



Satellite Family Child Care System

June 2024
Newsletter



Satellite is accepting applications for current Satellite providers to join the **Satellite Advisory Committee**. Satellite strives to maintain a **diverse*** Advisory Committee membership, believing we learn and grow stronger when many different perspectives are offered for consideration. Applications received before July 15 will be considered. Up to 5 new members will be chosen from the applicants.

**Diversity of race, culture, language, geographic location, program philosophy, amount of early childhood education experience and more are all important aspects of diversity on this committee*

Committee description: Satellite deeply values input from those within the family child care community, with the goal of utilizing committee members' expertise and experiences to strengthen the Satellite Family Child Care System. At each Advisory Committee meeting, the facilitator presents information about Satellite's support services and/or accreditation and then asks committee members related open-ended questions. Members of the advisory committee may also add to the agenda questions and needs related to Satellite's family child care programs. Committee members are encouraged to use their unique backgrounds, personal and professional roles, and experiences as they share their perceptions and ideas.

Eligibility: Committee members are in one of the following categories:

- Current or retired Satellite provider, in good standing
- Satellite staff

Commitment: The committee meets quarterly, 4 times per year, via Zoom. Meetings are on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays from 6-7:30 pm and have English/Spanish interpretation. Dates are determined annually, based on the availability of the majority of members.

There are no participation term limits. Once becoming a member of the Satellite Advisory Committee, you remain until choosing to stop. Alternatively, members may be removed if 50% or more meetings in a calendar year are missed.

To apply to participate: [Click here!](#)



Congratulations Estella Vargas for completing the Supporting Dual Language Learners Credential!

Read the interview with Estella below to hear about her experience completing the [credential](#).



Tell us about your experience completing the supporting dual language learners credential.



“It was wonderful. I grew up learning and speaking two languages and so did my own children, so taking this credential brought up a lot of personal experience. When you begin to learn more about this topic, it is like an ocean – there is no end. I learned about (and particularly loved) the history of bilingual education. I discovered that welcoming families with dual language learners requires respect for the culture, dialect, and beliefs unique to each family. It was an eye-opening and valuable experience that I am so happy to have completed.” – Estella Vargas

What did you learn about dual language learners that surprised you or changes the way you support our bilingual programs moving forward?



“I learned that dual language learners often score lower on traditional developmental assessments because it’s not completed in their home language. We therefore need more appropriate evaluation tools and curriculums that incorporate home languages. I learned how learning two languages connects to physical well-being, motor development, social and emotional development, approaches toward learning, language development (including emergent literacy), cognition, and general knowledge (including mathematics and science). I will use this knowledge to support programs in quality improvement as an accreditation consultant.” – Estella Vargas

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Would you suggest our programs working with dual language learners take this credential and why?



“Yes definitely! It is important to continue learning as a professional, and this credential will provide the skills to support the healthy development of dual language learners. The benefits would be many. Research shows that learning two languages has positive effects on academic performance, cognitive flexibility, attentional control, memory, problem-solving skills, and receptive language. Children who learn two languages develop cultural competencies that help them succeed in our global society.” – Estella Vargas



A big welcome to our new Satellite Affiliate members, all with shared goal of achieving accreditation!

LaRosa Jones – Rosebuds Educational Childcare Center

Tanya Wilde – Tiny Toes Toddler Care

Geneva Koleski – Everything’s Better at Grandma’s

Courtney Beth Zielinski – Tadpoles to Frogs Family Daycare

Congrats on moving from certified to licensed!

Congratulations on moving to Associate level with Satellite!

Corrine Hendrickson – Corrine’s Little Explorers

Sarah Tuttle – Bright Beginnings Day School 5 (Lead Educator Brianna Riley)



Temitope Oluti – Flourish Childcare Center

LEARNING AND CONNECTING TOGETHER

Southern Region Provider Appreciation Dinner



An evening filled with small bites and good conversation. We appreciate our Southern Region folk!

LEARNING AND CONNECTING TOGETHER

Northeastern Region Provider Appreciation Dinner



What a relaxing evening.
We appreciate our
Northeastern Region folk!

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Anji Play in Home Based Care settings



WEDNESDAYS:
JULY 31, AUGUST 7 AND 14
8-9:30 PM CST/ 6:00-7:30 PM PST

SUNDAYS:
JULY 28, AUGUST 4 AND 11
12:00-1:30 PM CST/ 10:00-11:30 AM PST



Kate Woodford, Owner and Director of El Mundo de Niños, will share her insights and experiences implementing the Anji Play philosophy and approach at her bilingual, home-based Anji Play program in Madison, Wisconsin.

