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News from the Rhode Island Child Care and Early Learning Facilities Fund



April eNEWS

Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Wrap-Up



In 2015 and 2016, by providing small grants and technical support, the LISC Rhode Island Child Care and Early Learning Facilities Fund (RICCELFF) enabled 83 early learning centers across Rhode Island to dramatically improve the learning environments in their facilities. The grants, which totaled \$2.3 million, were made possible by the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge, a U.S. Department of Education program designed to support high-quality early learning programs as well as increase the number of low-income and disadvantaged children who are enrolled in them. We are pleased to present the results of this funding.



In 2017 we will be hosting an informational session about the features to consider when designing and building spaces for infants and toddlers. This would include a discussion about the importance of scale, light, sensory elements, and layout as well as the implications of poor design and its effect on child development. Before scheduling this, we are asking child care center owners, directors, educators, facility managers, and staff members to answer a few questions to help us determine the day and time to provide this training. If you are interested in participating in this session, please take a moment to respond to a few questions about the best times for you to attend.

Take Survey

April 24th – April 28th is the Week of the Young Child

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) is hosting their annual Week of the Young Child April 24-28th, 2017. Each day has a special theme: Music Monday, Tasty Tuesday, Work Together Wednesday, Artsy Thursday, and Family Friday. Check out NAEYC's website for some examples of great activities to celebrate and bring awareness to the development of our youngest learners.



Read More

Child Care Day is April 27th at the Rhode Island State House

The 6th Annual Child Care Day will be taking place on Thursday, April 27th from 2:30 to 4:30pm at the Rhode Island State House! Stop by and show your support.

Rhode Island's Permanent Legislative Commission on Child Care

Representative Grace Diaz
Chairwoman

6th Annual Child Care Day

Senator Elizabeth Crowley
Vice-Chair

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Amy O'Leary
NAEYC President, elect
Director, *Strategies for Children*
Boston, MA

Rep. Deborah Ruggiero
Member

PUBLIC WELCOME

Rep. Patricia Morgan
Member

Rhode Island State House
Thursday, April 27, 2017
2:30 – 4:30pm

Have you missed any of our previous eNEWS or want to reference something you saw in an article from the past?

***Our entire eNEWS catalog is available on our website.
Be sure to [check it out here!](#)***

Follow Us on Twitter

Did you know that your favorite Child Care and Early Learning Facilities Fund is on Twitter? **Follow us here**, and feel free to tweet at us @LISC_Childcare!



About RICCELFF

The Rhode Island Child Care and Early Learning Facilities Fund (RICCELFF) is an innovative public-private partnership dedicated to expanding access to quality child care and early education opportunities throughout Rhode Island. The RICCELFF provides the capital and technical expertise that child care and

early learning centers need to improve the quality and capacity of their physical space. The RICCELFF provides a combination of training, technical assistance, grant funding and flexible, affordable financing for a wide range of indoor and outdoor projects including minor renovations or construction of new, state-of-the-art facilities and playground spaces. [Click here](#) to learn more about what the RICCELFF can offer your program.

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