

ECE INSIDER

NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL CHILD MENTAL HEALTH

**Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Department of Community Based Services
Division of Child Care
November 2016**

**The ECE Insider is the Division of Child Care's Quarterly
Newsletter for Kentucky Early Care and
Education Child Care Providers.**

**To receive your copy, send your email address to:
childcare.regulation@ky.gov**

<http://www.rdash.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/CAMHS-Web-top-image.jpg>

Division of Child Care Welcomes New Director

The Division of Child Care is pleased to welcome Christa Bell as our new Division Director as of Oct. 16, 2016. Christa has been employed by the Department of Community Based Services for more than 19 years. Her career began in Scott County in 1997 as an investigator in child protective services. Christa was also an Internal Policy Analyst for the Division of Protection and Permanency. She then returned to the field in 2008, working as a Service Region Administrator Associate in the Southern Bluegrass Region, where she oversaw various program areas within child welfare. Christa went on to serve as the Assistant Director in the Division of Protection and Permanency.

Christa received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Louisville before obtaining a Master of Social Work from the University of Kentucky in 2001. She has a wealth of knowledge and experience and appreciates any opportunity to strengthen relationships between community partners to provide more unified assistance to the families that DCBS serves.

Christa lives in Georgetown, where she resides with her husband and two sons. She also has two lovely adult daughters and a grandson.

DIVISION OF CHILD CARE

MISSION

To provide leadership in building high quality, community based access to child care and early learning that enhances health, safety, permanency, well-being and self-sufficiency for Kentucky's children and families

Contact:

Christa Bell
Director
(502) 564-2524



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<u>Division of Child Care Welcomes New Director</u>	1
<u>Social and Emotional Wellness = Early Childhood Mental Health</u>	2
<u>Kentucky All STARS Program Updates</u>	3
<u>Tips in ECE-TRIS</u>	4
<u>Resources</u>	5



Social and Emotional Wellness = Early Childhood Mental Health

Social emotional development is sometimes called early childhood mental health or infant mental health. It spans from how children interact with others to how they manage or cope with adversity and stress. Social emotional development within the first few years of life sets a precedent and prepares children to be self-confident, trusting, empathic, intellectually inquisitive, competent in using language to communicate, and capable of relating well to others. Healthy social and emotional development refers to a child's emerging ability to:

- Experience, manage, and express the full range of positive and negative emotions;
- Develop close satisfying relationships with other children and adults; and
- Actively explore their environment and learn.

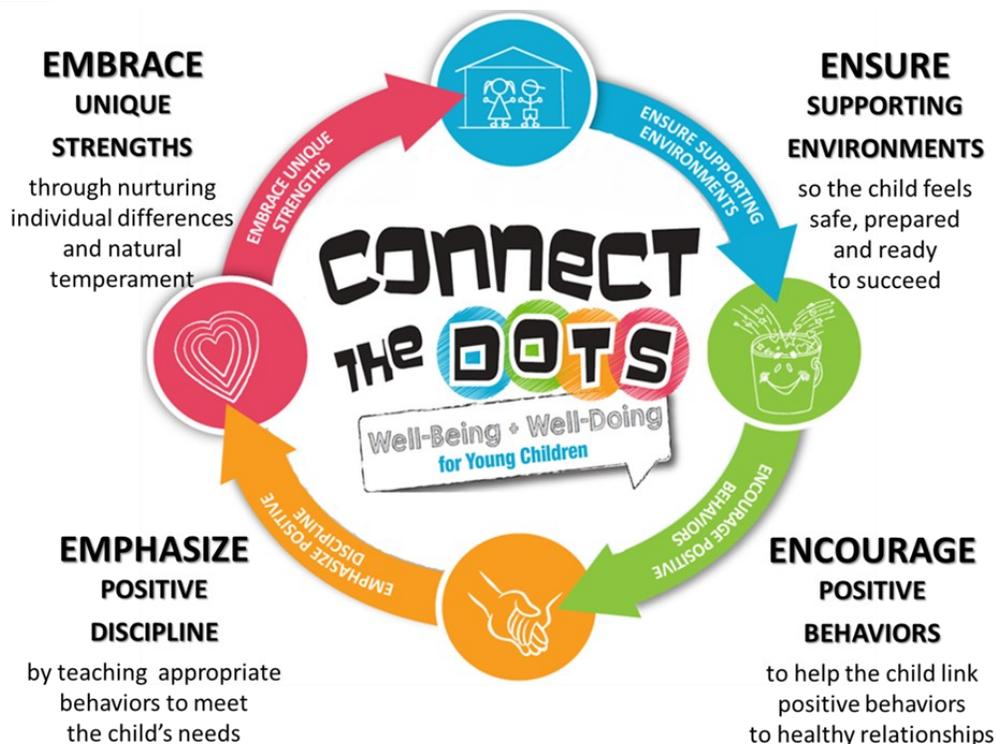
~ From the American Academy of Pediatrics' "The Social Emotional Development of Young Children"

