

MARYLAND PROVIDER

Maryland State Family Child Care Association

ISSUE 25

www.msfccca.org

Summer 2004

MSFCCA EXECUTIVE BOARD



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

President- Julie Burch

Dear Providers,

301-884-0687

burch@olg.com
 Spring has come and gone, summer is upon us already. With the warm weather we are taking our children outside more often. Please take time to review the requirements for supervision in our regulations and manual. It only takes a minute. Also remember when outdoors, its time to wear your Sun block, but remember to protect yourself with a sunscreen slip.

Vice President- Karen Knabe
 410-724-5991
 k.s.knabe4255@att.net

Vice President of Public Policy- Donna Fowler

301-352-3614

Vice President of Maryland State Family Child Care Association in collaboration with Maryland Committee for Children and Maryland Association for the Education of Young Children had our annual Rally

Cathy Greer
 301-604-3558
 In Annapolis, what a wonderful success. With about 150 providers, parents and advocates we had brought our message to Annapolis. Governor Ehrlich and the House of Delegates recognized us. Governor Ehrlich's speech was outstanding. We are looking forward to our Rally in Annapolis in 2005, look for the date and put it on your calendar. Be there with us to support our profession.

Treasurer- Shawn Bryce

410-987-6088

shawnbryce@msfccca.org

Recording Secretary- Marlene Miller

410-730-3088

msmarlene@aol.com

Corresponding Secretary- Linda Church

301-221-7098

lchurch@msfccca.org

MSFCCA We are coming in July for MSFCCA. We are currently looking for someone to fill the position of Treasurer. Shawn Bryce has been our Treasurer for several years and is now turning the reins over. Shawn has done a great job and will be missed. If you have accounting skills and are interested in learning more about the Treasurer position please contact me. I also will be finishing my term as President in July. I have enjoyed working for you and will continue to be here for your support in the future.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MSFCCA Conference Meeting – June 12, 2004

MSFCCA Annual/Quarterly Meeting – 7/17/04

MSFCCA Annual Board Retreat – 8/7/04

MSFCCA Conference Meeting – 8/28/04

The Ar will be Referr: agenda need to know you are coming so we can be prepared with enough space and a lunch count. It is a unique opportunity to meet with providers from around the state, network with other associations and learn more about the MSFCCA. Come and share the issues that concern you and your local providers, hopefully we can work together to find a solution. Please RSVP to Julie Burch at 301-884-0687 if you plan on attending.

Child Care Association rd County Resource and ve continue on with the attend, however we do

MSFCCA NEEDS YOU!!

The Maryland State Family Child Care Association is a non-profit, Statewide volunteer organization and it **Needs You!**

As a volunteer organization, we are in need of dedicated family child care professionals to help continue the

Operation Child Care

Check it out at:

http://www.mdchildcare.org/mdcfc/for_providers/operation_child_care.html

year and we need providers to begin helping to

The Maryland State Family Child Care Association would like to congratulate Judith L. Rozie-Battle on her appointment as the new Executive Director of Maryland's Child Care Administration. We look forward to working with her on behalf of Children and Registered Child Care Providers across Maryland.

PUBLIC POLICY / LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Donna Fowler

2004 Maryland State Budget Session

The 2004 Legislative Session came to an end on April 12, 2004. We are now waiting for the Governor to sign the bills. Child Care Administration was able to maintain all of their current funding with a slight increase to Purchase of Care (POC) of 2 million bringing the POC to 111 million. This is not enough to cover the current enrollees and there are currently over 13 thousand children on the "wait" list. There was a cut of 2.4 million to EEEP (Pre-K) money with the thought that this would eventually be funded under the Thornton Act in the 2007/2008 fiscal years. There had been a proposal by the budget analyst to cut the credential program but in the end we were able to save it for this year. There are currently over 2000 credentialed child care givers (family child care and center staff combined), this number is extremely low considering that there are approximately 43K child care center and family providers – it is a must that we raise the number of credentialed providers over the next year in order to maintain its funding. I believe that the next budget session could be very critical to our profession given that the slots bill and the 1% increase to the sales tax were defeated, leaving our state with an \$850 million dollar deficit.

The session came to an end with the passage of Senate Bill 62, (Child Care – Family Day Care Home Registration and Child Care Center Licenses). This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2005 at which time any provider renewing their license will be converted to a continuing registration (non-expiring). For more information on this process please check out www.msfccca.org. Senate Bill 37 (Child Care Administration Advisory Council – Reimbursement for Expenses) was also passed allowing for the reimbursement of parking and mileage for the family child care provider and center staff appointed to the Child Care Administration's Advisory Council.

ADVOCACY SERIES #3

Donna Fowler

How to Read a Bill?

When reading a bill for the first time it can be very confusing. Here are some points to remember:

- ☒ HB # -- House Bill, introduced in the House of Delegates
- ☒ SB # -- Senate Bill, introduced in the Senate
- ☒ Normal uppercase and lowercase wording is the existing law
- ☒ EVERY LETTER CAPITALIZED – new law proposed by the bill
- ☒ [enclosed text] – text stricken from existing law
- ☒ Underlined text – text added by amendment
- ☒ Text printed in italics – text added by amendment in the opposite house
- ☒ Text with strike through – text stricken from the bill by amendment

Look for Advocacy Series #4 "The Legislative Process", in the Fall MSFCCA Newsletter.