Facilitated in collaboration with Jesse Coffino of Anji Education, this program offers a unique perspective and 8 hours of professional learning documented upon request.

Through three 1.5 hour sessions of discussion, reflection and active engagement, participants will explore topics:

- Core philosophy and practices
- Creating true play environments in home-based settings
- Working with different age groups and ratios
- Parent and family relationships
- Licensing & accreditation
- Other areas relevant to play-based early education.

[Register here!](#)



LEARNING AND CONNECTING TOGETHER

SPOTLIGHT ON

My Second Family Family Child Care

Program Owner: Mary Laufenberg; Accredited Satellite Provider

“My childcare journey started 35 years ago, when our first child was born. I worked in office jobs before. I didn’t enjoy sitting at a desk waiting for break time. I was always calling in or taking off early. Until I started to provide childcare. The weeks were more than 50 hours, hours in the day flew by. “Oh my gosh, it’s time for lunch!” I found a career that I loved doing and no two days are alike.” – Mary Laufenberg



“Childcare has changed a lot over the years. I learned how to be adaptable to changes in how early care was evolving. I am play-based and help children to learn about what they are interest in. Watching the wonder in their eyes as we figure something out is priceless. I enjoy meeting former families out and about; there young adults tell me how much fun they had during their time with me.” – Mary Laufenberg



“Family childcare has provided many opportunities to grow as a person. I have learned many things along the way. I have taken college classes, learned about the different personalities that make up our world. Having my own business with support from Satellite helps because they stand behind me and support what I do.” – Mary Laufenberg



“Not ready to retire yet, I love my coworkers! (The children!)” – Mary Laufenberg



DIVING INTO THE STANDARDS

Mixed-Age Play

Relevant Satellite Accreditation Standards

III. Daily Program for Children

A. Children learn through self-paced play, and through active engagement with materials, the provider, and other children.

2. Infant and toddler activities focus on individualized activities and spontaneous interactions in group play

IV. Supporting Children's Development

C. The provider actively promotes social skills and positive relationships among children.

5. Infants have opportunities to be in safe contact with each other and with older children in the group.



El Mundo De Niños



Tricia's Harmony House



HoneyPie Nature Playschool

The Basics

Why is mixed age play beneficial? Mixed-age play, or play among children of different age groups, has invaluable benefits for children's development. A learning community of mixed ages fosters an appreciation for individual differences and reduces competitiveness among children. In this type of play:

Older children...

gain self-confidence in social interactions

build leadership skills

practice empathy and nurturing others

exercise creativity and flexibility

Younger children...

engage in more complex play

develop better expressive language

learn problem-solving strategies

absorb numeracy and literacy concepts

DIVING INTO THE STANDARDS

Mixed-Age Play (Cont.)

[How do I facilitate mixed-age play?](#) Mixed-age groups are common in family child care. Adults play a key role in mixed-age play by providing the appropriate space, time, and materials. Research shows that when given the choice, children will naturally choose to play in mixed-age groups. By providing open-ended materials, such as blocks, loose parts, playdough, and balls, children of many ages can engage in imaginative, collaborative play together. Older children support younger children in play by dividing roles, explaining rules, and creating fantasy storylines. For this reason, children need long periods of uninterrupted time to plan, develop, and execute play ideas.

[What about children's different abilities?](#) Adults help notice and appreciate individual differences that are inevitable, and often drastic, among mixed-age children. A simple, "They're still learning, let's show them how we..." when a difference in ability arises can help older children gain confidence and younger children feel supported. Even if collaborative play between children of mixed ages is minimal, younger children are constantly watching and learning from older children. These experiences will help children develop essential skills for working well with others, especially in collaborative group work, throughout their lives.

I want to learn more!

- [The Special Value of Age-Mixed Play](#)
- [The Benefits of Mixed-Age Grouping](#)
- [Early Childhood Mixed Age Grouping](#)
- [Strategies for Working with Mixed-Age Groups in Early Childhood Education](#)
- [What Exactly Is Play, and Why Is It Such a Powerful Vehicle for Learning?](#)



Let the Dragon's Fly



Growing Hands Family Child Care



Kathy's Kids Home Child Care

Upcoming Professional Development



Fostering True Play in Your Program: AnjiPlay in Family Child Care

This course will introduce AnjiPlay as a method of guiding curriculum practices in family child care. Participants will learn the five interconnected principles of AnjiPlay: risk, love, joy, engagement, and reflection. Participants will understand the role of True Play, the educator, and the environment within the context of AnjiPlay. The course will focus on how this curriculum approach can be implemented in a family child care program.

