



October 2014 | An educational eNewsletter for Rhode Island-based licensed child care providers and non-profit organizations

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Introducing the Rhode Island Child Care AND Early Learning Facilities Fund

WELCOME TO MARY FASANO



Mary has recently joined the LISC team in Rhode Island and spends half her time focused on supporting child care and early learning programs. Mary specifically works to support organizations with their financing needs and assists centers in bundling together the resources required to turn facility project ideas into reality! Prior to joining the LISC team, Mary worked for Citizens Bank as their Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) Lender. If you are interested in learning more about loan products available to qualified child care and early learning facilities, contact Mary at mfasano@lisc.org! For

We are pleased to report that LISC has been selected by the Rhode Island Department of Education to serve as the vendor for the new Early Learning Facilities Project, funded through



the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge. Under this project, LISC will deliver enhanced training and technical assistance on facilities, including expanding our technical assistance to support public schools and preschools along with traditional community-based child care facilities. LISC will also administer a grant pool designed to provide resources that assist child care centers serving high need populations with their facility issues. The work of the Early Learning Facilities Project will be closely aligned with our existing Child Care Facilities Fund work. The new Rhode Island Child Care and Early Learning Facilities Fund (RICCELFF) is expected to be fully operational at the beginning of 2015 with grant funds available soon after. Stay tuned for additional details!

Resources presently available through the existing RICCFF

Community-based child care facilities serving high need populations (specifically those children subsidized by the Department of Human Services CCAP program), can currently access technical assistance and

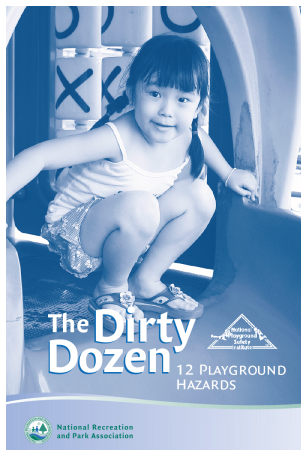
additional information on financing products available through LISC click [HERE](#).

funding through LISC's existing child care facilities fund, the RICCF. To learn more about available services and funding click [HERE](#).

RHODE ISLAND 2014 EARLY LEARNING FACILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

If you have not done so already we encourage you to read the recently released early learning facilities needs assessment conducted by LISC during the spring of 2014. You can access the study by clicking [HERE](#).

DIRTY DOZEN PLAYGROUND HAZARDS



RECOMMENDED READING



What is a bollard?

If you have ever been to a Target Store you have seen a bollard. Those big red balls outside are actually "bollards." While decorative, their real function is to stop a car from crashing into the front of the store!



Bollards are commonly used to secure government buildings and in other strategic placements to stop a car from entering. Child care centers are hearing more and more about bollards in relationship to their playgrounds. This specifically comes up as an issue in the ECERS tool. If playgrounds are adjacent to roadways then best practice is to have a safety barrier that would stop a vehicle from crashing into the playground space. Here at LISC we are often asked for details on what type of bollard someone should install. Unfortunately there simply is no one size fits all answer to this question. Specifically, bollards should be installed to stop a car moving at the posted speed limit for the adjacent roadway. Meaning, a playground adjacent to a parking lot where cars travel at 10 miles per hour does not require the same type of bollard that a playground adjacent to a roadway where cars travel at 55 miles per hour requires. In non-laymen's terms here are the specifics on bollards:

Crash Rated Barriers and Applicable Standards

A successful [site security](#) plan often involves the establishment and enforcement of a controlled perimeter. The controlled perimeter may act to prevent threats that are transported by vehicles or by pedestrians from entering a standoff zone around a protected facility. A controlled perimeter that is designed to stop a vehicle from entering a protected site is often required to be "crash" or "anti-ram" rated. A crash rated barrier system is typically tested or engineered such that it can stop a certain size vehicle

RICCFF

The Rhode Island Child Care Facilities Fund (RICCFF) is an innovative public-private partnership dedicated to expanding access to quality child care and early education in low-income communities throughout Rhode Island. Launched in 2001, the RICCFF provides the capital and technical expertise that child care centers need to improve the quality and capacity of their physical space. The Fund can provide a combination of training, technical assistance and flexible, affordable financing for a wide range of projects including minor renovations or construction of a new, state-of-the-art child care facility. **Click the logo below to learn more about what the RICCFF can offer your program.**



(i.e. 4,000 lbs.,15,000 lbs.), travelling at a certain speed (i.e., 30 mph) from penetrating the controlled perimeter more than a certain distance (i.e., 3 ft.). The vehicle size, vehicle speed and penetration distance are typically determined based on the accessibility of the site, the topography and alignment of the surrounding roadways and the required standoff distance. Crash rated barriers take various forms and can include bollards, cable reinforced fences and planters. Where vehicle access is required into the secure site for parking, maintenance, emergencies or deliveries, active vehicle barriers may be employed; these can include plate barriers, wedge barriers, retractable bollards or gates. For more discussion regarding crash rated barrier assemblies, see [UFC 4-022-02](#) "Selection and Application of Vehicle Barriers," and the [Bollard](#) resource page.

Before spending money to install bollards we recommend that you contact a contractor who specializes in installing these types of security features.

Here is a resource to find a contractor in our area:

[McCrae's Blue Book Industrial Supplier - RI Bollards](#)

An important thing to keep in mind is a cost benefit analysis for any work you perform. In many instances the absence of bollards may be a genuine safety concern, but with limited resources each center should weigh the risks and prioritize fixing those safety items that pose the greatest potential hazards to children in your care. For more information on playground hazards that are most likely to cause injury to children read the ***Dirty Dozen Playground Hazards*** (available in the sidebar of this eNews edition).

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