BE INCLUSIVE: It is most important to note that kids with disabilities are just like anyone else. They want to interact with friends and be loved and appreciated. When hosting a playdate, it's important to greet them and interact with them as you would anyone else. Speak to the child with special needs, not about them.

BE UNDERSTANDING: Parenting is not easy and we all struggle with different challenges when it comes to our children. Ask the parent if they need help with anything prior to the playdate. Try to be patient and understanding. Listen and offer a hand when needed, and they will most likely offer the same in return. The most important tip for having a playdate with a special needs child is just to have them. It might take a little more planning and patience, but it is so worth it to both parents and kids involved.

<https://dfwchild.com/tips-for-playdates-with-special-needs-kids/>



Intermountain Health is conducting research to better understand "Playdate" dynamics of families that include children with diverse physical, behavioral, social, or mental health needs. Please take 5-10 minutes to respond as accurately as you can. It will go a long way in helping design services and experiences that benefit you, your loved ones, and people everywhere. (just click on the clipboard icon to be directed to the survey, and click on the calendar icon to be linked to upcoming events from the Utah Parent Center).



Celebrate the Stages!

Statewide Coordinated Developmental Screening System

The purpose of this project:

- Increase the number of ASQ screenings done in the state of Utah
- Avoid duplication of work
- Intervene earlier for those who need extra help
- Support the strengths of all children

ASQ access is available free of charge to providers who agree to be trained and screen the children they serve. With parental consent, the screening data will be used as a research tool to inform trainings and will be shared to electronic health record systems and the CHARM web portal so that other providers who work with the family can see the developmental screening results and provide appropriate services.



ASQ® TRAINING



ASQ®-3:



A quick check on milestones for children from birth to age five and a half considering five areas:

- Communication
- Personal-Social
- Fine Motor
- Problem Solving
- Gross Motor

ASQ®: SE-2:



Looks specifically at social and emotional development in children from birth to age six

HELP ME GROW UTAH IS CURRENTLY OFFERING:



Training on the
Ages & Stages
Questionnaires
(ASQ-3 & ASQ:SE-2)



Access to the ASQ tools,
materials, and ASQ online
account for electronic access



Technical assistance and
support to ensure
successful integration and
sustainability of the tools

Are you interested in implementing the ASQ tools into your early childhood program?

Register online for
the ASQ Training



Complete the
ASQ Training



Meet with ASQ
Community
Coordinator



Receive the ASQ
tools and begin!



United Ways of Utah



For more information contact your
ASQ Community Coordinator:

Sarah Armknecht

saraha@unitedwayuc.org
801-970-0258
Utah County & South

Amanda Price

amandap@unitedwayuc.org
801-980-1036
Salt Lake County & North & Spanish

HELP ME GROW! UTAH

Support child development!
Get free access to the
Ages & Stages Questionnaires
through Utah's
Celebrate the Stages!

To learn how to get access to the ASQ
screening tools, contact:



Sarah Armknecht
801-970-0258
saraha@unitedwayuc.org

Full-Time Staff

Main Phone: (801) 863-8589

Fax: (801) 863-7904

Email: childcare@uvu.edu

Website: www.uvu.edu/cac

Hours: Monday (11 AM - 5:30 PM)
Tuesday - Thursday (8 AM - 5:30 PM)
Friday (Closed)

Address:

1052 South 400 West
Orem, Utah 84058

Open now! Please come visit us !

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