



VOLUME 1. ISSUE 9

APRIL 30, 2011

ALABAMA FAMILY CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION

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256-772-3284

Treasurer: Earlene Mitchell

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Dear Members,

Please be sure and see attachments to your newsletter. Since we receive information from across the state instead of retyping I am just attaching it. We are trying to make sure our membership knows what the ALFCCA is working on and what other providers and associations are up too. Just remember to double click on the attachment to read.

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear ALFCCA Members,

First, on a personal note:

As I write this, my thoughts keep going to providers that have sustained damage or loss during recent storms as well as those struggling every day because of the economy. I want you to know, Someone Cares, and I have prayed, asking God to reach out his hand to comfort and strengthen you.

Now for business: I would like to thank Cindy Kelly, an Advisory Board Member, for hosting the ALFCCA Membership meeting in Homewood on March 26th. Despite the stormy weather we had Cynthia Edwards from Tallapoosa County and Sylvia Ayers from Calhoun County venture out to join us!!! We enjoyed an energetic and productive time together. I feel certain that it helps to take our meetings "around the state" to give all members the opportunity to share in them. I appreciate when local associations allow us to address their members and let them know what ALFCCA is all about. I think this can only serve to foster continued support, keeping us strong and successful. If you would like us to visit your area, please contact us and let's see what we can set up!

Spring is struggling to get started in my area, yet I marvel each day as more blossoms appear and seem to have more color than years before. I actually had tulips to bloom in the most brilliant shades and lasted a full week! My husband, bless his heart, says it's due to the snow we received this winter adding nutrients to the soil. Whatever the reason, I for one, am delighted to see warmer weather arrive--- Out of doors, here we come!!

It is close to June and time for the Family Child Care Partnerships (FCCP) annual conference. This year it will be held June 10th and 11th at Auburn. Make your reservations early to ensure your place!!! ALFCCA will be offering a workshop and we are looking forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

Marg Peterson

Alabama Department of Human Resources, Child Care Services Division Announcements:

Child Care Time and Attendance System to be Implemented

The Child Care Time and Attendance System (TAS) is an electronic process of recording attendance of children at a childcare provider. TAS will provide for more accurate and timely capturing of time and attendance data utilizing point of service (POS) devices. The POS device is similar to a debit/credit machine found at grocery and department stores. The system will calculate and make reimbursements to providers based on time and attendance data collected. The POS device is provided free to providers.

The Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR) has contracted with Affiliated Computer Systems (ACS) to implement and operate this system. From March through May ACS and DHR is offering a series of **Provider Awareness Sessions**, which are meetings conducted in various regions of the state, to provide more information, demonstrate the new system, and give providers an opportunity to ask questions.

Providers should expect a mailing from ACS containing further details about the POS device and the installation process. Visit the DHR website (www.dhr.alabama.gov) for updated information on the TAS.

2011 Market Rate Survey

In late April, the Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR) will begin conducting the 2011 Market Rate Survey. The survey is to determine the rate charged per child in all childcare settings throughout the state. This information is vital to determining the reimbursement rate for providers who participate in the Child Care Subsidy Program and the allowable amount used for child-care expenses in the child support guidelines. Input is needed from all childcare

providers in Alabama, even if you do not participate in the Child Care Subsidy Program. **A postcard will be mailed to all providers in late April with information on completing the survey.** Please complete the survey on the DHR website at www.dhr.alabama.gov. If you have any questions or need help completing the survey, please contact the Child Care Services Division at (334) 242-1425 or (866) 528-1964.

Child Care and Development Fund State Plan Public Hearing

The Alabama Department of Human Resources will conduct a public hearing on the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) State Plan for the period October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2013. The Hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 19, 2011 in the Auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building, 50 Ripley Street, Montgomery, AL. Individuals and organizations interested in subsidized child care policy in Alabama are encouraged to participate in the public hearing process. The draft plan is available on the Department's website at www.dhr.alabama.gov or a copy may be reviewed at any local county Department of Human Resources or Child Care Management Agency. Submit written comments no later than Friday June 3, 2011 to:

Alabama Department of Human Resources, Child Care Services Division
P.O. Box 304000, Montgomery, AL. 36130-4000

Email comments to: childcare.subsidy@dhr.alabama.gov

NEXT ALFCCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

Place: FCCP Conference

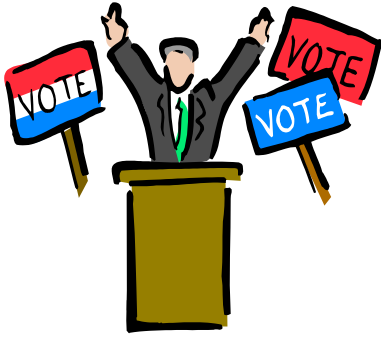
Auburn University

Auburn, AL.

