



# Satellite

FAMILY CHILD CARE SYSTEM  
NEWSLETTER

February 2025

## Congrats on moving to Associate level!

Lissette Santiago – Lisy Family Day Care

Manuela Aleman – Sweet Home Smiles

Yolanda Morales – Fionna's Family Child Care

## Did you know?

IN 2024, **1001** PIECES OF HIGH-  
QUALITY EQUIPMENT WERE  
BORROWED THROUGH SATELLITE'S  
LOAN PROGRAM.

## Congrats on your first Accreditation!



Sarah Olson – Hundred  
Acre Play Care

## Satellite Gathering



📍 Madison

© John Spaulding



Watch Satellite accredited educator Corrine Hendrickson in the documentary, [We Are Family Child Care](#), a collaboration between NAFCC and Fola Studios!



# LEARNING AND CONNECTING TOGETHER

## SPOTLIGHT ON

### *Little Rascals Family Daycare*

Program Owner: Mary Jo Flocca

Accredited Satellite Educator

"This business was established with the sole purpose to provide stability for my family and our home. What was once thought to be a business that would only exist until my children were school age became a business that I love and enjoy. The childcare business now operates three days per week rather than 5 days. Although I was concerned about this transition, families made that work for their schedules." – Mary Jo



"Using the same philosophy of raising my own children, I work with each child as a whole. I view Little Rascals as an extension of the child's family, and therefore, as a working partner with the child's parents/guardians. Helping families with parenting their child is also an important part. Through observations, parents get another view of their child's skill level with suggestions on what they can try at home. It really is a partnership to help a child to grow and learn. As I observe the children that attend Little Rascals, I too am a learning. Learning different ways to teach is my growth in the process." – Mary Jo



"Having the skills to do those things in the business of childcare did not come overnight. Taking classes through various organizations as well as obtaining a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship helped me to learn more about what I was doing. I also feel strongly that connecting with various support groups not only helps personal growth but relieves your isolation. At one time, we had a local support group in Stoughton. When this group left, I sought out Satellite Family Child Care System and became a member. This provided more trainings as well as connecting with another support group, Sojourn." – Mary Jo

# DIVING INTO THE STANDARDS

## Floor Play

### Relevant Satellite Accreditation Standards

#### Appendix II Recommended Learning Experiences

Enhancing Physical and Sensory Development: Support Sensory, Large, and Small Motor Development

##### Infants and Toddlers

- Provide infants with “tummy time” to help strengthen muscles in the back, arms, and neck.



### The Basics

**What are infant containers?** Babies spend a lot of time in infant containers. These devices are designed to help keep infants safe and occupied but ultimately limit free movement and stunt development. Some examples of infant containers include bouncers, strollers, activity chairs, car seats, infant swings, high chairs, and nursing pillows. Although babies may seem highly content, spending too much time in these devices can lead to plagiocephaly (or flat head syndrome), torticollis (painful, stiff neck), and delayed motor development. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that infants spend no more than **twenty minutes** at a time, **three times a day** in movement restricting equipment.

**Why is floor play so important?** Time spent on the floor for a baby is time spent working on the gross motor skills necessary to fully take in the world around them. Babies should experience a variety of positions throughout the day – back, tummy, and side. Tummy time, when an infant is placed on their stomach to play, is particularly important for supporting healthy physical development and minimizing risk of plagiocephaly. Infants given freedom of movement on the floor will wiggle, reach, and stretch. These skills develop into rolling and crawling, strengthening the muscles and joints in the infant’s back, neck, hips, shoulders, hands, and feet. Crawling opens the world to an infant and allows them to build brain connections, explore the environment, and refine their vestibular system. Environments with safe spaces for floor play yield happy, healthy babies.

### I want to learn more!

- [Out of the Container, and Onto the Floor](#)
- [Tummy Time and Infant Health Outcomes: A Systematic Review](#)
- [Back to Sleep, Tummy to Play](#)
- [Tummy time for babies](#)



# Upcoming Professional Development



## Transitions Throughout the Day: Strategies, Skills, and Wisdom from Satellite Programs

Children experience many transitions throughout the day, such as arrival, mealtime, and naptime. Predictable, individualized routines for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers during daily transitions help minimize emotional distress and increase cooperation. This course will outline how to plan and establish consistent routines with a mixed-age group. A panel of Satellite family child care professionals will highlight their skills and showcase their strategies for smooth transitions. Participants will learn how to support children through unavoidable transitions by incorporating techniques like shared responsibility, visuals, songs, games, and fingerplays.

February 19 • 6 – 8 PM • Zoom • English and Spanish • 2 hours of Registry credit

[Register here](#) by 2/17



## Supporting Multilingual Children in Early Childhood Classrooms

This workshop will discuss ways to support multilingual children and their families in early childhood settings. Topics will explore children's identity and language development, partnerships and advocacy with families, and cultural and linguistic practices to support young learners. Participants will have time to reflect on their own educational settings and develop action steps to create equitable learning environments for multilingual children. Resources will be shared with participants and opportunities for questions will be provided.

