February 2017

15th Annual Child Care Professional institute
Saturday, February 25, 2017
Faith Lutheran Church Forest Lake, MN

So glad you came!

April 2017

Active Supervision: Out-of-Home Safety Issues
This meets the Family Child Care provider annual supervision education requirement. This curriculum will identify potential hazards or safety issues children are exposed to when participating in out-of-home activities, events, and transportation; assist participants in determining needed resources and adult assistance required for out-of-home activities depending upon the event, the ages and characteristics of the children enrolled, and recognized potential safety issues involved; and, using tools provided and practiced during the training, assist participants in creating a plan to address safety concerns when taking children out of the home for activities. KCF: VILA; CDA: 1; PA: N/A

Monday, April 17 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Cost: $20.00
Perkins Restaurant, 1155 W. Broadway Ave., Forest Lake, MN 55025 Plan to arrive in time to order a beverage or meal to eat during the seminar.

May 2017

The Burden of Obesity and Its Impact on Young Children
Childhood obesity has more than doubled in children in the past 30 years. The percentage of overweight children in the United States is growing at an alarming rate, with 1 out of 3 kids now considered overweight or obese. There are a number of factors that contribute to the rise in this significant health problem, including a more sedentary lifestyle. This course explores some of those factors and provides information on how child care programs can play a positive role in obesity prevention in young children. KCF: II.D; CDA: 2: PA: 4, 6, 8

Monday, May 1 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Cost: $30.00
Perkins Restaurant, 1155 W. Broadway Ave., Forest Lake, MN 55025 Plan to arrive in time to order a beverage or meal to eat during the seminar.

What to Expect and When to be Concerned
This interactive seminar will provide an overview of the red flags for developmental delays in young children, how to share developmental concerns with families, and local referral resources. Attendees will receive useful information describing typical child development and red flags for atypical development and other resource information. (CICC) KCF: IV.A; CDA: 7; PA: 2, 10

Monday, May 22 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Cost: $20.00
Perkins Restaurant, 1155 W. Broadway Ave., Forest Lake, MN 55025 Plan to arrive in time to order a beverage or meal to eat during the seminar.

Program Services

Papillon Business Group
If you are ready to take your child care business to the next level, then you should join us. To be added to the invitation roster, send your request to info@pla-inc.org with PBG in the subject line; include your full name, business name, and contact information. While open to any Rule 2 business in good standing, membership is on a first-come, first-served basis. Direct competitors of current members must wait for the next Business Group to form.

Environment Evaluation
In-home business owners have been asking for assistance to re-evaluate their environments. We are pleased to announce that we now offer a one-hour on-site evaluation. We will discuss your thoughts about goals and plans for your space and provide suggestions for changing it. Included in the fee is a one-hour education certificate and written summary of the visit.

Consulting
If you prefer a personalized session (or need in-service in a hurry), consider on-site or phone consulting. You determine the session content. Day and evening times available. Maximum group size is three.

Seminars on the Road
Schedule your own! No need to wait for us to put it on the calendar. Gather your colleagues, choose your date, and select the seminars that meet your needs. Meet at your facility or a nearby restaurant, coffee shop, or library. Host private seminars or invite other child care professionals, parents, youth leaders, etc. Day and evening times possible. If you would like more hours, schedule a series of seminars on a Saturday.

Other Opportunities and Resources

Your Expertise is Requested
PLA is seeking talented volunteers to assist with data base management, small survey and research projects, and social media applications. You can work from home. Understanding of and appreciation for

Exceptional education for child care professionals who care.
confidentiality, attention to detail, accuracy, creativity, and project completion dates is imperative. There are several projects from which to choose; you need not be skilled in all areas to be helpful. Call or email our office for additional details. Thank you!

**Thrivent Financial**
We are so excited to have had the 2016 Institute partially supported by Thrivent Action Team Grants. If you are a Thrivent member, you can make an immediate impact on the children and families in your community. Apply for Seed Money Grant Packages of $250.00 to support projects or professional development events near you – even the Institute. Sponsor an instructor, for example, or request a professional development event near you. It's easy! Visit [www.Thrivent.com](http://www.Thrivent.com) or contact our office for more information.