Date: June 10th and 11th, 2011

Next Regular scheduled ALFCCA Board Meeting will be held in Auburn Alabama at the FCCP Conference. It will be a short meeting after the Accreditation dinner. All ALFCCA members are welcome to attend. The meeting will be held at the Sleep Inn & Suites at 135 Spirit Drive, the phone number is 334-501-7171.





Biographies of The Nominee's For ALFCCA Office:

Marg Peterson is the current President of the ALFCCA and has agreed to continue in this position for the next two years. The following is her Bio. I have a Group Family Home in Falkville and have received my 2nd accreditation from NAFCC. I, and the Executive Board of the ALFCCA have set and achieved goals during the time I have been president. One goal was to become involved in advocating for Family Childcare. I was also invited to be on the steering committee for the Alabama Quality Rating System, where I represent family childcare. I am also a member of F.O.C.A.L., the National Association for the Education of young Children, The Madison County Home Child Care and the National Association of Family Childcare. I feel Quality Home Childcare is extremely important as well as being a voice for our members, when needed.

As President of ALFCCA, I would continue to assure that YOU, our providers, and your chosen profession, of Home Childcare are advocated for and supported. I would like to continue toward the goal of Communication with providers- statewide and assisting in supporting your needs.

Thank you for your consideration for a 2nd term as President of the Alabama Family Child Care Association.

Earlene Mitchell is the current appointed Treasurer of the ALFCCA. She has agreed to continue in this position for the next two years. The following is her bio:

I am a Certified Children Specialist and Resource Person, I also a Certified Tax Specialist, and specializes in childcare tax returns. I have served as Treasurer in several organizations, and am currently the Treasurer of ALFCCA. I am a member of

NAFCC, ALFCCA, FOCAL, ACMA, NAEYC, and serve as President of the Madison County Home Child Care Association.

I advocate on behalf of children, families and childcare providers, and my greatest desire is to be a voice for people, especially women and children. I want to be able to help prepare people to protect and care for children. I also do workshops presentations for Children Ministries and in the childcare field.

I own and operate Tender Touch Child Care group Daycare Home. Her motto “ We’ll give your child care with a tender touch” and strives to do this with every child she serves. She is married and has two adult children and one grandson. She lives in Huntsville, Alabama.

Facethia Hogue is a Family Child Care Provider in the Mobile area that has agreed to take on the position of Secretary of the ALFCCA for the remainder of the term. The following is her bio:

I am the owner and operator of Penny’s Playhouse Home Child Care, a licensed family childcare facility located in Mobile, Alabama. I started by child business in 1987. She holds an Associate of Applied Degree in Early Childhood Education. I am a former Headstart Teacher for Mobile Community Action. I also have my CDA Credential from NAFCC and extensive hours of training in childcare. I also advocate for quality care.

I serve as President of the Gulf coast Family Child Care Awareness Alliance. I am striving to obtain her National through FCCP (Family Child Acre Partnership) at Auburn University. I am currently attending college to obtain my Bachelor of Science Degree in early Childhood Education from Athens State University through the TEACH (Alabama Partnership for Children) in Montgomery.

I am a wife, mother and grandmother, mentor, intercessor, teacher, and visionary. I have 4 sons and 24 grandchildren. I am the founder of several women’s ministries in Mobile.

ALFCCA MEMBERSHIP

Renewed Members

January

Teumbay Barnes

March

New Member

Sonya O'Shields

The ALFCCA welcomes Sonya as a new member.

Renewed Members

Brenda Brazier

Mae Gillispie

Earlene Mitchell

April Renewed Members

Kay Gillock

For membership information contact Katrina Lister Membership
Coordinator:

256-837-0858 or k.lister@knology.net

Please contact Katrina with any change of address, telephone
number or email.

Membership Information:

Local Associations: \$175.00

Licensed Family Child Care Provider: \$35.00

Advocate: (No Voting) \$10.00

Payment Plan Available

**STAND UP FOR ALABAMA'S CHILDREN
SUPPORT ALFCCA**



Conferences and Workshops



Auburn Family Child Care Partnership Presents Its Annual Family Child Care Conference

**“We’ve Got Their Whole World In Our
Hands”**

June 10th and 11th, 2011

Auburn University

Auburn, Alabama.