VICE PRESIDENT OF EDUCATION

Cathy Greer

Leadership Training/ with Steve Rhode at MCC –

We have finished the four-part Leadership training it was a great success! We are working on other trainings with MCC. I will keep you informed as the details are worked out.

Mark your calendars for October 22-24, 2004. The 2004 MSFCCA Conference - "Building a Solid Foundation Through Changing Times"

The conference will be at the Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel in Ocean City, MD.

Conference Committee Meeting Dates:

June 12, 2004

August 28, 2004 - Program

October 9, 2004 - Stuffing at Cathy's House 10:00AM

Everyone is invited to attend the Conference Meetings. Please notify Cathy Greer if attending at: littlemunchkins8@hotmail.com

REACH OUT AND TOUCH

Maryanne Lazarchick

The Board of Directors of MSFCCA recognizes the importance of communication with local associations and their membership. The Reach Out and Touch Committee was formed to keep in touch by telephone and email to the members of MSFCCA for any problems or issues that arise. For further information or to request help please contact Maryanne Lazarchick by phone at 301-871-6810 or by email at nmlazar@comcast.net. Please remember that the Committee members work full time as family child care providers and the committee position is volunteer.

MSFCCA Newsletter EXTRA

RALLY IN ANNAPOLIS

Organized by a joint effort of Maryland State Family Child Care Association (MSFCCA), Maryland Committee for Children (MCC), and Maryland Association for the Education of Young Children (MDAEYC), we gathered in the Legislative Services Building. Steve Rohde gave a mini refresher course on brain research data to remind us of talking points to use with our state legislators. Linda Heisner was given a plaque and thanked for her years of service and dedication. We broke off into groups according to our delegates, and visited our legislators. We stressed to each of our state legislators the need for funds in the budget to support quality child care.

At the Rally on Lawyers Mall, there was a sign-in sheet so attendees could receive Professional Unit(s) for the Credential Program. We had speakers from MSFCCA and MCC. We heard testimonials from other persons who have personally benefited from different state programs such as the Credential, Purchase of Care, etc... Two Montgomery County Delegates (Cryor and Kaiser) each read a book to the children that were present. When Governor Ehrlich arrived, he was presented with a Dr. Seuss book with an inscription from MSFCCA. The Gov. expressed gratitude for the book, and offered respect and praise for the very important job we do. He was sure to stress the point that we need to contact our local legislators and make sure they understand our issues/opinions.

After the Rally on Lawyers Mall, some of us went into the House Session where the Maryland State Family Child Care Association was recognized. It was nice to be acknowledged, and even more important that our legislators know/remember us and our issues!!! It was a successful event!!

Please remember, that we should not wait until next year to continue our new found relationships with our state representatives. Each association should have a delegate's night and should make sure that our local representatives know our names and recognize our faces.

Next years Rally is already being planned. When the date is decided, put it on your calendar and be sure to attend.

TRAINING NEWS

Many more training opportunities are listed on the Maryland Committee for Children web site. Check it out at:
http://mdchildcare.org/mdcfc/for_providers/trainingssearch.html

Is it Really Art? Is it Really Theirs? – 6/9/04, 6:45pm to 9:45pm, Child Care Links – 410-288-5942 - \$25.00

Working with non-Traditional Families – 6/22/04, 6:00pm to 9:00pm, Prince George's Child Resource Center – 301-772-8420 ext. 221 - \$35.00

Laugh and Learn Together – 6/17/04, 6:30pm to 8:30pm, Southern Maryland Child Care Resource Center – 301-290-0040 - \$20.00

Keeping Kids Safe in the Great Outdoors – 6/26/04, 9:00am to 12:00pm, Harford Community College – 410-836-4173 - \$19.00

Childhood Disorders – 7/17/04, 9:00am to 12:00pm, Southern Maryland Child Care Resource Center – 301-290-0040 - \$20.00

Welcoming All Children: Special Needs Environments – 8/7/04, 9:00am to 12:00pm, Open Doors Child Care Resource Center, 410-297-6590 - \$20.00

Applying the New Brain Research – 7/24/04, 11:15am to 1:15pm, Montgomery College/Tracy Singleton, 240-683-2599 - \$35.00

Discovering Diversity – 8/3/04, 6:30pm to 8:30 pm, Prince George's Child Resource Center, 301-772-8420 ext.221 - \$25.00

Communication Strategies: Making the Connection – 7/20/04, 6:30pm to 9:30pm, Child Care Choices, 301-662-4549 - \$20.00

FUTURE CONFERENCES

National Organizations offer fantastic child care conferences. Plan a trip with provider friends to cut the cost of the hotels and transportation.

