



February 2026

Satellite

FAMILY CHILD CARE SYSTEM

NEWSLETTER

Welcome Upward Milwaukee participants!

- Rolanda Fowler – Kidz Cave and Learning Den
- Barbara Kelley – Mama Bear's Family Child Care
- Brenda Shavers – Watch Our Seeds Grow Childcare
- Charmaine Shorter – Fairy Godmommy Playland
- Tamara Summerville – Summerville Lrng and Dec Center
- Jadae Thomas – I Am Academy
- Dionne Wilson – Ms. G's Academy for Young Scholars

Congrats on moving to Associate level!

Michelle Endvick – Learning 4 Life

Congrats on your Reaccreditation!

Jana Matush – Matush Family Daycare

Congrats on your first Accreditation!



Sheri Bishop
Precious Cargo



Satellite Gathering

📍 Madison



Join us for another **Satellite Gathering!**

Time to chat over a simple dinner and create vision boards! Come and enjoy the company of fellow Satellite family child care educators.

Wednesday, February 25 at 6 PM

Appleton

[Click here to RSVP!](#)

FAMILY CHILD CARE PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Campbell's Kids Learning Center

Program owner: Curby Modisett

Affiliate Satellite educator



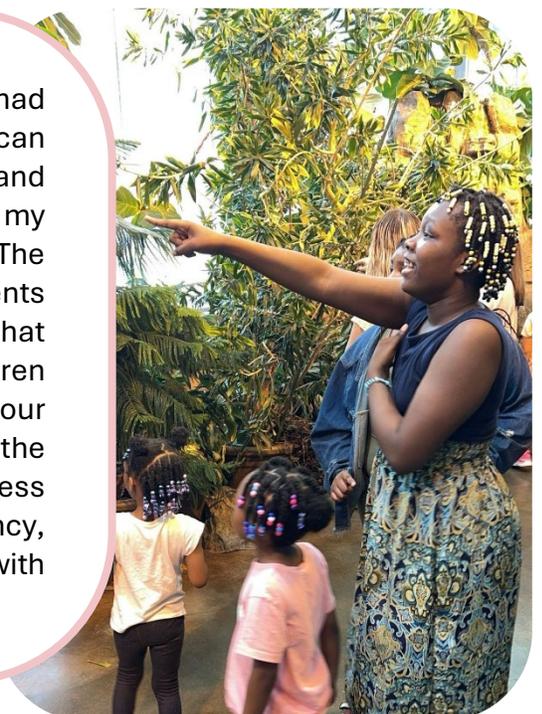
Our program is a play-based family child care program that focuses on supporting the whole child. We work hard to help children develop strong social-emotional skills by teaching them how to understand their feelings, build relationships, and feel confident being themselves. We believe children learn best through play, exploration, and meaningful interactions in a safe and nurturing environment.



One aspect of our program that sets us apart is the strong emphasis we place on helping children learn who they truly are. We allow children to express themselves, make choices, and grow at their own pace while feeling supported and valued. Building emotional awareness and self-confidence is a priority in everything we do.



My family child care journey has had its ups and downs. Some days can feel overwhelming, but the love and dedication I pour into teaching my children makes it all worth it. The journey is filled with loving moments and teachable experiences that continue to shape both the children and myself. One challenge in our program has been balancing the needs of all children, and I address this by using patience, consistency, and open communication with families.



Family Culture, Interests, and Skills

Relevant Satellite Accreditation Standards

I. Interactions and Relationships

F. The provider encourages parents to be involved in the family child care home.

2. Parents are encouraged to share their interests, skills, and cultures with the children in the program.



The Basics

The exchange of interests, skills, and cultures among children and families strengthens the program community and supports children's social-emotional and language skills (Cohen & Anders, 2019). A principle of *Developmentally Appropriate Practice* (NAEYC, 2022), children feel honored and respected when they see their families represented in their early learning program. Cooperation among educators and families also enriches the home learning environment (Rossbach, Anders & Tietze, 2016).