**Please find attached hotel information. The executive Board has
stayed at Sleep Inns the past two years and it is very nice.**

Check out:

<http://humsci.auburn.edu/fccp/>

Conference information is on line now.



National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)
“ Supporting Happy, Healthy Children”

July 21-23, 2011

**Green Valley Ranch Resort Las Vegas
Henderson, Nevada**

For more information go to www.nafcc.org

E-mail- J Holbrook@nafcc-mail-org

801-886-2322



Congratulations to Sylvia Ayers

On obtaining her

Child Development Associate. (CDA)

And

Yolanda Green on her Accreditation.



Happy Provider Appreciation Day You

The Alabama Family Child Care Association wishes all its members a very Happy Provider Appreciation Day. Your job is the most important job in the world. You are helping raise the future leaders of America. You will never be financially rich from caring for children, but you will be rich in memories of how you influenced a child's life and may have made that child make the right decisions along their way to adulthood. We thank each of you for your dedication.

The Alabama Family Childcare Association



PROVIDER TIPS:

To remove splinters reach for scotch tape. Simply put scotch tape on the splinter, and then pull off. Removes most splinters painlessly and easily.

Spring is here, and the *Ants* are *Marching* in. For a safe ant control process just spread some ground cinnamon where you think they are coming in at.



Mother's Day is not far away. Start saving several artwork from your daycare children and have them pick out their favorite for mom. Then have it framed for a great gift for Mother's Day.

Lemon juice will remove adhesive tape and gum from hands and clothes.

For small children mix Kool aid and Dannon plain yogurt as finger paint. The children will love it and they can eat it!



Childcare Websites:

www.humsci.auburn.edu/fccp- Family Child Care Partnership- Assisting family childcare providers with raising the quality of child care services they deliver. FCCP is also the source for Accreditation for family child care providers in Alabama.

www.focalfocal.org- FOCAL provides advocacy on behalf of low- income children and families of Alabama, and also advocates for quality in the childcare field.

Alabama Association For Young Children- the AAYC is dedicated to improving educational opportunities for children birth through age 8 by offering professional development to the early childhood community. Melissa.werner@Athens.edu

National Child Care Information Center- www.nccic.acf.hhs.gov - Is a service of the Child Care Bureau and is a national clearinghouse and technical assistance (TA) center that provides comprehensive childcare information services and TA services to childcare and Development Fund (CCDF) Administrators and other key stakeholders.

www.RedleafPress.org- Resources for Child Caring

www.alavoices.org- Documents and tracks the well being of Alabama's children.

Consumer Product Safety Commission: www.cpsc.gov - Provides updates on defective products and recalls.

Southern Early Childcare Association: www.southern Early Childhood.org

Department of Human Resources: www.dhr.state.al.us

www.themailbox.com- A wonderful website for provider tips and activities.

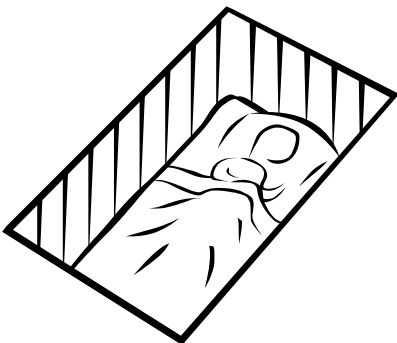
New Added Websites:

<http://www.hitentertainment.com/portal/us/> - a site for children who love Thomas the Train, Barney, or Bob the Builder.

http://crafts.kaboose.com/craft_finder.html - a helpful search function on this site allows you to search for crafts by keyword, theme, difficulty, age or supplies on hand.

<http://pbskids.org/rogers/index.html> - Mister Rogers Neighborhood has Songs, Games, and Videos.

Provided by: Adults & Children's Alliance
www.acainc.org



FOR SALE

2- Evacuation Metal Baby Beds, sides do not drop. Will fold up for storage. Will roll through doors. Paid \$278.00 new will take \$100.00 each.

Call Sylvia Ayers at 256-435-4848 for more info.



LOCAL ASSOCIATION NEWS WITH MISTY CHAMBERS

Montgomery Home Child Care Association: **Takeisha Searcy, President**

Yolanda Green reported that the Montgomery Association is still working on coming up with a fundraiser for the Montgomery County HCCA. Yolanda also said she had received her Accreditation from NAFCC. The Montgomery Association is also participating in the Door Prize Donation for the FCCP conference.