June 26; 6 – 8 PM Zoom

English and Spanish

2 hours of Registry credit

[Register here](#) (by 6/24)



Exploring Quality in Family Child Care: Risky Play

Risky play is unstructured play that involves some risk of injury – physical or emotional – and often includes experimenting with height, speed, tools, and nature. Risky play supports self-regulation, self-awareness, and self-confidence; however, allowing risk taking can be uncomfortable for many caregivers. Come to this session to reflect on your own approach to risky play, hear from other family child care professionals, and learn strategies for supporting children’s natural inclination to push boundaries.

July 9; 1 – 2 PM Zoom

English and Spanish

1 hour of Registry credit

[Register here](#) (by 7/5)

Satellite Calendar

Evening Professional Learning Opportunities

| Dates | Time | Event | Location | Registration | Registry hours* |  |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---|----------|---|-----------------|---|
| Curriculum Philosophy Series | | | | | | |
| June 26 | 6-8 pm | Fostering True Play in Your Program: AnjiPlay in Family Child Care | Zoom | Register here! by 6/24/24 | 2 | E, Sp |
| July 17 | 6-8 pm | Nurturing Children’s Imagination: Waldorf in Family Child Care | Zoom | Register here! by 7/15/24 | 2 | E, Sp |
| August 14 | 6-8 pm | Building Children’s Independence: Montessori in Family Child Care | Zoom | Register here! by 8/12/24 | 2 | E, Sp |
| September 11 | 6-8 pm | Children as Naturalists: Forest School in Family Child Care | Zoom | Register here! by 9/9/24 | 2 | E, Sp |
| Single Training Sessions | | | | | | |
| October 9 | 6-8 pm | Making it Work: Incorporating Rich Art Experiences into a Mixed-Age Setting | Zoom | Register here! by 10/7/24 | 2 | E, Sp |
| November 13 | 6-8 pm | Nature-Based Winters: Indoors and Out in Family Child Care | Zoom | Register here! by 11/11/24 | 2 | E, Sp |
| January 15 | 6-8 pm | Transitions Throughout the Day in Family Child Care: Strategies, Skills, and Wisdom from Satellite Programs | Zoom | Register here! by 1/13/25 | 2 | E, Sp |

Saturday Events

| Dates | Time | Event | Location | Registration | Registry hours* |  |
|---------------------|--------|---|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---|
| September 28 | 9-5 pm | Safety Saturday (Only for programs participating in Satellite’s accreditation system) | Satellite Office | <i>Coming soon</i> | 7 | E, Sp |

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

To receive Registry credit at the conclusion of virtual (Zoom) professional development, follow these steps:

1. Each participant must register individually even if viewing the training with other participants on the same screen.
2. You must be present for the entire session. Late arrivals may not be admitted.
3. At the conclusion of the session, you complete an evaluation and then enter your information to receive Registry credit. This must be completed at the end of the session or your professional development hours will not be entered into the Registry by Satellite Family Child Care System. **

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 receive professional development credit for a Satellite event that you attended, you will need to complete the DCF form “Continuing Education Record—Independent Reading/Video Viewing “ found here:

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cclicensing/ccformspubs>

Exploring Quality in Family Child Care

| Dates | Time | Topic | Location | Registration | Registry hours* | 🌐 |
|--------------------|--------|-----------------------------|----------|--|-----------------|-------|
| June 11 | 1-2 pm | Defining Your Philosophy | Zoom | Register here! by 6/7/24 | 1 | E, Sp |
| July 9 | 1-2 pm | Risky Play | Zoom | Register here! by 7/5/24 | 1 | E, Sp |
| August 6 | 1-2 pm | Back-and-Forth Interactions | Zoom | Register here! by 8/3/24 | 1 | E, Sp |
| September 3 | 1-2 pm | Child-Directed Play | Zoom | Register here! by 8/30/24 | 1 | E, Sp |

Guided Book Studies (*English only*)

| Dates | Time | Book | Location | Registration | Registry hours* | 🌐 |
|--------------------------------|--------|---|----------|--|-----------------|---|
| July 11 – August 29 | 1-2 pm | Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder | Zoom | Register here! by 6/13/24 | 16 | E |
| October 3 – November 21 | 1-2 pm | Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder | Zoom | Register here! by 9/5/24 | 16 | E |

