



EARLY LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY LEARNING
Region 17 *Serving the Residents of Montgomery County*

CCW Base Payment Rate Increase

An increase to the daily base rates paid to child care providers participating in the Child Care Works (CCW) subsidized child care program will go into effect on **March 1, 2021**. Increased base rates helps all providers who participate in the program invest in services offered for children in care, staff development and compensation, and overall quality of their child care facility. Base rates for Region 17:

Full-Time Care (5 hours or more)					
Provider Type	Infant	Young Toddler	Old Toddler	Pre-School	School-Age
Center	\$56.50	\$52.50	\$50.20	\$46.80	\$42.26
Group	\$40.00	\$36.00	\$36.00	\$36.00	\$40.00
Family	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$34.00	\$30.00
Relative	\$17.00	\$15.63	\$15.63	\$14.96	\$14.28
Part-Time Care (under 5 hours)					
Provider Type	Infant	Young Toddler	Old Toddler	Pre-School	School-Age
Center	\$41.80	\$40.00	\$37.80	\$33.80	\$23.32
Group	\$28.50	\$27.47	\$25.42	\$23.37	\$20.81
Family	\$30.00	\$29.00	\$29.00	\$28.00	\$21.37
Relative	\$13.09	\$13.94	\$13.37	\$12.24	\$12.53

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

ELRC Region 17 in partnership with the Montgomery County Office of Public Health is distributing pre-packaged PPE kits to child care providers who report the first positive COVID-19 case. Contact your Keystone STARS Quality Coach for more information.

PPE Distribution Events will be held on **Tuesday, 2/16/21; Wednesday, 2/17/21; Thursday, 2/18/21 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM at 101 BROWER AVE. OAKS, PA 19456** for all child care providers located in Montgomery County.

There is one PPE kit valued at \$554.90 available for each provider location. No registration necessary.

Reporting COVID-19 Cases

Child Care Programs in Montgomery County are to report their COVID-19 Cases to ALL agencies listed below:

1. Montgomery County Office of Public Health at (610) 278-6211 or MCSSchoolsCOVID19@montcopa.org
2. DHS Certification Representative
3. ELRC Office- Terry McLaughlin at (610) 278-3261 or TMcLaugh@montcopa.org

Please reach out to your Quality Coach if you have questions regarding your DHS Certification Representative.

COVID-19 Absences on Attendance

Attendance of children is required to be tracked and reported on invoices. Child care providers will mark COVID-19 related absences as "CA" (COVID absence) to distinguish it from a non-COVID related absence "A" on a paper invoice.

For online invoices, providers should include an Enrollment Comment under each child who had COVID absences, stating the dates of the COVID related absences, to distinguish from non-COVID related absences. Instructions to identify a COVID related absence can be found in [ELRC Announcement 20#17: Child Care Works Payment for Closures During the Proclamation of Disaster Emergency](#) which was issued on 11/20/2020. Please contact our office with questions.

Connect with the ECE PDO

Do you have questions about your career pathway in ECE or need support in finding and enrolling in coursework or degree programs? Contact ECE/IHE Coordinator Mina Abdollahi at mabdollahi@phmc.org to review resources that help with CDA, AA, and BA program enrollment and supports for completion.

Process for Reporting an Unplanned Closure

Please review the process below for reporting an unplanned closure and refer to page 4 of 5 of ELRC Subsidy Agreement re: Closed Days effective 7/1/2018.

7. Closed Days

- a. The subsidy program will pay for a maximum of 15 closed days per year from the period July 1 through June 30 for which the provider also charges private-pay families.
- b. The provider must indicate those closed days before July 1 of each year at a time that the ELRC specifies.
- c. Providers who use Provider Self Service (PSS) may change or add closed days throughout the year. Emergency closures can be added to the prior month up until the 5th day of the current month. To sign-up for PSS, access the following website: pelican.state.pa.us/provider.
- d. Providers who **do not** use PSS will follow the rules below:
 - Once the provider identifies the closed days, those days cannot be changed. Since the provider cannot change closed days once submitted, the provider may want to limit the number of closed days declared at the beginning of the year. This will allow a couple of days that could be added in case of an emergency or unplanned closure later in the year.
 - If the provider lists **fewer than 15 days**, additional days may be added as follows:
 - The provider must notify the ELRC **at least two weeks prior** to adding a closed day.
 - The provider must notify the ELRC **within three days of reopening** the facility following an emergency or unplanned closure such as a snow day.

Winter Coats and Books

ELRC Region 17 has received a supply of winter coats in different sizes and colors. Supplies are limited, one coat per child or adult. We are also offering a package of children's books to programs or families upon request. For more information or to schedule a pick up date and time, please contact our office by phone at (610) 278-3707 or by email at elrcregion17@pa.gov.

