

Benefits of Being a Member of MSCCA

The Maryland State Child Care Association (MSCCA) is the professional association for licensed child care and early learning centers operating in Maryland. Its members are committed to providing the highest level of quality care for the children entrusted to their care.

There are several benefits of being a member of MSCCA that include the following:

- ◆ MSCCA members will have the opportunity to network with other child care owners, directors and teachers on a national, state, and local level.
- ◆ MSCCA members will have access to active, local chapters that meet monthly across the State.
- ◆ MSCCA members will have discounted rates for two annual conferences sponsored by the Maryland State Child Care Association.
- ◆ MSCCA members' interests are represented in

Annapolis on issues pertaining to program quality, funding for early childhood education and any other legislation that directly affects the child care community.

- ◆ MSCCA members have access to mentors that will support and assist members with accreditation, credentialing, regulatory issues and other areas that our members feel they may need assistance.
- ◆ MSCCA members are represented with a strong voice at the Maryland State Department of Education, Office of Child Care and other regulatory agencies to ensure that the interests of center based child care are protected as regulations are developed.
- ◆ MSCCA members and their employees will receive one Professional Activity Unit (PAU) toward the Maryland Child Care Credentialing Program for participating in the Association. MSCCA members can have the opportunity to receive additional PAU's through active involvement on Association committees.

- ◆ MSCCA members have the opportunity to join the National Child Care Association and receive discounts at many participating companies including child care insurance companies, school supply companies, and food distributors.
- ◆ MSCCA members will benefit from the relationships cultivated by MSCCA with Maryland Family Network, the National Child Care Association, the Maryland State Department of Education, the Office of Child Care and many other organizations in the community working to make early childhood a professional priority in Maryland.
- ◆ MSCCA members will be listed on the MSCCA website so families looking for child care can

“What nobler employment, or more valuable to the state, than that of the man who instructs the rising generation.”

Marcus Tullius Cicero

What's Happening? – Chapter Report

The **Prince George's County Chapter** of the Maryland State Child Care Association is active and advocating for quality care for Prince George's County children. We have just completed our 3rd Annual “Spring Fling” training. We were able to provide quality training to over 90 participants in the areas of com-

munication, special needs, curriculum and child development. We are always seeking new members and looking for early childhood advocates joining us. Our meetings are held the 4th Thursday of the month. We are represented on the State Board and bring our thoughts, opinions and ideas to the state level. So please

join us and let your voice be heard. For membership information please contact Monique Harper at 301-559-5500. Prince George's County joins with The Maryland State Child Care Association in “Caring for Maryland's Most Important Natural Resource!”



“...Most Important Natural Resource.”

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Thinkport

Think Early Childhood

An exciting *new one-stop shop on the web* provides childcare professionals with engaging activities and resources, online courses, and career building tools.

Early Childhood on Thinkport is a project of the Maryland State Department of Education and Maryland Public Television with additional support from the Corporation of Public Broadcasting.



Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development

Maryland's Department of Business and Economic Development provides Day Care financing as part of its Small Business Unit. The goal of the program is to promote the development and/or expansion of quality day care facilities for children, adults and disabled people of all ages.

The Child Care Special Loan Fund provides direct loans up to \$10,000 to eligible providers at fixed rates for furniture, inventory, supplies, training and repairs; equipment for infants and children with special needs; access of services for persons with disabilities; and renovations and upgrades to meet state and local licensing requirements.

The Day Care Facilities Direct Loan Fund is designed to finance up to 50 percent of the cost of the expansion or development of a child care facility. Loan may be used for construction, renovation, or acquisition of real property or to finance leasehold improvements. The minimum amount that may be borrowed is \$15,000.

The Day Care Facilities Loan Guarantee Fund provides loan guarantees for construction, renovation, purchase of land and buildings, equipment, supplies and working capital. This is not a direct loan or grant, but a guarantee of up to 80 percent of a loan provided to the applicant by a bank or private lender. This guarantee is available for loans made for the expansion or development of day care centers for children, the elderly, and disabled people of all ages.

For further information, please contact: **Mr. Celester A. Hall, Director, Small Business Finance**
 Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development
 410-767-6356 or 1-877-821-0099

Legislative News: Emergency Preparedness – July 2010

The Senate passed Bill 356 on October 1, 2009, which requires all child care facilities and family child care providers to have a written emergency preparedness plan. Emergency and Disaster plans must be in place by July 2010. The plan must include the following emergency situations:

- ◆ evacuation
- ◆ sheltering in place
- ◆ fire
- ◆ natural disasters

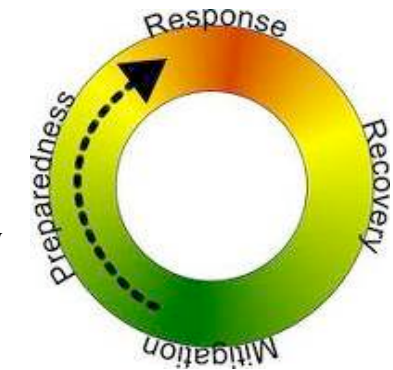
- ◆ other threatening situations that may pose a health or safety hazard to all children in care, including those with disabilities.

For more information regarding this new law, please visit <http://mlis.state.md.us/2009rs/billfile/sb0356.htm>.

For information on obtaining training to create the plan, visit the Project Security Blanket website <http://www.projectsecurityblanket.org/>.

This training is offered through the Chesapeake Child Care Resource Center and is funded by the Maryland State Department of Education. Training is available statewide and online.

It is vital that centers are in compliance with this new law so that staff, parents, and children can be informed and prepared for emergency situations.



MSCCA Election Calendar

- August 27, 2010** Nomination Forms will be mailed to all current MSCCA members.
- September 17, 2010** Completed Nomination Forms must be received by Headquarters Office.
- September 30, 2010** Final Ballots will be mailed to all center members for the 2011- 2012 Board Term.
- October 15, 2010** Final Ballots must be returned/received by Headquarters Office on or before this date.

Election Results will be announced to the membership during the MSCCA General Membership Meeting at the Fall Symposium!

MAKE A NOTE— NOW!

Legislative News: Medication Administration Training—July 2011

In July 2011, new regulations for Medication Administration and Storage will go into effect. These regulations require that medication only be administered by employees who have completed an approved medication administration training. These requirements are applicable to

children in center-based care only, and also require providers to clarify written policies pertaining to if and when medication will be administered.

The Maryland State Department of Education has a pre-approved list of RN trainers who can teach the Medication Administration

training to child care and early education providers. The new training is approved for 6-hours of licensing education credit. For more information or to locate medication administration training in your area visit www.marylandchildcare.org.