NAEYC's 13th National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development – Baltimore Marriott Waterfront, Baltimore, MD, June 20-23, 2004
<http://www.naeyc.org/conferences/institute/2004/default.asp>

NAFCC 2004 Conference - "Family Child Care... Where Relationships Start with the Heart" July 28-31, 2004 in Kansas City, Missouri. For information check out their web site at: www.nafcc.org

MSFCCA Annual Conference - "Solid Foundations through Changing Times" - October 22 – 24, 2004. Clarion Hotel in Ocean City, MD. For more information, contact Cathy Ross at 410-553-6694, or see www.msfcca.org.

NAEYC Annual Conference and Expo - Anaheim, California, November 10-13, 2004. For more information check out their web site at: <http://www.annualconference.naeyc.org/>

Zero to Three: 19th National Training Institute, December 3- 5, 2004, Pre-Institute December 2. Sacramento Convention Center and the Sheraton Grand Sacramento, Sacramento, CA

SECA 56th Annual Conference - The 56th annual conference will be held at the Hotel Intercontinental in Addison, TX, Friday, March 04, 2005 thru Sunday, March 06 2005

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Maryland State Family Child Care Association is a non-profit, statewide volunteer organization and MSFCCA needs **YOU!**

The MSFCCA is a professional organization of dedicated volunteers. These volunteers donate their time and their hearts to making family child care a respected and visible profession in Maryland.

The Executive Board consists of the President, VP of Public Policy, VP of Education, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary. *Volunteers are needed.*

Along with the Executive Board, a Director from each member county has voting privileges at each quarterly meeting of the MSFCCA. Anyone from a member county may attend the quarterly meetings to have input on any subject that is on the table (only the director may vote). These meetings are usually held on the last Saturday of the month: January, April, July and October. See website for exact date.

The Public Policy Committee, chaired by the VP of Public Policy, is your active voice in Annapolis. During each legislative session, proposals are reviewed that may affect children and family child care providers. This committee brings matters of importance to the quarterly meetings, the public policy email list and to all presidents of member counties so that they can reach as many providers as possible for feedback. This helps us bring information back to our elected officials so that they can make an informed decision on issues concerning family child care. The Public Policy Committee is also in charge of planning the annual Child Care Rally in Annapolis as well as assisting the Department of Human Resources, Child Care Administration, and Maryland Committee for Children and other groups effecting policy decisions.

The Education Committee, chaired by the VP of Education, is dedicated to bringing the highest quality training opportunities to Maryland. They plan the annual Conference as well as other Leadership and Board Development trainings. This committee can also help the local associations with technical advice about trainings.

The Public Relations Committee, chaired by the Corresponding Secretary is devoted to bringing the child care community, parents, and the business community up-to-date on what "Family Child Care" is and how it supports our community and keeps us all working. The committee maintains the MSFCCA web site as well as the quarterly newsletter. They are also responsible for all Public Awareness and media campaigns on behalf of MSFCCA.

MSFCCA exists to serve you, but our existence relies on dues paying members and volunteers who are willing to step up to the challenge of helping the organization continue to be a positive child care voice in Maryland. For more information contact Julie Burch at 301-884-0687.

*Hard work spotlights the character of people:
Some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses, and
some don't turn up at all.*

Sam Ewing

ARTICLE FOR THE EDITOR

Did you know that as a Licensed Provider in Maryland, you are responsible for notifying your Licensing Specialist **within 24 hours** of any accident requiring medical attention that happens at your daycare involving a daycare child? Did you know that the 24-hour rule applies to weekends, holidays, and vacations as well?

I am a registered provider and I recently encountered such an accident involving a daycare child. It was the last day I was open before a four day holiday weekend. The accident happened late on a Thursday and I did not receive final word on the condition of the child until after work hours Thursday night. I was leaving Friday morning on a 4-day weekend trip, and was planning to call my licensing specialist from my cell phone on the way out of town. Sadly my plans changed due to the sudden death of a family member early Friday morning. I spent most of Friday dealing with the family emergency and left that afternoon for my weekend trip. I returned early on Sunday to plan funeral arrangements for Sunday and Monday. Monday was a holiday so I called my licensing specialist first thing Tuesday morning. To my frustration, I was cited in non-compliance with CCA Regulations, as the notification was not made within 24 hours of the injury. I was told that there is absolutely **NO** leniency given in this regulation.

What I did not realize, and the reason for this article, is "reporting" the injury is satisfied by leaving a message on the voice mail of my licensing specialist. This is an area where most providers would assume that family emergencies and being closed would be an acceptable excuse for the delay of calling, however, I can attest that it is not and I was told that my licensing specialist has voice mail and the incident needed to be reported immediately, even after hours. As it worked out, the licensing person understood the situation, however, the non-compliance would remain in my file.

To submit an article to the editor, email the article to Linda Church at msfccanewsletter@yahoo.com
Due to space, all articles may not make it into this publication.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

The Sunshine Committee sends cards to providers. If you have a provider in your association that needs a little sunshine please call Barbara Summers at 410-751-6735 or bsbs@adelphia.net and give her the information. It is very important when leaving a message or sending an email that you include the name of the provider, the reason for the card and the address so that it can be sent promptly.

We would also like the names of the providers in your association that have received their Accreditation so they can be recognized for their achievement.

MSFCCA Newsletter - Linda Church
(301) 621-7498 msfccanewsletter@yahoo.com