How can I encourage family involvement? All families are unique in their amount of time, flexibility, interest, or ability to contribute to a program, so involvement efforts must include a variety of opportunities. Below are suggestions for encouraging families to share their interests, skills, and culture in an early learning program.

Invite family members to...

- choose a favorite book to read in person, virtually, or through a recorded video.
- share their cultural traditions through sharing objects, music, photos, or videos with the program.
- teach a new skill or talk about an interest in person, virtually, or through a recorded video.
- bring in multiple family photos to be displayed on the wall or incorporated in an album.
- write a note for their child at drop off to be opened and read aloud later in the day.
- teach the other children in the program a few words in their home language.
- suggest meaningful learning experiences to offer in the program.

DIVING INTO THE STANDARDS

Family Culture, Interests, and Skills (Cont.)

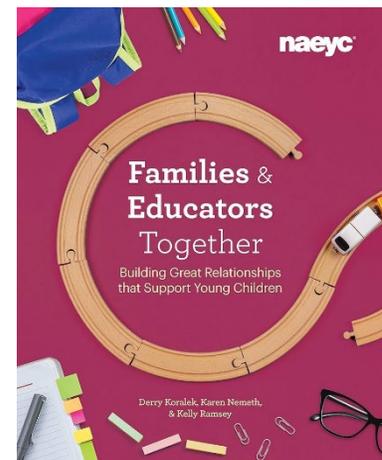
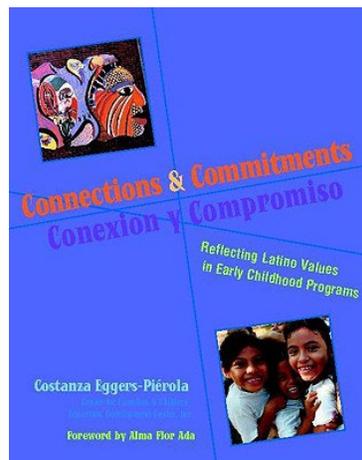
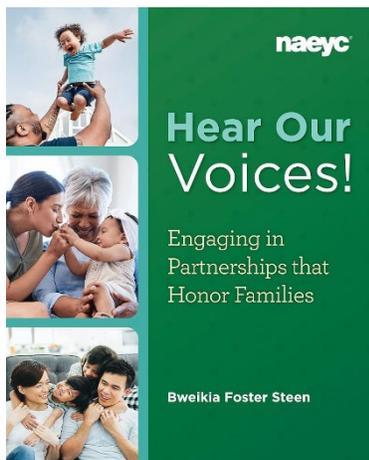
I want to learn more!

- [Rethinking Family Involvement](#) (Resource)
- [Encouraging Strong Parent-Child Relationships](#) (Resource)
- [Engaging in Reciprocal Partnerships with Families and Fostering Community Connections](#) (Article)
- [Understanding the Power of Parent Involvement](#) (Article)
- [Five Rs for Promoting Positive Family Engagement](#) (Article)
- [Relationship-Based Competencies to Support Family Engagement](#) (Guide)

Books available through Satellite's lending library:

(for Satellite participating programs only)

- *Hear Our Voices! Engaging in Partnerships that Honor Families* (Steen, 2023)
- *Families & Educators Together: Building Great Relationships that Support Young Children* (Koralek, 2019)
- *Connections & Commitments: Reflecting Latino Values in Early Childhood Programs* (Eggers-Piérrola, 2005)



Upcoming Professional Development



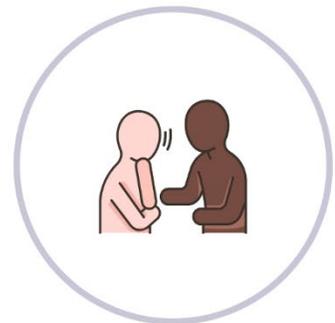
PBS KIDS Presents: Developmentally Appropriate Media

Children two and older learn through screen media with a supportive, actively engaged adult providing feedback, asking questions, and expanding on the content. In this course, Education Engagement Specialist Jami Hoekstra Collins from PBS KIDS will explore how to incorporate developmentally appropriate media in a mixed-age group that supports children's social and emotional development, autonomy, and sense of wonder. Participants will learn how to use media as a tool for strengthening relationships with children and families.