February 21 • 9:15 – 10:45AM • 6000 American Pkwy, Madison • English and Spanish

[Register here](#)

## Bringing Movement and Connection into Early Childhood Programs

In this experiential session, we will explore the benefits of mindful movement and mindful awareness and discuss and practice ways of incorporating these into the Family Child Care setting. Some examples include bringing more movement into circle times in a variety of ways, using mindfulness in transitions, and using song to promote social connectedness. Please be dressed comfortably to move and practice these activities together. All bodies and abilities welcome!

February 22 • 9:15 – 10:45AM • 6000 American Pkwy, Madison • English and Spanish

[Register here](#)

# Satellite Professional Development

## Evening Professional Learning Opportunities



Wednesdays • 6 – 8 pm • Zoom • 2 hours of Registry credit • English and Spanish

Dates	Event	Registration
<b>February 19</b>	Transitions Throughout the Day in Family Child Care: Strategies, Skills, and Wisdom from Satellite Programs	<a href="#">Register</a> by 2/17
<b>April 23</b>	How to Create an Environment that Supports Children's Ideas AND Maintains Your Boundaries	<a href="#">Register</a> by 4/21
<b>July 16</b>	Promoting Calm Through Your Environment	<a href="#">Register</a> by 7/14
<b>August 20</b>	Making it Work: Incorporating Rich Art Experiences into a Mixed-Age Setting	<a href="#">Register</a> by 8/18

## Exploring Quality in Family Child Care

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

Dates	Topic	Registration
<b>March 11</b>	Supporting Infant's Large Motor Development	<a href="#">Register</a> by 3/9
<b>April 8</b>	Back-and-Forth Interactions	<a href="#">Register</a> by 4/6
<b>May 13</b>	Erikson Institute Presents: Using Observations to Plan Curriculum	<a href="#">Register</a> by 5/11
<b>June 10</b>	Open-Ended Questions	<a href="#">Register</a> by 6/8

## Pyramid Model

Monthly on Mondays • 6 – 7 pm • Zoom • 24 hours of Registry credit • English only

**Only for programs participating in Satellite's accreditation system.**

Dates	Event	Registration
<b>January 27 – June 9</b>	Pilot Pyramid Model Family Child Care E-Modules with Reflective Coaching Cohort	Registration closed

## Early Learning Connections Conference

Date	Time	Session	Registration
<b>February 21</b>	9:15 – 10:45 am	Supporting Multilingual Children in Early Childhood Classrooms	<a href="#">Register here</a>
<b>February 22</b>	9:15 – 10:45 am	Bringing Movement and Connection into Early Childhood Programs	<a href="#">Register here</a>



## Obtaining Registry Credit\* for Satellite's Virtual (Zoom) Professional Development Sessions

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

1. Be present for at least 75% of the session.
2. 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](#).



**Did you know?**

BETWEEN OCTOBER AND DECEMBER,

**253**

PARTICIPANTS ATTENDED SATELLITE'S  
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING  
OPPORTUNITIES.

**LOOKING FOR RESOURCES?**

Explore Satellite's  
[Resource Library!](#)

# Satellite Social Events

*These opportunities are open to educators participating in Satellite's accreditation system.*



## Educator Appreciation Dinner

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

Dates	Location	RSVP	🌐
<b>March 9</b>	Eau Claire	RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	English
<b>May 14</b>	Madison	RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	English, Spanish
<b>June 25</b>	Milwaukee	RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	English, Spanish
<b>July 23</b>	Appleton area	<i>Coming soon</i>	English

## Satellite Gatherings

Time for family child care professionals to spend together • 6 pm

Dates	Location	RSVP	🌐
<b>February 26</b>	Kimberly	RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	English
<b>October 18</b>	Eau Claire	<i>Coming soon</i>	English
<b>November 5</b>	Milwaukee area	<i>Coming soon</i>	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](mailto:evargas@reachdane.org) with questions

**February 12**

**March 12**

**April 9**

**June 11**

**July 9**

**August 13**

**September 10**

**November 12**

## Sojourn

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

Evening • Second Tuesday of every month • English • Madison area • RSVP to [letthedragonfly@gmail.com](mailto:letthedragonfly@gmail.com)

**February 11**

**March 11**

**April 8**

**May 13**

**June 10**

**July 8**

**August 12**

**September 9**

**October 14**

**November 11**

## Arcoíris

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

Evening • Third Friday of every month • Madison area • RSPV to Margarita at (608) 446-6142

**February 21**

**March 21**

**April 18**

**May 16**

**June 20**

**July 18**

**August 15**

**September 19**

**October 17**

**November 21**

# 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



Instruments from  
Around the World



Scientific Exploration

Magnets (Early  
Literacy)





# BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

## Professional Resources

### Satellite Services

- [Mentoring Program](#)
- [Satellite Application](#)
- [Equipment and Unit Loan Program](#)
- [Lending Library](#)
- [Report your family child care program's child openings here](#)



### Wisconsin

- [T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Program](#)
- [REWARD Stipend Program](#)
- [Wisconsin Early Childhood Shared Services Network \(WEESN\)](#)
- [The Wisconsin Registry](#)
- [Child Care Forms and Publications \(Licensing\)](#)
- [YoungStar Connect](#)
- [Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation](#)
- [W.E.C.A.N.](#)



### Professional Organizations focused only on Family Child Care

- [Wisconsin Family Child Care Association](#)
- [Home Grown](#)
- [National Association for Family Child Care](#)



For Satellite  
participating  
programs only



### The February Financial Wellness session is:

**Emergency Savings!** We all know that when emergencies arise, crisis mode activates. The goal of this session is to help you build an emergency savings on your budget, learn how to maintain it, and how to shatter the guilt when it comes to tapping into it. You'll be provided with steps to make you feel safe when unexpected expenses arise.

Live Session: **February 12** 11:30 AM Zoom [Register here!](#)

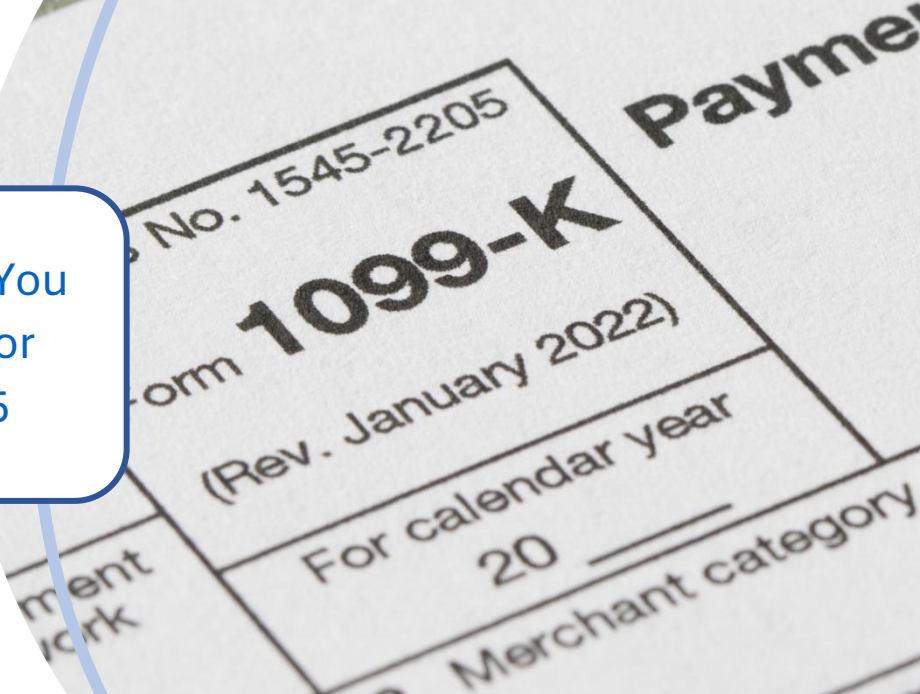
(Use "Reach Dane" as the organization with whom you are affiliated)

# BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Helping organizations thrive

**CIVITAS**  
STRATEGIES

1099-K Updates You  
Need to Know for  
2024 and 2025



Join NAFCC and National Women's Law Center in this webinar!

## Federal Policy Updates for Family Child Care

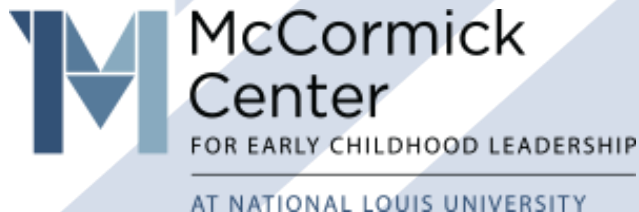


Tuesday, February 11

7:00 – 8:00 PM


[Register here](#)

English and Spanish




Small Business, Big Implications: A  
Look at Business Practices in  
Family Child Care Programs

# HEALTH AND SAFETY



Child Care  
Weather Watch



Stay Safe  
Procedures in  
Early Childhood  
Programs

Helping Young  
Children Who Have  
Experienced  
Trauma



# ADVOCATING FOR THE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSION



Congratulations to Satellite affiliate educator **Julia Bennker** for coordinating a successful advocacy event!



📍 Eau Claire



Recommendations for Governor Evers  
Early Childhood Advisory Council 2024 Report

# Satellite Team



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Satellite Family Child Care System

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[satellitefcc@reachdane.org](mailto:satellitefcc@reachdane.org)

Mailing and drop-off address:

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



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

