

El boletín pronto estará disponible en español.



**CHILD CARE COUNCIL
OF SUFFOLK, INC.**

The Child Care Connection January 2019

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the launch of the Child Care Council of Suffolk e-newsletter “The Child Care Connection”. This monthly e-newsletter will provide up-to-date information about new policies and other issues affecting the child care field, as well as a comprehensive list of upcoming events, workshops and trainings.

We WANT feedback from you about how we can make this resource as useful as possible!

Please let us know by contacting us [here](#).

A Message from Our Executive Director

2018 was a year of change here at the Child Care Council of Suffolk, Inc. After 33 years, our founder and Executive Director, Janet Walerstein, retired. I am honored to have been given the opportunity to lead this great organization and to work toward our goal of making high-quality child care an integral part of every community.



As a child, I attended a family child care program in Ronkonkoma with an amazing provider that I still so clearly remember with fondness (she even attended my High School graduation!). I was only able to attend the program because of the subsidy provided to my mother while she worked and went to school. Now, as a working mom of two boys I have an even greater appreciation for the hard work that you all do. So, in addition to the 20 years of experience I have working on behalf of children and families, I have a deep and personal commitment to the child care profession. This is why I am excited to be a part of this vital industry.

As we look forward to 2019 we see many opportunities, as well as challenges. Our mission is to support the child care community so you have the ability to seize the opportunities and weather the challenges. Our great team is ready to work with you!

Together, let's make 2019 a great year for child care!



Get Involved! State Budget & Funding Update

On January 15th, the Governor revealed his proposed budget for the next year. While we are still reviewing all of the details, we do know that the proposed budget includes approximately \$26 million to support a market rate increase, plus funding to increase the tax credits that help families afford child care. We also know this is not enough to address the challenges you are facing.

Over the next three months, the Governor and the State Legislature will negotiate toward a final budget, and the Council along with our state partners will fight for more funding. You can help us – and we very much need your help. Your experiences tell the story of the challenges facing child care professionals and families, and these stories are what move our lawmakers. We have several opportunities coming up where you can make your voice heard – but remember you can write or call your legislator anytime!



Join us on **Saturday, February 9th at 10AM** at the Suffolk County Legislative Offices to learn more about Long Island's budget priorities for child care and how you can take action.

**Saturday, February 9, 2019
10 a.m. – 12p.m.
725 Veterans Memorial Highway
William H. Rogers Building
Smithtown, NY 11787**

[Click here](#) to RSVP



Take a bus trip to Albany!

Meet with legislators, tour the Capital and take a stand for your profession.

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Bus leaves at 6AM from our office in Commack

[Click here](#) to RSVP by **March 1st**

Important Policy Updates

WIC Update

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) was closed from January 14 to January 21 and clients were not be able to receive checks during this time to convert to a new and improved eWIC system. **WIC sites reopened on January 22, 2019, at limited capacity** in order to allow time for client EBT-card distribution and training.

Our partners at The Health & Welfare Council of Long Island, along with Long Island Cares and Island Harvest have compiled a list of pantry locations across Long Island where WIC participants can seek assistance during this transition. You can access that list, along with flyers you

SNAP Update

Because of the federal shutdown, most SNAP recipients will receive their February Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits early.

Most SNAP households can expect to see their February monthly benefits available on their SNAP EBT card by January 17.

Because these benefits will be available earlier than usual, it is important that SNAP clients understand that **these benefits are not an extra or bonus benefit, and they are meant to last through the month of February. Even if the federal government shutdown ends, SNAP recipients who received this early benefit will not receive any additional**

can post in your program explaining the closures [here](#).



benefits in February. It is very important for families and individuals to carefully budget and plan.

For more information on how the federal shutdown affects SNAP, click [here](#).

Upcoming Trainings

- 1/31 - How Children Learn & How We Teach
- 2/9 - Resucitacion Cardio Pulmonar (RCP) (CPR)
- 2/9 - Primeros Auxilios (First Aid)
- 2/13 - Infant/Child/Adult CPR
- 2/16 - Ocupate de tus asuntos (Mind Your Business)
- 2/20 - Block Play
- 2/27 - Pediatric First Aid



[Click here to register](#)

CACFP

USDA recently released a memo in regards to an Update on Food Crediting. Effective **December 4, 2018**, the following foods are creditable in the Child and Adult Care Food Program: Shelf-stable, dried and semidried meat, poultry, and seafood snacks. These are not limited to meals and snacks served off-site. Coconut, hominy, popcorn, surimi seafood, and tempeh have also been identified as creditable. As a reminder, turkey bacon is creditable!

Also, remember as of **October 1, 2018**, all menus should reflect the updated meal plans. This includes ensuring that a whole

Here's a **Whole Grain 101** & #CACFPcreditable Recipe:

Samuarai Banana Sushi Rolls

Ingredients

- 100% whole wheat flour
- tortilla, small
- 1 large banana
- 2 tablespoons peanut butter

Directions

Have a pair of children work together to make this fun snack. Give each twosome a tortilla with the peanut butter and let them spread it using the back of a spoon. Place peeled banana at one end and roll it up. Slice into 8 pieces.

grain rich component is **served daily**
(alternating meals throughout the week).



Resource & Referral



**Have you updated your program's
information for 2019?**

Call us today at **631-462-0303** and ask to speak with the Resource and Referral
Department to update your program's information for the new year.