February 10 • 1 – 2 PM • Zoom • English and Spanish • 1 hour of Registry credit



[Register here](#) by 2/8



ECHO de cuidado infantil familiar: Incluyendo a los estudiantes con discapacidades

Learn strategies to support inclusive family child care for children with a special health or development need through four discussion-based evening sessions. Each event will include a short presentation on the session topic followed by discussion-based problem solving for a specific program concern. To learn more about the ECHO model, click [here](#).

Wednesdays • 6 – 7 pm • Zoom • 1 hour of Registry credit per event • **Spanish only**

March 4

March 18

April 1

April 15

[Register here](#) by 3/2



Trauma-Informed Practices in Family Child Care

This four-part learning series will equip you with the knowledge and skills to create an environment that is safe, supportive, and inclusive to children and families affected by trauma. You will learn about how trauma affects individuals and communities. Facilitated by Satellite consultant Rachel Halstead, we will explore both responsive and proactive strategies for supporting and including students with trauma backgrounds. This opportunity is open to all educators participating in Upward Milwaukee and Satellite's accreditation system.

You will...

- ✓ explore forms of trauma and their manifestations.
- ✓ implement trauma-informed practices by designed environments that foster safety, predictability, and co-regulation.
- ✓ learn and apply mind-body wellness strategies to support children.

March 5

March 12

March 19

March 26

Thursdays

6 – 7 pm

Zoom

4 hours of Registry credit

English only

[Register here](#)



Satellite
FAMILY CHILD CARE SYSTEM





Exploring Quality in Family Child Care

Tuesdays • 1 – 2 pm • Zoom • 1 hour of Registry credit • English & Spanish

Dates	Topic	Registration
February 10	PBS KIDS Presents: Developmentally Appropriate Media	Register by 2/8
March 10	Promoting Friendship Skills	Register by 3/8
April 7	Preparing Future Readers Through Print Awareness	Register by 4/5
May 12	Why Children Need Large Motor Play	Register by 5/10
June 9	Child-Directed Play	Register by 6/7

Trauma-Informed Practices in Family Child Care

Learn to create an environment that is safe, supportive, and inclusive to children and families affected by trauma through four discussion-based evening sessions. *Only for programs participating in Upward Milwaukee or Satellite's accreditation system.*

Thursdays • 6 – 7 pm • Zoom • 4 hours of Registry credit

Language	Dates	Registration
English only	March 5 March 12 March 19 March 26	Register by 3/3

ECHO Family Child Care: Including Learners with Disabilities

Wednesdays • 6 – 7 pm • Zoom • 1 hour of Registry credit per session

Learn strategies to support inclusive family child care for children identified with a special health or development need through four discussion-based evening sessions. Learn more information [here](#).

Language	Dates	Registration
Spanish only	March 4 March 18 April 1 April 15	Register by 3/2

Milwaukee Learning Opportunities

Tuesdays • 6 – 8 pm • Milwaukee • 1.5 hours of Registry credit • English and Spanish

Dates	Event	Registration
March 24	Play-Based Individualized Curriculum in Family Child Care	Register by 3/17

Wisconsin Family Child Care Annual Conference

Green Bay • April 30 – May 2 • English • [Learn more here](#)

Date	Time	Session	Registration
May 1	9:30 – 12:15 pm	How to Create an Environment that Supports Children’s Ideas AND Maintains Your Boundaries	Register here
May 1	2:15 – 3:30 pm	Understanding Accreditation and the Satellite Family Child Care System	Register here
May 2	11 – 12:15 pm	Incorporating Sensory Experiences That Meet the Needs of All Learners	Register here

Obtaining Registry Credit* for Satellite’s Virtual (Zoom) Professional Learning Sessions

To receive hours of Registry of credit for web-based professional development, you must:

- Be present for at least 75% of the session.
- Complete an evaluation at the end of the session and enter your Registry information.

You can view and print your proof of attendance through your [Wisconsin Registry](#) account. It may take several weeks before your attendance is entered into the Registry. Certificates of completion will not be mailed or emailed to participants.

