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



October 2017 eNEWS -
Focus on Professional Development



New Training Available!
**“Building Solutions for Infant and Toddler Care –
Creating Spaces that Promote Quality
Programming”**

On December 12th, 2017 from 9:00am to 11:30am at the Northern Rhode Island Collaborative in Lincoln, please join the Child Care Facilities Fund team along with Mike Lindstrom, an internationally recognized speaker, presenter and expert in the field of early learning environments, for an interactive workshop exploring:

- Research driven links between facility characteristics and programmatic quality
- Designing, developing and advocating for quality infant/toddler childcare facilities

- Creating classroom spaces that work for your program
- Environmental considerations related to children's health
- Outdoor space for infants and toddlers
- Arranging and equipping spaces to support program quality

Mike Lindstrom is the founding Principal of studioMLA Architects, which provides a full range of architectural services in the design of environments for children. As one of the leading architects in the field of early childhood facility design, Mike, along with the late Jim Greenman, led the annual Child Care Design Institute at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design from 2000 to 2008. Mike has served as an advisor to the American Academy of Pediatrics on Child Care Center Design and has extensive experience with the complex design, regulatory, and construction processes inherent in creating children's environments. Most recently Mike has edited the newly revised version of the best-selling book, *Caring spaces, Learning Places*. We encourage you to view a portfolio of Mike's work at www.studiomla.com.

All are welcome; however, this session is geared towards and most appropriate for owners, directors, education coordinators, lead teachers, and all individuals considering expanding child care programming to include infants and toddlers or who are looking to improve their infant and toddler environments.

This course offers 2.5 professional development hours with certificate of completion. We hope to see you there!

Register Here

Registration Now Open for the Certified Playground Safety Inspector Course and Exam



The RICCELFF, in partnership with the RI Recreation and Parks Association and the National Recreation and Park Association, will host a Certified Playground Safety Inspector Course at the South Kingstown Recreation Center from May 2-4, 2018.

The Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) course provides individuals with the proper training needed to recognize and prevent potential playground hazards and prepares them to take the Certified Playground Safety Inspector examination. CPSI certification gives inspectors the knowledge to inspect playgrounds for safety issues using current ASTM International standards and Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) guidelines.

Nationally-recognized playground safety instructors provide participants with practical, hands-on instruction on how to apply the ASTM standards and the CPSC guidelines to playground environments. Course participants will learn how to:

- Identify hazards on public playgrounds and playground equipment;
- Design spaces that comply with ASTM and CPSC guidelines;
- Rank hazards according to injury potential; and
- Apply that knowledge and establish a playground safety program.

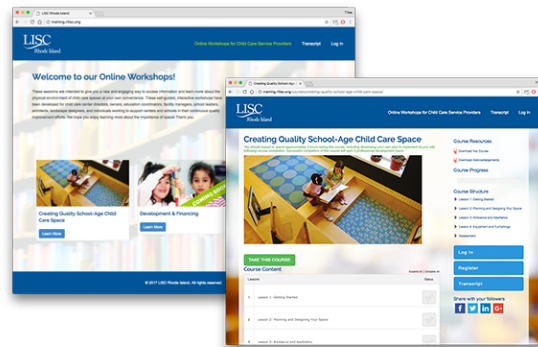
Upon completion of the CPSI course, participants will have the knowledge needed to establish a sound risk reduction program; create a system of repair, retrofit, and removal of hazardous equipment; and set up a routine inspection system for their agency or client. Participants will also be well prepared to take the Certified Playground Safety Inspector examination.

Register Here

Can't Make it to a Live Training? View Our Online Training Offerings!

Our first online workshop, *Creating Quality School Age Child Care Space*, is available now on our online training portal! You can register to participate in this virtual learning opportunity on your own schedule and at your own pace. In order to access this learning module, you first need to [register here](#).

We are in the final stages of completing our second online workshop, *Child Care Center Playground Safety*, and we are so excited to share this video-based course with you. Stay tuned!



Save the Date! “Workforce of Today, Workforce of Tomorrow” Conversation with Dr. Katharine B. Stevens on December 7th

“High-quality childcare makes a two-generation contribution to a prosperous and sustainable America.”

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation recently released a report exploring the under-recognized role of high-quality childcare in the workforce pipeline, [Workforce of Today, Workforce of Tomorrow: The Business Case for High Quality Childcare](#).

LISC Rhode Island has invited the author of the report, [Katharine B. Stevens](#), to be the guest speaker at an upcoming forum in which we will explore this topic and its local implications along with the potential untapped opportunities that may exist here in our state. The forum will include a facilitated discussion between the event's attendees representing a diverse cross-sector of organizations from across Rhode Island.

We know you'll want to take part in this exciting event, so we hope you will save the date and join us in a lively conversation Thursday, December 7th at The Providence Marriott Downtown! Space will be limited, so please be on the lookout for a formal invitation to be sent out in November.



News from Our Partners

Executive Director Training Opportunity from the United Way

With support from Bank Newport, UWRI is offering this unique learning experience for a second year to Executive Directors (20 max) who lead organizations with a budget size of less than one million dollars. The eleven month experience will commence on Friday, December 15th and continue monthly on the 3rd Friday of each month from 8:30-11:30am. Session will be held in the Conference Center at United Way of Rhode Island, 50 Valley Street, in Providence.



United Way of Rhode Island

The focus of the Learning Circle will be to provide real life practical experiences and discussions in the following areas:

- Strategy Development and Implementation
- Board Development and Engagement
- Staffing and Alignment to Priorities
- Comprehensive Fund Development
- Risk Management (Emergency Preparedness)

Each monthly session will include competency topics, group discussions and practical scenario sharing. Participation fee is \$200.00.

Lead Facilitator:

Michael Fournier is a thirty nine year YMCA professional having served in senior leadership roles in Manchester, NH (1987-1996) and in various senior roles with the YMCA of Greater Providence (1996-2014). Michael currently consults for numerous cities and non-profits in RI and SE Mass, a natural progression from the past twenty years providing volunteer consulting to numerous grass roots organizations. Michael's consulting practice focuses in the areas of capacity building and executive coaching.

Benefits:

Through a partnership with Roger Williams University's School of Continuing Studies, participants of the ED Learning Circle will be offered the following options:

- Certificate of Completion
- 6 credits toward a BA or MA (Community Development)

Apply Here by November 1: ED Learning Circle Application

Department of Health (DHS) Office of Child Care Newsletter Now Available

DHS has just released the first issue of a new quarterly newsletter from the Office of Child Care. The "Starting Right" newsletter will highlight some of the key work being done by the department. You can sign up to receive future news by contacting Chief Public Affairs Officer, Alisha A. Pina at alisha.pina@dhs.ri.gov.



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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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