



Supporting Families Together Association

2109 S. Stoughton Road, Madison, WI

Phone: (608) 224-6162 Fax: (608)224-6178 Visit us at www.supportingfamilies.together.org

MEMO

To: Friends and Community Partners of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
From: CCR&R Directors & Lilly Irvin-Vitela, Executive Director, Supporting Families Together Association, SFTA
Date: November 3, 2009
Re: Update on the Reorganization of Child Care Resource and Referral Services Starting January 1, 2010

Overview of Supporting Families Together Association and Child Care Resource and Referral Agency Re-organization:

Wisconsin's Child Care Resource and Referral System delivers services in three domains: parent/family services, early care and education provider services, and community services. The WI Child Care Resource and Referral system has been funded at a fraction of the funding level of other CCR&R systems within our national region. The average funding from state/federal dollars within the region has been 9 million dollars per year. In WI, the funding has been less than 1.5 million a year to serve all 72 counties and 11 tribes. This structural funding problem has been both a challenge and an opportunity to think anew about how to best use resources to support children, families, early childhood professionals, and communities. Over 2009, Supporting Families Together Association and Child Care Resource and Referral agencies have engaged in a thoughtful, deliberative, collaborative process to achieve a re-organized high quality child care resource and referral system. A system that insures:

- **Optimal access given the funding constraints in each of the 72 counties and 11 tribes in WI**
- **Accountability to families, providers, and communities**
- **Efficient, effective, and comprehensive service delivery**
- **Visible, consistent, and recognized services that result in quality care for children and a higher quality of living in communities**

In our stronger, regionalized system, Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies and Supporting Families Together Association are better able to deliver and grow a systematic approach to our missions as they relate to the three service domains: parent/family services; early care and education provider services; and community services.

Statewide Snapshot of Reorganization:

The Child Care Resource and Referral System is going from 15 separate service delivery areas in 2008/2009 to 8 coordinated Child Care Resource and Referral regions with greater cross-agency collaborations. The eight regions are made up of 11 agencies. This is 4 fewer agencies than in 2008/2009. In June 2009, Project Bridges became a part of Northwest Connection Family Resources. Child Care Resource and Referral, Inc. of Oshkosh was only 20 miles from Child Care Resource and Referral, Inc. in Menasha. Funding this agency wasn't an economically sustainable solution and they will no longer be delivering CCR&R services as of Dec. 31, 2009. Child Care Resource and Referral of South Central Wisconsin is becoming a part of Community Coordinated Child Care, Inc. –Madison as of January 1, 2010. In October 2009, Mid-Wisconsin Child Care Resource and Referral, Inc. announced the retirement of their Executive Director and their plan to dissolve their 501 C-3 as of Dec. 31, 2009. We thank all of our agency partners for their years of experience delivering child care resource and referral services and their engagement in strategically planning the reorganization.

In order to best serve all 72 counties and 11 tribes, some regions will have both a hub and a hub partner. The hub agencies are responsible for providing child care referrals to the entire region, and technical assistance to child care providers in more localized service delivery areas. Hub partners are focusing on localized services to child care providers as well. Both Hubs and hub partners will continue to be community resources and collaborators in early care and education and early childhood activities.

Hubs were determined in a deliberative process that evaluated the capacity of all child care resource and referral agencies and looked at how organizational resources could best be organized to meet the multiple needs within each region. Please see the 2010/2011 CCR&R Regional Map with Hubs and Hub Partners.

Regional Snapshot of Reorganization:

Region 1

Hub- Community Coordinated Child Care, Inc located in Madison will serve the following counties/tribes in terms of family, provider, and community services: Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Green, Ho-Chunk Nation, Jefferson, Rock, Sauk, Walworth.

4Cs Executive Director- Jody Bartnick

Phone: 1-800-750-5437 Website: www.4-c.org

Region 2

Hub- Family Resources of the La Crosse Area, Inc., a combined child care resource and referral agency and family resource center located in La Crosse and Family Connections of Southwest WI, a combined child care resource and referral agency and family resource center located in Lancaster WI, will work together to serve an eleven county/tribe region. Family Resources of the La Crosse area will serve the following counties for child care referral services: Crawford, Grant, Ho-Chunk Nation, Iowa, Juneau, Lafayette, La Crosse, Monroe, Richland, Vernon and Juneau. They will serve La Crosse, Monroe, and Ho-Chunk Nation for Provider and community services. Family Connections of South West Wisconsin will continue to provide parent education and non-child care referral services to families, professional development to providers, and community services in Crawford, Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland, and Vernon counties.