**Support Our Supporters**

**Assure Child Care (fka Adults & Childrens Alliance)**
When purchasing or renewing liability insurance from ACC, list PLA-INC as your Community Partner. By writing PLA-INC or 9075 on the application form, we will receive funds for professional development from ACA/ACC. There is NO additional cost to you. A big “THANK YOU!” to those who already do that and to Assure Child Care! ([http://www.assurechildcare.com](http://www.assurechildcare.com))

**Minnesota Association of Child Care Professionals**
MACCP is a new association formed by licensed family child care professionals “to strengthen the family child care profession by advocating for policy improvements, offering additional support and services to providers, and promoting family child care as an exceptional option for quality care and early childhood education.” Visit [www.maccp.org](http://www.maccp.org) for information about its activities and membership.

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**BLOX of TYME**

Are you grappling with your professional development budget? Seeking better management of your time and money? Wishing there were seminars close to home? Needing someone with whom to talk over sensitive situations (or simply to vent)? Looking for a mentor? Focusing on your business development?

We have the answer for you! Manage your time with BLOX of TYME. Use your BLOX of TYME for most any PLA-sponsored professional development service. While BLOX are not transferrable, you may spend them on yourself, your helpers, and your substitutes. Spend them on seminars, consulting and mentoring services, environmental evaluations, and even the annual Child Care Professional Institutes.

**Here’s how it works.**

Purchase BLOX of TYME. You choose the number of BLOX and the financial investment in – your commitment to – your business. Each BLOX of TYME is $20.00. Pay in advance for your BLOX of TYME and receive a 10% discount. With this generous discount, we cannot offer refunds on unused BLOX. The minimum upfront payment (investment in your business) is 50% of the number of BLOX you choose.

For example: Purchase 6 BLOX and the total cost is $120.00. You can pay $108.00 in advance ($120 - $12 [10%] = $108.00) or pay $60.00 semi-annually ($60.00 x 2 = $120.00). Or purchase 20 BLOX and the total cost is $400.00. You can pay $360.00 in advance ($400 - $40 [10%] = $360.00) or pay $200.00 semi-annually ($200.00 x 2 = $400.00).

Purchase as many BLOX of TYME as you wish as often as you wish, with a minimum purchase of 4 BLOX. The more you purchase, the more you save. BLOX of TYME expire one year from the date of purchase.

**Center Directors:** If you prefer on-site customized professional development for your staff, purchase BLOX of TYME in BLOX of $160.00 with a minimum purchase of 4 BLOX. As in the examples above, when you pay upfront, take advantage of a 10% discount. For example, purchase 4 BLOX and the total cost is $640.00. Pay upfront and pay only $576.00 ([$640.00 - $64.00 [10%] = $576.00]). We will make the onsite arrangements with you. BLOX of TYME expire one year from the date of purchase.

Visit [www.pla-inc.org](http://www.pla-inc.org) often for updates on seminar schedules, news, and information.

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**CELEBRATING 15 YEARS!**

Many of you have attended this singular professional development event since its beginning – 2002. Thank you! For some of you, this is the first time we have met you. Thank you! Several of you have attended as participants, volunteers, instructors, or exhibitors. A sizeable number of you have worn several hats. Thank you! Lots of you have purchased door prize tickets or bid on silent auction items. Thank you! Others have donated items for our silent auction or for one of the other charitable causes PLA has supported. Thank you! Still others attend seminars at local restaurants or coffee shops. Thank you! Others attend regional conferences or Sensational Saturdays. Thank you! For a few of you, this may be your last (or nearly last) Institute because you will be retiring from your child care business. Thank you! There are those who simply cannot attend, but share the opportunity to attend with colleagues and parents. Thank you! And for all of you who daily care for and love children and their families: Thank you! YOU are the reason we are here to celebrate today. YOU are AWESOME! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!