*If you do not complete the steps above and wish to document a Satellite event that you attended or a Satellite event recording you watched, complete the DCF form [Continuing Education Record—Independent Reading/Video Viewing for your own record](#).

Miss a professional development event?

Watch the recording on our [YouTube Channel](#). Complete the DCF form [Continuing Education Record—Independent Reading/Video Viewing for your own record](#).

What is

ACCREDITATION?

Family child care programs achieving accreditation are recognized as meeting the highest standards in home-based early care and education.

Satellite can help your program achieve accreditation.

Learn more [here](#).

Satellite Social Events

These opportunities are open to educators participating in Upward Milwaukee and Satellite's accreditation system.



Educator Appreciation Dinner

A dinner in honor of family child care professionals • 6 pm

Dates	Location	RSVP	🌐
April 10	Eau Claire	RSVP here	English
May 20	Madison	RSVP here	English, Spanish
June 17	Milwaukee	RSVP here	English, Spanish
July 29	Sheboygan	RSVP here	English



Satellite Gatherings

Time for family child care professionals to spend together

Dates	Location	Time	RSVP	🌐
February 25	Appleton	6-8 pm	RSVP here	English
May 1	Green Bay	5:15-7 pm	RSVP here	English
October 3	Eau Claire	9:30-11:30 am	RSVP here	English
November 4	Milwaukee	6-8 pm	RSVP here	English, Spanish

Satellite Support Groups



Noche Latina

An evening for Spanish speaking family child care professionals.

6 – 8 pm • Spanish • 4709 Verona Road Madison • Contact evargas@reachdane.org with questions

February 11

March 11

April 8

June 10

July 8

August 12

September 9

October 14

November 11

December 5

Sojourn

A support group for Satellite family child care professionals that meets at family programs.

6:30 – 9 PM • Tuesdays • English • Madison area • RSVP to letthedragonsfly@gmail.com

February 10

March 10

April 14

May 12

June 9

July 14

August 11

September 8

October 13

November 10

December 8

Learn more about Satellite's support groups [here](#).

SATELLITE LOAN PROGRAM

Satellite members have full access to Satellite's equipment and curriculum units. Check the link below regularly to view our full lending options. When you sign up for equipment and units, your consultant will inform you of whether the item is available immediately or if you're on the waitlist.

Pick-up and drop-off of equipment and units occurs during consultant visits to your program. Additional exchanges of equipment and units may occur at the Satellite office. Communicate with your accreditation consultant to determine a day and time when Satellite staff are present.

Click here for
Satellite Equipment
and Units Loans

Satellite loans high-quality infant curriculum materials! See a few of our options below!



BUSINESS MANAGEMENT



weessn

Wisconsin Early Education
Shared Services Network

a **weca** program

Reminder! Sign up with Wisconsin Early Education Shared Services Network (WEESN) to receive FREE bilingual, virtual access to business and financial resources for all family child care and group center programs. Any regulated family or group child care program can join – for FREE.

Learn more and sign up [here](#).

The Business-Child Care Partnership Tool Kit contains information and considerations for businesses and child care providers looking to partner within their communities.

[Click here to access the tool!](#)



Put More Jingle in Your Pocket: Understanding Your FCC Tax Preparation Better

From your first expense of the year through the last, YOU have the opportunity to ease your tax preparation. Watch this session to learn what can make the difference between a smooth tax filing season and a chaotic one. We discuss the red flags and green flags to consider when selecting your tax professional and steps you can take throughout the year to improve your tax preparation. Facilitated by Kelly Matthews and co-sponsored by **Satellite** and **WECA**.

[Click here to watch the webinar!](#) See the follow-up question and answer guide [here](#).



Satellite Team



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2096 Red Arrow Trail, Fitchburg, WI 53711

Label mailed and hand delivered items with "attention:
Satellite" & and the Satellite staff person's name

Satellite Supports

To learn more about Satellite's numerous supports, click on the circle below.



Thank you to our partners for helping us provide these services at no cost to participants:

