We all have a role to play in helping prepare Weld County’s children for the future.

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Find your license number in our newsletter and call 970-304-6184 to receive a $10 gift card to Human Bean. Each a month a new winner.

This School Year, Let’s Erase Bullying

As children across the country are starting their school years, their parents and guardians are taking steps to make sure they’re equipped with the needed supplies and clothes that fit. Let’s be sure to equip them with the tools to help prevent bullying. If not stopped, bullying results in real and lasting mental health effects. (https://www.stopbullying.gov/at-risk/effects/index.html) It is a repeated behavior that can take the form of physical, verbal, or emotional abuse. It is often based on the imbalance of power such as physical strength, popularity, or holding hurtful information. In fact, many children and adolescents are hesitant to talk about being bullied or to acknowledge that they are bullying others. SAMHSA is working to educate young people, parents, teachers, and community leaders about what they can do to prevent bullying.

Responding quickly and consistently to bullying behavior sends the message that it is not acceptable. Research shows this can stop bullying behavior over time. www.Stopbullying.gov has information on bullying prevention, including

• warning signs of bullying;
• the roles young people play;
• how racial, ethnic, and minority groups are affected by bullying;
• conversation starters for parents to talk to their children when bullying is most likely to occur;
• cyberbullying; and
• media guidelines for accurately providing coverage on bullying.

Because of the long-lasting impact of bullying on mental health, efforts across the federal government are focusing on how we can best support the young people of our nation. SAMHSA supports multiple federal efforts to stop bullying, such as awarding grant funding to states and communities, developing informational and educational resources, and participating on interagency groups. For example, SAMHSA’s Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resilience Education) (https://www.samhsa.gov/nitt-ta/project-aware-grant-information) has promoted youth mental health awareness among schools and communities in 20 states. Since 2014, the grant program’s successes include:

• more than 50,000 teachers, student support personnel, juvenile justice advocates and parents trained to better understand and to identify mental health issues;
• more than 117,000 young people have been connected to services and additional resources and
• an increase in early and accurate identification of students’ mental health needs.

SAMHSA also is contributing to the President’s Federal Commission on School Safety, led by the Secretary of the Department of Education and including the Attorney General and the Secretaries of Health and Human Services and of Homeland Security. Part of the Commission’s charge is to improve access to mental health treatment. The Commission has been examining ways to raise awareness about mental illness, the need to integrate behavioral health services into our schools, and the effectiveness of treatment and community recovery supports.

Cont. on next page
Precious Treasures while they Sleep By Melanie Cyphers, RN Weld County Coordinator for LILI (Local Infant Life Initiative)

It is often said that “Children are our most precious resources.” If that is true, these resources should be protected, treasured, and kept from harm. I once had the privilege of seeing a famous European tapestry which was protected by several layers of glass, security cameras, and guards and locked in a vault at night. It is interesting the lengths we go to to protect historical artifacts while taking our living, breathing, irreplaceable treasures for granted. As child care providers you are tasked each day to protect and care for these rare treasures.

September is Baby Safety Month, and October is SIDS Awareness Month. Both observances give us an opportunity to revisit our infant safety plans and ramp up our safe sleep practices. While the “Back to Sleep” campaigns introduced in the 1990’s decreased infant death by 60 percent, more than 3,500 infants die each year while sleeping due to sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), or accidental deaths from suffocation or strangulation. Care givers play an important role in preventing infant death by modeling safe sleep strategies and sharing the information with parents.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends the following practices for infant sleep safety:

1. Until their first birthday, infants should always be placed on their backs to sleep. This means every sleep- naps and nighttime. Once an infant is able to roll over, you do not need to keep returning them to the back position. Don’t worry about them choking while lying on their back. The baby’s airway anatomy and gag reflex will prevent choking. If an infant falls asleep in a swing, car seat, or other device, they should be moved to a crib and placed on their back to prevent positional asphyxia.

2. Use a firm sleep surface. Bassinets, portable cribs, or play yards that meet the Consumer Product Safety Commission standards (www.cpsc.gov/) are recommended along with a tight-fitting, firm mattress and fitted sheet. Never place a baby to sleep on a couch, sofa, or armchair to avoid entrapment or wedging.

3. Nothing else should be in the crib with the baby! Bumper pads, extra blankets, stuffed animals, toys, and other children are a no-no! Extra items could cause suffocation, entrapment or strangulation.

4. Avoid overheating. The infant should be dressed in only one layer more than you are wearing. Wearable blankets are a good option. If you are swaddling the infant, keep it loose enough for the infant to breath and move his or her hips. Stop swaddling when the infant is able to roll over.

5. Pacifiers help reduce the risk of SIDS, even if they fall out after the baby is asleep.

6. Daily supervised tummy time helps with infant motor development and preventing flat head syndrome.

7. Care for the infant in a smoke-free environment.

Vaults and layers of protective glass won’t protect these treasures!

It is up to caregivers and parents to remember A, B, C- Alone, Back, Crib to keep our infants safe while they sleep. For more information or resources, go to weldhealth.org or www1.nichd.nih.gov/sts
The Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act or “WIIN Act” of 2016 authorized the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to award grants to states and tribes. Grant awards will assist local and tribal educational agencies in voluntary testing for lead contamination in drinking water at schools and child care programs.

The funding priority of this grant is to provide grants to states to help assist schools and child care programs to test for lead contamination in drinking water, utilizing the EPA’s 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools guidance, or equivalent program. View the grant one-pager at http://files.constantcontact.com/d1e1c3f9001/81c853c2-5056-4aed-bc0d-6c5bd9cc43bd.pdf

Important! The Colorado.gov Child Care Facility search will no longer be available at the end of the calendar year. Please direct families and communities to use Coloradoshines.com/search when searching for care. Our goal is to have everyone using Colorado Shines by September 30th, 2018.

The Colorado Shines website is going through a refresh! When the website was created, it was written to introduce and provide information about an exciting new program, Colorado Shines! The updated site will present Colorado Shines as an established program and will include up-to-date information for families, providers and professionals. Site navigation will be also improved, making it easier to find information on quality care, professional development and improving your Colorado Shines level.

Additionally, to help drive traffic to the website, Colorado Shines will be launching a digital advertising campaign which will run through September. The campaign will focus on the importance of quality early learning and direct families to use ColoradoShines.com/search to find quality care.

Questions about these changes? Feel free to reach out to Julia Anderson, our Communication Specialist, at Julia.Anderson@state.co.us or 303.866.5957.

Coming Soon! Colorado Shines Website Refresh

Search for Care Using ColoradoShines.com/Search

Early Childhood STEM Opportunity for Home Care Providers

The ECSTEM (early childhood STEM) conference is offering all home care providers a 50% discount on registration. With the goal of promoting and increasing awareness of the importance of STEM education in early childhood, this conference is a great opportunity for providers! The conference takes place October 12-13 in Boulder. Register now at http://www.ecstem.org/registration, use coupon code ‘BOULDER50’ Contact alex.morgan@boulderjourneyschool.com with questions.

Funding Opportunity! WIIN Grant: Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program Drinking Water

The Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act or “WIIN Act” of 2016 authorized the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to award grants to states and tribes. Grant awards will assist local and tribal educational agencies in voluntary testing for lead contamination in drinking water at schools and child care programs.

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Director’s Roundtable

Who: Child Care Center & Preschool Directors
When: October 16th   9:30 - 11 a.m.
Where: United Way-Ponderosa Room

Join us for our quarterly meeting where local Directors collaborate and discuss child care issues and successes in Weld County!
New Background Check Requirements to Go into Effect September 30, 2018

Coming Soon! Colorado Shines Website Refresh
Rule to Impact Child Care Centers, School-Age Child Care Centers, Family Child Care Homes and Qualified Exempt Child Care Homes.

On September 30, 2018, new background check rule requirements will go into effect. These new rules are to better align background check requirements with Federal Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Regulations.

REVIEW THE RULES HERE at (https://gallery.mailchimp.com/77bac9f533d6bce265cae777d9/files/8af775c5-703d-4cee-a92d-262a81d0f38e/Doc_4_FA_CCFCH_18_04_09_01_REDLINE.pdf)

Child Care Provider Spotlight

Congratulations
Platte Valley Early Learning Center for achieving a Colorado Shines Level 2

Welcome

We would like to introduce Emily Juarez, who is our newest addition to the Providers Advancing School Outcomes (PASO) team. Emily graduated from the 7th PASO Cohort and continued to obtain her Child Development Associate (CDA) all before graduating high school! She has been very involved with the FFN community and will be a great asset to the team.

Upcoming FREE Trainings:
These trainings are available to all child care providers and will be facilitated by our Quality Improvement Coaches.

The Business Administration Scale for Family Child Care (BAS) is a reliable tool for measuring and improving the overall quality of business and professional practices in family child care settings.

Tuesday, Oct. 23 - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 13 - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m
Tuesday, Nov. 11 - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m

The Program Administration Scale (PAS) is designed to reliably measure and improve the leadership and management practices of a center based program.

Thursday, Oct. 11 - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 3 - 9 - 11 a.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 27 - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 8 - 9 - 11 a.m.

Must attend all training to receive certificate.

To sign up, contact Susanne Gallegos - Susanne@UnitedWay-Weld.org or 970-304-6170
October 3 - 5 (Save the Date)
Zero to Three Annual Conference 2018
(http://annualconference.zerotothree.org/?mc_cid=163be56924&mc_eid=efaf29eb4c)

October 6 & 13
KidCare Nutrition - Child Care Pre-Licensing and Standard Precautions Training
(http://files.constantcontact.com/d1e1c3f9001/f5890597-a43e-406f-9432-e4c1bd25c5cb.pdf)

October 19
Weld Project Connect
(https://www.unitedway-weld.org/what-we-do/weld-project-connect/)

October 19
NoCo Breastfeeding Coalition Conference
(https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-balanced-approach-to-breastfeeding-tickets-48823939700)

October 20
Early Childhood Summit
Unleashing Creativity | Unlimited Learning | Endless Possibilities
(http://files.constantcontact.com/d1e1c3f9001/b8174832-3552-4609-88fe-b31f86ed734.pdf)

October 24
Car Seat and Safety Clinic
Eaton Community Center - 1675 3rd St - Eaton Colorado

November 7 (Webinar)
Social Emotional Screening of Young Children: Early Identification is Essential to Healthy SEL

November 28 & 29
Culture of Collaboration Summit
(https://www.eventbrite.com/e/culture-of-collaboration-summit-tickets-46541563068?mc_cid=ea5b346a1&mc_eid=efaf29eb4c)

View calendar at www.UnitedWay-Weld.org/providertraining

LICENSING REQUIREMENT TRAININGS

HEARTSMART CPR-FIRST AID & STANDARD PRECAUTIONS - 5/26, 6/30, 7/28, 8/25, 9/29, 10/27, 11/24, 12/29 Held at Shepherd Of The Hills Lutheran Church, at 950 43rd Avenue, in Greeley. $50 for both classes; $40 for CPR or First Aid only, and $15 for Standard Precautions. They also offer trainings in Loveland and Longmont. Call 303-456-8543 to register.

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION - Medication Administration ($35), CPR and First Aid trainings. $58 for just CPR; $75 for both. Contact Mary Mast @ (970)381-5395.

STANDARD PRECAUTIONS - Contact Heartsmart (above). Also, KidCare Nutrition Training @ (970)351-8779, or Wildwood @ (303)730-0460 (Jane Martinez). Mary Mast @ (970)381-5395.

Medication Administration - Offered by Molly Orlando, RN, Child Care Health Consultant. Contact her at (303)669-9039 or mol-ly_bbnc@outlook.com. She will be teaching classes in Greeley.

CPR/First Aid Training (AHA Curriculum) and Medication Administration Training - Offered by Anne Moyer. AnneMoyerRN@gmail.com or 970-232-8482. Anne Moyer, RN is a CDHS and Qualistar approved trainer for child care providers. She teaches classes in Greeley, Loveland, and Fort Collins.

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Contact jbaptiste@UnitedWay-Weld.org