Madison/ Morgan County Home Child Care Association: **Earlene Mitchell, President**

The Madison County HCCA has planned a special Provider Appreciation Celebration for its members and some very special guest. It will be held May 10th. Earlene Mitchell the President has accepted the nomination of ALFCCA Treasurer we congratulate her on her nomination. The association has obtained free computer classes for its members along with ALFCCA help. The Madison County Home Child Care Association will again participate in the ALFCCA door prize donation project for the FCCP conference.

Lee County: **Belinda Dowdell, President**

The Lee County Home Providers Association facilitated training for approximately 16 providers last month. LCHPA has added a few new faces each month and hopes this trend continues. We are planning a surprise family fun night for the area providers and their child care families with international speakers, home providers, toy makers, and authors Jeff and Tasha Johnson in June. The LCHPA is also working on getting by-laws and paperwork finished so that we can become a non-profit organization. This will allow us to do more and be more visible in the community.

Submitted By:
Kay Gillock, NAFCC Accredited Provider

SAFCO: South Alabama Family Child Care Organization
Geraldine Morris, President

SAFCO is holding its Annual Spring Fun Day on April 21st at Medal of Honor Park in Mobile. This years theme is “ Spring has Sprung, so lets Jump and Have Fun.”

Jefferson County:
Patricia Upton, President

All meetings (Unless indicated) are in Bessemer at the 4th Street Legacy Y from 6:30 till 8:30.

The Jefferson County Association focuses on the needs of family child care providers and is run by family child care providers.

Yearly dues are \$20.00 and the benefits include:

1. Monthly trainings to fulfill licensing requirements.
2. A chance to network with other providers.
3. A to be understood by your peers.
4. Share concerns, and get answers to your questions.
5. Monthly reminders about meetings.
6. Non-members can attend training for \$5.00 per session.

Shelby County:
Patsy Kendrick- President

No report.

Cullman County
Glenda Aderhold

The Cullman County HCCA holds meetings the last Monday of each month. The meeting will begin at 6:00PM. Call Glenda for more information at 256- 734-4311.

Limestone County
Jeanie McWilliams

Limestone County has started a combined family and center association. They meet monthly at the Childcare Educational Resource Office on North Jefferson St. Jeanie can be reached at 256- 874-6803 if you need more information.

Wiregrass Family Child Care Association
Patty Blankenship- President

The Wiregrass FCC Association consists of several counties; they include Dale, Henry, Pike and Houston Counties. The WFCCA meets the 1st Saturday of each month from nine a.m. till twelve pm. For May they will be holding a Provider Appreciation luncheon and will have a guest speaker on Early Childhood Education. They also hold a special Retreat at the end of September for their members and daycare moms. They spend the night at Lake Eufaula and offer encouragement and uplifting to its membership. You have time on your own to just sit and meditate or relax at your leisure. There will be a Black and White Ball.

Thought For the Quarter

“ I sometimes compare play to oxygen- it’s all around us, yet goes mostly unnoticed or unappreciated until it is missing.”

Submitted By: Kay Gillock, NAFCC Accredited Provider
Gillocks Gang’s Home Child Care

Taken from: **Play: How it Shapes the Brain, Opens the Imagination, and Invigorates the Soul**

5 Ways to Advertise Your Day Care Besides Craigslist
Do you need options to advertise your home daycare? Before you begin to advertising, be sure that you have colorful, well-designed business cards and/or brochures, or even posters.

Grocery Store- Visit the customer service windows at your favorite local grocery stores, ask if you can leave your brochure or poster on their bulletin boards.

Face book- Yes Face book. Set up a business page for your home daycare or use your existing Face book account. Let your friends and family knows when you are enrolling children, Encourage them to suggest your page or services to friends and family.

Children's Boutiques- Moms frequent kiddie's boutiques and consignment shops. Ask to leave your business information on the counter or boards.

Your Car- Advertise your daycare as you drive round town. Companies such as Vista Print offer magnetic car signage that can feature your daycare logo, name, and contact information.

Community Fairs and Events- rent a booth or table hang a banner and meet and mingle with the parents of the community. Prepare activities for kids to do at your table, or create a mini coloring book they can take home. Hand out your information to interested parents.

No matter where you advertise, remember to make your daycare stand out from your competition. If you offer special hours, organic meals, a kids fitness program or anything special in your community, LET PARENTS KNOW.

Recall Notice:

On December 15th, 2010, the U.S. Product Safety Commission decided to ban the drop-sided designed cribs. These cribs have been linked to at least 32 infant deaths from falls or strangulation since 2000. As a result licensed daycare centers and family providers (and hotels) have 2 years to replace drop-side cribs with sturdier cribs.

