

What's New?

We are in the process of updating the Family Resource & Referral Center website to include links to various child care oriented sites, such as the Dept of Social Services' training schedule. Please visit www.Children-Count.org in March for more information.

Sarah Foster has recently started as the new *QCCI* Program Manager. Over the next few weeks, she will be visiting centers and family caregivers, updating the Lending Library, and compiling a training calendar for the remainder of the year. Please feel free to contact Sarah with suggestions at (540) 245-5437 or SarahFoster@ntelos.net.

Copies of the newly revised "Director's Toolbox", an employee orientation training aid from DSS, are now available at a cost of \$10.00 each. For more information, contact (804) 726-7652. If you would like to take the six-hour course which accompanies the publication, it is being offered in Roanoke on May 31, 2008.

Quality Child Care Initiative

Family Resource & Referral Center
934 North Augusta Street
Staunton, Virginia 24401

www.children-count.org
(540) 245-5437



Regular Monthly Training Sessions

First Aid / CPR—

Location: Central Shenandoah EMS Council
2312 West Beverley Street, Staunton
2 blocks beyond Big Lots on left

Register: \$10.00 per trainee.
Registration required (540) 245-5437

When: 3rd Monday of each month, 6:30-9:30 pm

March 17	August 18
April 21	September 15
May 19	October 20
June 16	November 17
July 21	December 15

Daily Health Observations—

Locations: • Staunton/Augusta Health Dept
1414 N. Augusta St, Staunton
• Waynesboro Health Dept
211 West 12th St, Waynesboro

Register: \$10.00 per trainee.
Registration required (540) 245-5437

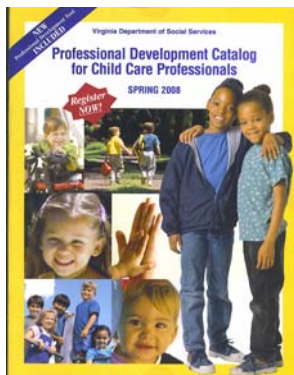
When: Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm.

** please note alternating locations

March 11	Staunton
May 13	Waynesboro
August 12	Staunton
August 26	Staunton
September 9	Waynesboro
October 14	Staunton
November 18	Waynesboro

DSS Training Update

The Dept of Social Services Spring 2008 Professional Development calendar is now available. There are several courses offered in Weyers Cave, Harrisonburg & Roanoke. These classes will likely fill up quickly, so register as soon as possible. Cost per trainee ranges from \$10-\$50.



If you did not receive the catalog and registration forms in the mail, email SarahFoster@ntelos.net for an electronic version of the Training Catalog.

Courses at Blue Ridge Community College

March 15

Understanding Temperaments

March 29

Beyond Babble: Language Development

April 5

Preschool Ages & Stages

April 12

Preschool Learning Environment

April 19

Preschool Activities

April 26

Preschool Guiding Behaviors

May 17

Child Abuse & Neglect Recognition

May 31

Virginia's Milestones of Child Development

June 7

Health Screening for Child Care Professionals

Activity Corner

Spring is on the way... celebrate with a fresh batch of homemade playdough in pretty pastel colors. Because it requires cooking, this recipe is best made without assistance from young children.

Add some small plastic baby animals, straws, pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks and toothpicks to the playdough table for some extra fun!

Cooked Playdough—the best recipe ever!

Mix all ingredients together in a large saucepan, then cook 3-6 minutes at medium heat until it looks like mashed potatoes and becomes hard to stir. It is best to use a long wooden spoon to stir because the metal ones bend. You must stir constantly or the dough will burn on the bottom! Store in an airtight container.



1 cup flour

½ cup salt

2 tsp. cream of tartar

1 Tbsp. cooking oil

1 cup water (tinted with food color)

Provider Submissions

A Request To All Child Care Providers:

Please take a minute out of your busy schedule to provide us with any activities, recipes, articles, upcoming events or other tidbits for inclusion in the newsletter. Email to SarahFoster@ntelos.net. Make sure to include your name and where you're from! Thank you.

Provider Profile

Peggy Jennings is the Director of the Covenant Presbyterian Church Nursery School in Staunton. Peggy has been a dedicated teacher in early childhood development for over 30 years. She received her BA degree in Psychology from the University of Mary Washington, with NK-4 certification. She thoroughly enjoys experiencing a child's wonder at learning new things. Peggy, you are certainly in the right field! Hobbies include skiing, hiking, pets, and cheering on her favorite teams - UVA, Virginia Tech & Duke. She welcomed her first grandchild last year—Garrett is now 5 months old. She warns against gossip, especially on the job. Let's all take her lead against this useless and harmful pastime. Thanks, Peggy, for all you do.