Enjoyable time with other family child care providers

| Dates | Time | Event | Location | Registration | 🌐 |
|---------------------|--------|---|-----------|--------------------------------|-------|
| September 25 | 6-8 pm | Gathering in Appleton – dinner and mindful art activity | Appleton | <i>Coming soon</i> | E |
| October 2 | 6-8 pm | Provider Appreciation Dinner | Milwaukee | Register here! | E, Sp |
| October 23 | 6-8 pm | Gathering in Madison -- dinner and mindful art activity | Madison | <i>Coming soon</i> | E, Sp |

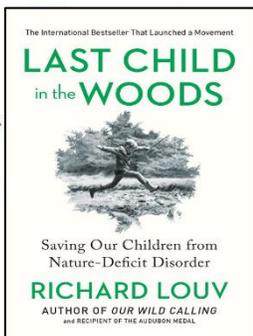
Key



Language

E English

Sp Spanish



Join us as we read [Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder](#) (2005) over eight naptime sessions. This course is discussion-based, meaning you will connect with other family child care professionals throughout the state of Wisconsin as we discuss this bestseller. Learn not only from the book but also from other's experiences, perspectives, and knowledge! [Register here!](#)

16 hours of Registry credit

English only

LEARNING AND CONNECTING TOGETHER

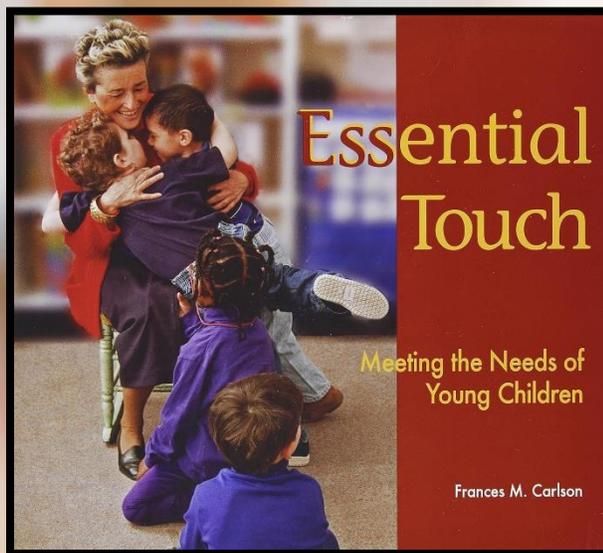
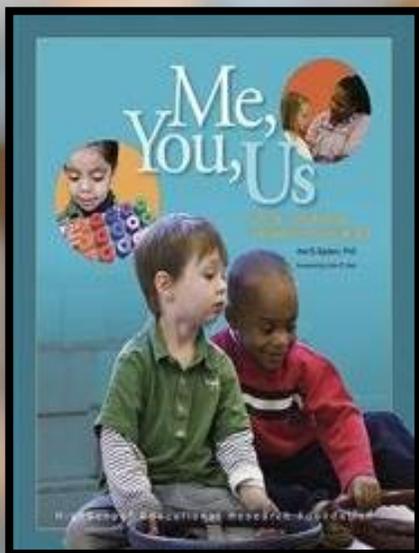
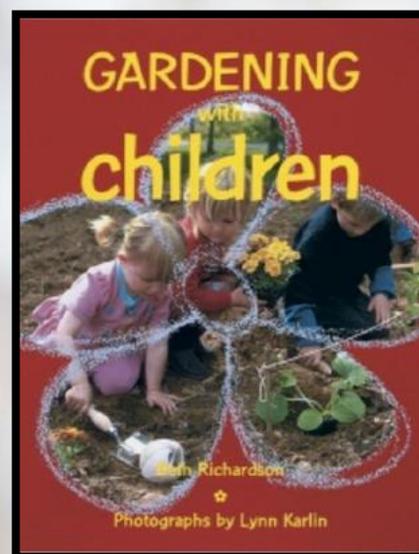
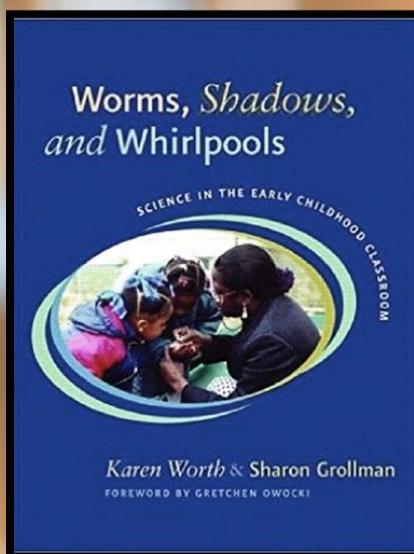
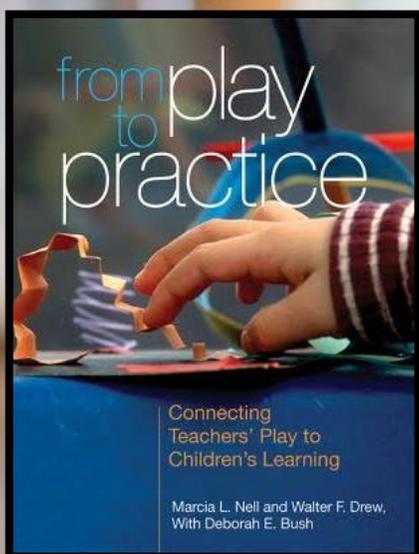
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR RESOURCE LIBRARY