Submitted By:
Marg Peterson, NAFCC Accredited Provider



ALFCCA PROVIDER RECOGNITION

The Alabama Family Child Care would like to congratulate Kay Gillock on being chosen as ALFCCA Provider of the Quarter. Kay began childcare when her oldest daughter was 18 months old. She was working in what she calls the “perfect” job as a secretary of a local commercial construction company but on a drive home one afternoon, she realized she knew very little about her daughter. So she approached the director at the child care center about working as a substitute. Of course, the center needed substitutes...everyday. So Kay quit the “perfect” job and began working at the center. She eventually became the lead teacher of the older 3-year old/younger 4-year-old room. She worked there for 6 years. She then worked as a nanny for a friend’s family for 3 years. After leaving child care for a few years, she was finally able to fulfill a long time dream of owning her own family child care home. She has been doing this for almost 10 years.

Kay loves waking up each day to the smiling faces of children ready to explore and learn more about the world. She enjoys planning fun play activities that will help them see their importance in the world. She loves helping children discover that they can do so many things for themselves without rushing them to do things they aren’t ready to do. She also enjoys sharing God’s Word with them in all the things they do each day. Being a family child care provider allows her to get to see the world from a child’s perspective of new discoveries. And who doesn’t want to share hugs with little people each day? Kay has also looked after a child with special needs; she was required to check the child’s blood sugar levels throughout the day. The child also required shots, which Kay also provided for the family.

When Kay was in the process of accreditation through Auburn Family Child Care Partnership, her mentor Gloria Day was helping her find organizations she could in her profession. This is where she found the state family child care association, ALFCCA. Because it is Alabama based and works closely with Auburn FCCP, she knew this was an organization she wanted to be a part of.

Kay began the accreditation process in the first year of starting her home child care business. She got involved in the Auburn University FCCP program, at first, to get the \$500 grant that used to be offered. She loved her mentor and liked that she was learning through the process. It took Kay almost 7 years to complete the process but in time, she went back to school and obtained her Associates Degree in Child Development. She accomplished this by receiving her TEACH scholarship. In going through school, she realized that she truly wanted to achieve accreditation for her and the children who would attend her program. “It was the hardest process but with the **MOST** positive results of anything I have ever done in my career. Without the help of Auburn’s program, I would never have seen my potential and the value of what I have to offer families and the children in my area. Accreditation is the single proudest accomplishment of my career.”

Kay is married to Monty Gillock of Rainsville, Alabama. Monty is safety manager for Auburn Housing. They have two children, Kimberlyn who is 19 and Kyler who is fifteen. They are very sports minded, with Kimberlyn into softball and Kyler into track. Spring is a busy time for Kay’s family going from the softball field to the track. Kay lives just one block from where she grew up in Opelika. She attended Lee Academy and also Opelika High where she graduated. Kay was a tomboy as a child but this came honestly. Kay’s mom said that they just knew Kay would be a boy! Kay loved bikes and motorcycles, and she made the most famous mud pies in Opelika. Her home

was on a small lake and swimming was a favorite past time for Kay. Kay spent much of her summer at the beach. She was an avid sailor, taking her catamaran out every day even in storms, she and a friend had to be by the Coast Guard to head back to shore on one occasion. Kay grew up from the age of ten in a one-parent household. She traveled extensively with her artist mother all over the northeast and in Europe. Her travels with her mom were some of Kay's fondest memories. Kay has one older sister, Kim whom she adores!!

Kay's accomplishments include being awarded the Terri Lynn Lokoff/ Tylenol National Teachers of the Year Award and was one of the top 25 award winners. In 2008. Kay received her AS in Child Development from Southern Union Community College. Kay is a member of NAFCC, ALFCCA, Lee County HPA, Caregivers Unboxed, and the Ooey Gooey Lady's team. Kay was able to attend the NAFCC National Conference in Nashville last summer due to a scholarship provided by the FCCP.

Kay says the last few weeks have been such a whirlwind for her. She found out that International Speaker, author, toymaker, and home provider, Jeff Johnson and his wife, Tasha, are coming to her house to play with her children and to provide a family fun night for the local providers and their child care families. She has been asked by FCCP to present a workshop during their annual conference this summer called "the Bestest Mostest Funnest Messiness Play". And now she has been honored with being named the "ALFCCA Provider of the Quarter!" "What a wonderful ride!!!!"



Congratulations Kay!
The ALFCCA Executive Board

No monthly activities this newsletter. I have not been feeling well and wanted to make sure I got all the necessary news in. Sorry for any inconvenience to you.

We look forward to seeing all our friends at the FCCP conference and meeting new ones!

Fran
Editor



Happy summer to all of you!

