

Early Childhood
Council of La Plata
County, Southwest
Colorado Office of
Childcare Resource &
Referral, Durango 4-C
Council, Inc.

Early Childhood Partners

of SW Colorado

Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, San Juan Counties

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Quality Ratings
- Early Childhood Professional Training Project
- Resource & Referral: Montezuma County
- Family Home Provider Appreciation Dinner
- Training & Events Calendar



Spring Time



Expanding Quality of Infant & Toddler Care



Congratulations to the Expanding Quality in Infant & Toddler Care Class of May 2011 in La Plata County.



Congratulations to the following programs that underwent assessments this year:

- Animas Valley Head Start
- Florida Mesa Head Start
- Mercy Regional Medical Center
- Needham Head Start
- Riverhouse Children's Center
- Roberta Shirley Center
- Southern Ute Montessori Head Start

Environmental Rating Scale Assessments

By Diane Zimmerer, dianez@ecclaplata.org

The Early Childhood Council of La Plata County in collaboration with the La Plata County Department of Human Services is pleased to announce that 7 programs (23 classrooms) in La Plata County have received either Environmental Rating Scale Assessments or Quality Ratings. Congratulations to the following programs that underwent an assessment this year and are committed to increasing the quality of child care in La Plata County: Animas Valley Head Start, Florida Mesa Head Start, Mercy Regional Medical Center, Needham Head Start, Riverhouse Children's Center, the Roberta Shirley Center and the Southern Ute Montessori Head Start. These programs

have been awarded \$687 in mini grant incentive funds per classroom, totaling \$15,801.

The Environmental Rating Scale assessments are completed by a local Certified Rater external from licensing. The average Environmental Rating Score for the 16 classrooms assessed was 5.37 on a 7 point scale. Anything above a 5 is considered quality. The Qualistar Ratings are completed by a Certified Qualistar Rater from the Denver Metro area and we are awaiting the results for the 4 programs that received Qualistar Ratings. The Qualistar Rating is measured on a star system with a 4-star rating being the best.

Montezuma County News & Events

- The Montelores Early Childhood Council sponsored Expanding Quality in Infant/Toddler Care course taught by Lindsay Havran and Valiena Rosenkrance began on April 22 and will continue every Friday until June 10, 2011. There are 14 enrolled students.
- The 4th Incredible Years Parenting Class of the year began on April 12 and will continue every Tuesday evening until June 30, 2011.

Both classes are held at The Pinon Project in Cortez. For more information contact Lindsay Havran, lhavran10@yahoo.com.

Early Childhood Professional Training Project

If you plan to take fall 2011/spring 2012/summer 2012 college classes, you need to apply for federal financial aid NOW if you haven't done so already. The website to apply is www.fafsa.ed.gov and you need your most recent federal tax return to apply.

Classes being offered in the fall in Durango are:

- ECE 111 – Infant/Toddler Theory and Practice, Tuesdays, 6 PM – 8:40 P
- ECE 220 – Curriculum Development: Methods and Techniques, Thursdays, 6 PM – 8: 40 PM
- ECE 238 – Child Growth & Development, Wednesdays, 6 PM – 8:40 PM

Class being offered in the fall in Cortez:

- ECE 220 Curriculum Development: Methods and Techniques, Mondays, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Many other general education courses are also offered along with online classes. Please note that online classes are more expensive. The fall semester starts on August 22nd and ends on December 10th.

The EC Professional Training Project office will be closed much of July. Please do not delay to contact Barbara Dodds, bdodds@durangoaec.org if you need assistance with planning for fall classes.

Resource & Referral: Montezuma County

By Jennifer Dallmann, jend@ecclaplata.org

As the referral specialist at your local Southwest Colorado Child Care Resource and Referral office, it is my responsibility to keep information in our database on all licensed child care programs in La Plata, Montezuma, Archuleta, Dolores and San Juan counties. The child care information in our database is used to help parents searching for child care and many advocacy and funding organizations use our data to identify needs and set policy. **This month's highlighted county is Montezuma!**

Montezuma County currently has:

- 10 Licensed Child Care Centers
- 4 Standard Licensed Family Child Care Homes
- 4 Large Licensed Family Child Care Homes
- 2 Licensing Exempt Child Care Centers
- 1 School-Age Licensed Program

Did you know that:

- Within the above noted programs that Montezuma

County Providers are reporting 15 openings currently available for children?

- There are 4 child care programs in Montezuma County that are open Holidays?

The average rate for Licensed Family Home Child Care Providers in Montezuma County is:

- \$27/day for children under the age of 2
- \$24/day for children from 2-5 years
- \$15/day for After School children

The average rate for Licensed Child Care Centers in Montezuma County is:

- \$30/day for children under the age of 2
- \$25/day for children from 2-5 years
- \$20/day for After School children



Family Home Provider Appreciation Dinner



It was the Early Childhood Council of La Plata County's absolute pleasure to host the Family Home Provider Appreciation dinner. It was a great opportunity for people to connect with each other and share ideas with one another. We appreciate all the providers' that came out and made it such a great night!

Reminder:

There is a meeting with the Colorado Department of Human Services staff to discuss revisions to the Center Rules & Regulations on Friday, June 24, 6:30-9:30 pm at the Early Childhood Training Center. The proposed rules can be found at www.colorado.gov/cdhs/CCRules. Don't miss this opportunity to have your voice heard!

Trainings & Events Calendar

| <u>What</u> | <u>When</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Cost</u> | <u>Who to Contact</u> |
|---|---|---------------------|-------------|---|
| Universal Precautions | TBD | 2:30-4:00 PM | \$15 | Jennifer Dallmann 970-247-5960 x25 |
| Medication Administration | TBD | 9:00-1:30 PM | \$40 | Jennifer Dallmann 970-247-5960 x25 |
| CPR 1st Aid | Sat. June 4th | 9:00-3:00 PM | \$60 | Jennifer Dallmann 970-247-5960 x25 |
| Touchpoints Individual Level Training (Registration Closed-Event Full) | May 20th, June 3rd & June 10th | 9:00-4:00 PM | \$35 | Diane Zimmerer 970-247-5960 x20 |

Check out the Early Childhood Council of La Plata County's website for upcoming trainings and registration information at www.ecclaplata.org.

For any Questions or Comments regarding this Newsletter please contact Jennifer Dallmann at 970-247-5960 x25 or jend@ecclaplata.org.