CONNECT THE DOTS FOR BEST PRACTICES

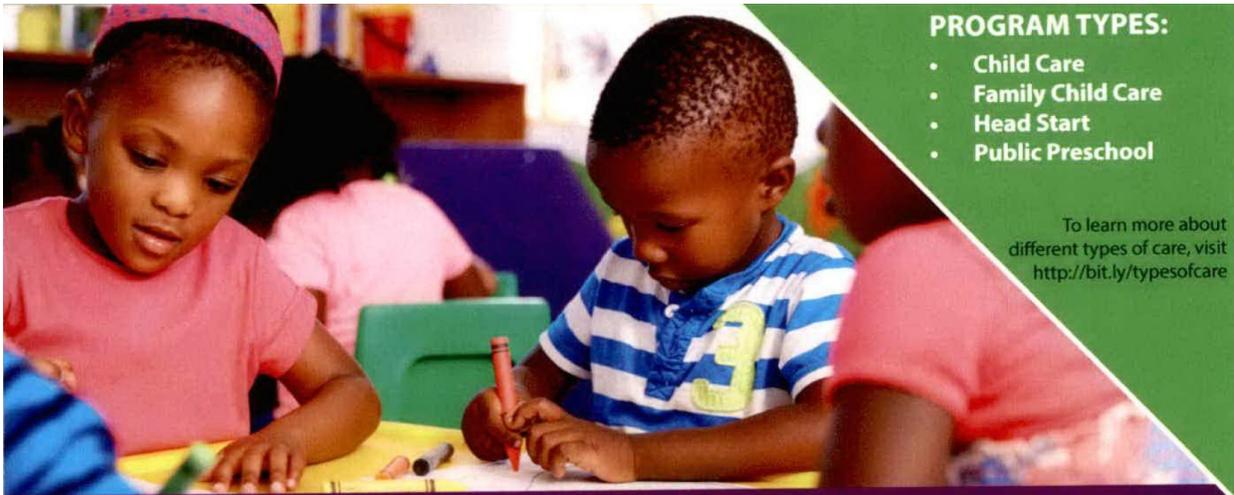
Connect the Dots is a joint collaboration among multiple early education and mental health specialists across Kentucky. The collaboration was built to address a common need: For a short yet powerful skills-based training teaching the basics of social and emotional best practices. *Connect the Dots* highlights four easy-to-remember steps to address challenging behaviors. The four steps encompass both the "well-being" and the "well-doing" of children to ensure strong social and emotional skills needed for success in school and life. *Connect the Dots* resources and trainings are for anyone (*parents, guardians, teachers, therapists, home visitors, etc.*) who works with children ages 2 through 5 years old.

Visit [Connect the Dots](#) webpage and download free parent, teacher and provider resources like templates, posters, informational posters and handouts. There is also a listing of social and emotional behavior mobile apps and top national websites.

Would you like to be a Connect the Dots Trainer? Next TOT is Dec. 6. Please email Brooke.gill@ky.gov for more Information.



KENTUCKY ALL STARS



PROGRAM TYPES:

- Child Care
- Family Child Care
- Head Start
- Public Preschool

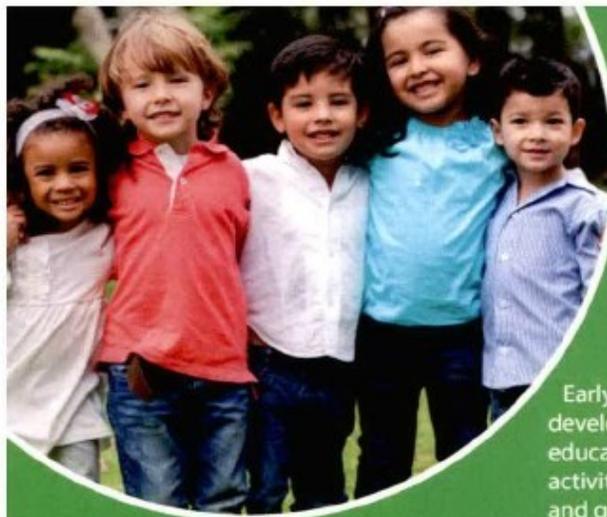
To learn more about different types of care, visit <http://bit.ly/typesofcare>

Regardless of the program type you choose, quality should be the same across the board. Kentucky All STARS is Kentucky's quality rating and improvement system for early care and education programs. It recognizes programs that have made a commitment to continuous quality improvement. It also helps families know the quality of care by rating programs on a five star scale. The system serves all early care and education programs that receive public funding including child care centers, Head Start and public preschool. All required programs will migrate into Kentucky All STARS by June 30, 2017.

Your comfort level with your child's early learning program matters when choosing a program. Schedule a tour to observe classrooms in action and ask questions. For a list of qualities to look for, visit <http://bit.ly/ecequalities>. To search for rated child care providers, visit www.kentuckyallstars.org. Check back frequently for updates.



The contents of this handout were developed under a grant from the United States Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the United States Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.