First Up Annual Conference

First Up warmly invites you to join us as we gather (virtually) for our annual conference ***Hope and Healing: From Self-Care to Best Practice in a Trauma-Impacted World*** on **March 5-6, 2021**. Both days are curated to provide a break, a safe space and a chance for us to come together and fill our cups with what we need. Whether you need a strategy for managing challenging behaviors, instruction in a professional skill, or a chance to move your bodies and focus your minds – these topics and many more will be covered. The conference will also feature breakout activities that can be experienced with the whole family. [Click here to register](#).

Keynote speakers are Dr. Amy Lynch and Thaddeus Bullard. Dr Lynch is an associate professor in the occupational therapy program at Temple University. She completed her MS in occupational therapy at Tufts University and her PhD at University of Delaware with a focus on infant development. Her expertise is with children who have experienced neglect, abuse, and institutionalization; children with autism, sensory integration problems, feeding/oral motor dysphagia, brain injury, and cerebral palsy. [Click here for more information](#).

Thaddeus Bullard, more commonly known as WWE Superstar Titus O'Neil - is an accomplished athlete, philanthropist and entertainer. Bullard went from being a troubled, underperforming young man to being a mentor, role model and honorary Deputy for the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. Bullard has supported various organizations, locally and globally, by giving of his time, talent and treasure. Although Bullard lacked a strong male role model as a child, his commitment to family and his two sons is nothing short of remarkable. For the past ten years his "Joy of Giving" event has given over 15,000 gifts annually to underprivileged children. [Click here for more](#).

Caseworker Assignments

STARS Quality Coach	Phone	Email
Andrea Hinderliter	(610) 292-4991	ahinderliter@montcopa.org
Dana Slipyan	(610) 292-4992	dslipyan@montcopa.org
Lauren Detweiler	(610) 278-3710	ldetweiler@montcopa.org
Maggie Johnson	(610) 278-1484	mjohnson2@montcopa.org
Sara Bond	(610) 278-3840	sbond@montcopa.org
Rachel Nicol	(610) 278-5907	rnicol@montcopa.org
Theresa Paludi	(610) 292-2038	tpaludi@montcopa.org

Child Care Specialist	Phone	Email	Caseload
Jennifer Lutchkus	(610) 292-4988	jlutchkus@montcopa.org	12
Awilda Echevarria	(610) 278-3512	aechevar@montcopa.org	13
Tyronda Cannon	(610) 278-5271	tcannon@montcopa.org	14
Beth Munshower	(610) 278-1478	bmunshow@montcopa.org	15
Maribel Pagan	(610) 278-3708	mpagan@montcopa.org	16
Mark Houseal	(610) 278-5140	mhouseal@montcopa.org	22
Caitlin Becker	(610) 292-4989	cbecker@montcopa.org	24
Rachel Gingras	(610) 278-5260	rgingras@montcopa.org	26
Christine Jackson	(610) 278-5198	cjackson3@montcopa.org	27
Laurie Kozak	(610) 292-4987	lkozak@montcopa.org	33
Melissa Adams	(610) 292-4985	madams@montcopa.org	34
Stacy Gilmore	(610) 278-1248	sgilmore@montcopa.org	35
Deidre Webb	(610) 292-4986	dwebb@montcopa.org	36
Sujatha Kurian	(610) 278-1490	skurian@montcopa.org	37

Fiscal Unit	Phone	Email	Centers by First Name
Elizabeth Black	(610) 292-4990	eblack@montcopa.org	Fiscal Manager
Michael Gonzalez	(610) 292-2037	mgonzal1@montcopa.org	A - G
Kathleen Mauger	(610) 278-5275	kmauger@montcopa.org	H - N
Caroline Conboy	(610) 278-1247	cconboy@montcopa.org	O - Z

Theresa McLaughlin	610-278-3261	tmclaugh@montcopa.org	Provider Coordinator
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Delinquent Co-payments (610) 278-5802 or email ELRCRegion17@pa.gov



Free Soil Lead Testing for Childcare & Community Centers

Do you have a:

Daycare center?

Preschool?

Community center?

Other location where kids play outdoors?

Want to have your soil tested for lead for free?

The students in an Environmental Justice course at Cabrini University will be offering soil lead testing as a community service project.

It's easy! If you sign up to participate, a small group of college students will come to your facility on Wednesday, April 14th and collect 5 small soil samples. In May, we'll let you know what the results were, and if necessary, work with you to address any problems.

If you're interested, please contact:

Carrie Nielsen, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Biology and Environmental Science

Cabrini University

610 King of Prussia Rd.

Radnor, PA 19087

215-380-9538

cbn24@cabrini.edu