100+ books

Satellite members have full access to Satellite's early childhood educator resource books. Check the link below to view our full lending options.

[Satellite Equipment, Units and Book Loans](#)

When you choose a book, your consultant will inform you of whether the item is available immediately or if you're on the waiting list.





The Early Childhood Health Consultation team, working with the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, developed this [health policy template](#) to support early childhood care & education providers in providing quality child care in Wisconsin.



National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education

Caring for Our Children, (CFOC) is a collection of national standards that represent the best practices, based on evidence, expertise, and experience, for quality health and safety policies and practices for today's early care and education settings. Find the CFOC Standards [here](#).



See this [resource page](#) from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission for information on Firework safety.

Professional Resources

Satellite Services

- [Mentor Program](#)
- [Satellite new member application](#)
- [Resource loans—equipment, curriculum units, & resource books](#)
- [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 \(WEESSN\)](#)
- [The Wisconsin Registry](#)
- [Child Care Forms and Publications \(Licensing\)](#)
- [YoungStar Connect](#)
- [Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation](#)



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 June Financial Wellness session is:

Insurance for Stages of Life! Life Insurance may play an important role in your financial plans, but it's not always easy to determine how much coverage you need. Insurance for Different Stages of Life provides an overview of different life insurance options, how they can be applied at any stage of life, and how they provide confidence when included in your overall financial plan.

Join us live on [06/12/24 @ 11:30am](#) via Zoom with time to ask your questions!

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



YoungStar Quality Adjustment Percentages Changing

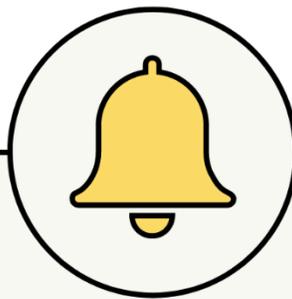
Providers who receive 4- or 5-star ratings on the YoungStar Quality Rating and Improvement System* and who care for children enrolled in the Wisconsin Shares child care subsidy program are eligible for quality adjustment payments. If you accept Wisconsin Shares but are not currently serving any families receiving the subsidy, you will not receive an adjustment.

**Programs accredited through Satellite Family Child Care System receive a 4- or 5-star rating.*

Beginning July 2024, adjustment percentages will be changed to:

- 11% for 4 Star providers
- 22% for 5 Star providers

Learn more [here](#).



Friendly Reminder

Notify your Satellite accreditation consultant when you:

1. close your program (for holidays, vacation, etc.)
2. change your program's hours of operation

SATELLITE TEAM



Estella Vargas

Accreditation Consultant
Bilingual (Spanish/English)
(608) 852-7724
evargas@reachdane.org



Amy Christianson

Language Access, Curriculum, and
Satellite Director
achristianson@reachdane.org



Jen Jorgensen

Accreditation Consultant
(608) 416-9531
jjorgensen@reachdane.org



Laura Simkin

Satellite Associate Director
(608) 381-2676
lsimkin@reachdane.org

Contact Laura with all general questions
related to accreditation and Satellite services.



Rachel Halstead

Accreditation Consultant
(608) 690-0174
rhalstead@reachdane.org



Grace Eilers

Family Child Care Content
Specialist
(608) 400-2823
geilers@reachdane.org



Stephanie Winkel

Accreditation Consultant
(608) 416-3996
swinkel@reachdane.org



Laura Cruz

Administrative Assistant
Bilingual (Spanish/English)
(608) 910-0382
lcruz@reachdane.org



Mykenzie Lerg

Accreditation Consultant
(608) 843-5378
mlerg@reachdane.org

Satellite Family Child Care System

Call: (608) 275-6740

Email: satellitefcc@reachdane.org

Mailing and drop-off address:

2096 Red Arrow Trail, Fitchburg, WI 53711

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

SATELLITE'S PARTNERS

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