WHY HIGH QUALITY CARE MATTERS

Choosing an early care and education program for your child is a big decision. While many factors affect your choice, it is important to choose a high quality program. Studies show that high quality early learning programs increase children's math, language and social skills. Children who start kindergarten ready to learn are more likely to read at grade level by the third grade, graduate from high school, and earn more in their lifetime.

Early learning experiences help shape the developing brain. High quality early care and education programs offer age appropriate activities that boost the brain through play and quality interactions.

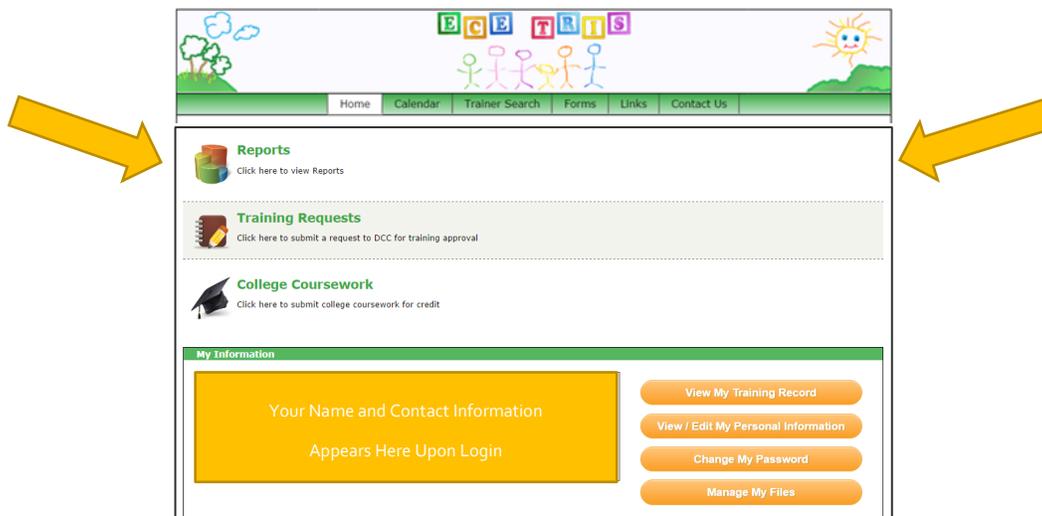
90% of the brain develops in the first 5 years of life.

So what does quality look like? While all licensed and certified programs must meet health and safety requirements, the level of quality can vary between programs. Some indicators of quality include child-to-caregiver ratios, staff training and education, program curriculum and family engagement. High quality programs nurture the whole child and turn every interaction into a learning opportunity. Kentucky All STARS is one way Kentucky is helping families have the information they need to make an informed decision.



YOU HAVE REPORTS: TIPS IN ECE-TRIS

ECE-TRIS ARTICLE FOR DCC NEWSLETTER



ECE-TRIS makes it easy!

Do you know about the [REPORT](#) features in ECE-TRIS?

We know how much [every moment counts](#) and strive not only to make life [easier](#) for early childhood care and education professionals in KY, but for accessing your reports [quicker](#).

CHECK OUT THE TIPS BELOW:

Staff Records	Trainer Reports	Agency Reports
Staff List	Ten Day Timeliness	Evaluation Data
Required Training Hours	Trainer Activity	Pending Credit
Training Record: Condensed, Detailed, & CDA Renewal/application	Training List	Activity
	And more...	Training Summary
		And more...

Accessing Reports

- Access your available reports using the reports button above your personal information upon login
- Having trouble viewing your staff's records or other reports?
 - Make sure your [Facility Information Form](#) is up to date so that you get the access you need. You can find the [Facility Information Form](#) on the [Forms Page](#) of the ECE-TRIS website
- Click the link that follows for [instructions on accessing your staff reports](#)



RESOURCES

RESOURCE	PHONE	WEBSITE OR EMAIL
Division of Child Care	(502) 564-2524	http://chfs.ky.gov/dcbs/dcc/
Division of Regulated Child Care	(502) 564-7962	http://chfs.ky.gov/os/oig/drcc.htm
Race to the Top Kentucky All STARS	(502) 564-2524 ext. 3766	http://www.kentuckypartnership.org/resources/race-to-the-top
Kentucky Governor's Office of Early Childhood	(502) 782-0200	http://kidsnow.ky.gov
ECE-TRIS ECE Training Records Information System	(877) 312-TRIS (8747)	https://tris.eku.edu/ece/
Child Care Regulations Questions	N/A	childcare.regulation@ky.gov
To Report changes in email address, phone number, services or director	(502) 564-7962	chfsoigrccportal@ky.gov
KICCS Portal Access Requests	(502) 564-2524 Ext 3771	portal.access@ky.gov
College Coursework or Training Approvals	(502) 564-2524 Ext. 3754	dccpdstaff@ky.gov
KICCS Helpdesk	1-866-231-0003 Option 6	Chfs.kiccshelpdesk@ky.gov
CCHC Helpline and Website	1-877-281-5277	www.kentuckycchc.org