Family Resources of the La Crosse Area, Inc. Executive Director- Jodi Widuch

Phone: 1-800-873-1768 Website: www.laxfamilyresources.org

Family Connections of Southwest Wisconsin Executive Director- Julie Statz

Phone: 1-800-267-1018 Website: www.familyconnectionsswwi.org

Region 3

Hub- Child Care Partnership, a part of Western Dairyland located in Eau Claire and Independence WI, will continue to offer family, provider, and community services in the following counties/tribes: Buffalo, Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, Ho Chunk Nation, Jackson, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, St. Croix, and Trempealeau

Child Care Partnership Resource and Referral Center Director- Dotty Lillo

Phone: 1-800-782-1880 Website: www.childcarereferral.org

Region 4

Hub- Northwest Connection Family Resources a combined child care resource and referral agency and family resource center located in Hayward, WI has an expanded territory serving the following counties and tribes in all three service domains: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Florence, Forest, Iron, Oneida, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Vilas, and Washburn Counties. The Bad River, Forest County Potawatomi, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, Red Cliff, Sokaogon and St. Croix Tribes.

Northwest Connection Family Resources Executive Director- Jacqueline Strand and Co-Director Kathy Mullally

Phone: 1-800-733-5437 and 715 634 2299 Website: www.wisconsinchild.org

Region 5

Hub- Family and Child Care Resources of N.E.W., a combined child care resource and referral agency and family resource center located in Green Bay, WI has an expanded territory serving the following counties/tribes: Brown, Door, Kewaunee, Marinette, Menominee Oconto, Menominee and Stockbridge Munsee Tribes, Oneida Nation, and Shawano. Family and Child Care Resources of N.E.W. will deliver family, provider, and community services throughout the entire region.

Family and Child Care Resources of N.E.W. Executive Director- Paula Breese

Phone: 1-800-738-8899 Website: www.fcrnew.org

Region 6

Hub- Child Care Resource and Referral of Central Wisconsin, located in Wisconsin Rapids, was selected as the regional hub. They will work together with their hub partner Child Care Connection in Merrill Wisconsin to serve a ten county region including: Adams, Clark, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marquette, Portage, Taylor, Waushara, and Wood counties. In 2010, WI Rapids will be responsible for processing child care referrals for the entire region. CCR&RCW will provide provider and community services to Adams, Clark, Marquette, Portage, Waushara, and Wood counties. Child Care Connection will provide community and provider services in Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, and Taylor counties.

Child Care Resource and Referral of Central Wisconsin Executive Director- Kelly Borchardt

Phone: 1-800-628-8534 Website: www.ccrccw.org

Child Care Connection, Inc. Executive Director- Micki Krueger

Phone: 1-800-848-5229 Website: www.childcareconnectioninc.org

Region 7

Hub- Child Care Resource and Referral, Inc. a combined child care resource and referral agency and family resource center located in Menasha, WI will work together with their Hub Partner Family Connections, Inc. to serve an eight county region. CCR&R, Inc. will begin processing referrals for the entire region in 2010. The region includes the following counties: Calumet, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Manitowoc, Outagamie, Sheboygan, Waupaca, and Winnebago. CCR&R, Inc. will also deliver provider and community services in Calumet, Green Lake, Outagamie, Waupaca, and Winnebago counties. Family Connections, Inc. will offer provider and community services in Fond du Lac, Manitowoc, and Sheboygan counties.

Child Care Resource and Referral, Inc. Executive Director- Judy Olson

Phone: 1-800-749- 5437 Website: www.getconnectedforkids.org

Family Connections, Inc. Executive Director- Kate Hildebrandt

Phone: 1-800-322-2046 Website: www.familyconnectionscc.org

Region 8

Hub- 4C Community Coordinated Child Care, Inc., located in Milwaukee and Racine Counties, will continue to deliver, family, provider and community services in Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, Waukesha, Racine, and Kenosha counties.

4C Community Coordinated Child Care, Inc. executive Director Jack McCommon

Phone: 414-562-2650 Website: www.4c-milwaukee.org

Please Contact Us:

If you have questions about the reorganization, ideas about collaborations, or specific information about services, please don't hesitate to contact your local CCR&R or Lilly Irvin-Vitela, Executive Director of Supporting Families Together Association at **(608)224-6162** or lilly.irvin-vitela@dpi.wi.gov .