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Child Care Resource Development Center  
for Kennebec and Somerset Counties  
A Program of Southern Kennebec Child Development Corporation

the **LINK** eNewsletter  
Staying Connected and Informed

Issue 9, September 2010

Dear Provider,

Wow, what a response we received from our August edition of theLink. Based on the number of phone calls we have answered it looks like providers/programs will be taking advantage of the Quality for ME financial stipends that will be available October 4th. Remember this stipend funding is limited and will be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis, so don't miss out.

Enjoy September and find a little time to get out and pick some of our wonderful Maine apples!

Until the next time,

Rita Fullerton, Director  
Child Care Options, SKCDC

I welcome your feedback, thoughts, comments, and suggestions on how we can improve our services to you at [rita@skcdc.org](mailto:rita@skcdc.org).

**Child Care Options Welcomes Our New Education Specialist**

*-Rita Fullerton, RDC Director*

Child Care Options welcomes Jill Moody, our new Education Specialist. She will join us on September 7th.

Jill recently relocated to Maine, leaving a teaching position in the Early Childhood Department at Midlands Technical College in Columbia, South Carolina. She has a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education and extensive experience training early childhood educators both as a professor and administrator. Jill has taught Kindergarten, been a lead preschool teacher and owned and operated a child development center.

We look forward to you meeting and working with Jill. Effective September 7th Jill can be reached at 582- 3110 ext. 13 or email her at [edspec@skcdc.org](mailto:edspec@skcdc.org).

**Make the Most of Marketing**

*-Kelley Bowley, Resource & Referral Specialist*

In an economic climate where demand for child care services has



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**Fun Days in September**

Sept. 6 - [Read A Book Day](#)

Sept. 6- [Labor Day](#)

Sept. 9 - [Teddy Bear Day](#)

Sept. 12 - [National Grandparents Day](#)

Sept. 15 - [Make a Hat Day](#)

Sept. 16 - [Collect Rocks Day](#)

Sept. 18 - [National Play-doh Day](#)

been declining, marketing your program has never been more important!

What makes your childcare stand out from all the other childcare providers out there? Whatever your skill set may be - music, art, cooking, sports - market it!

There are many inexpensive and easy ways to market your childcare:

- Hold an open house, coffee break, or tour. This gives parents an opportunity to meet you in a more social setting and check out your home or center.
- Advertise in your church bulletin, local grocery store and/or newspaper.
- Carry business cards with you at all times. There are resources for FREE business cards online such as [www.vistaprint.com](http://www.vistaprint.com).
- Halloween time? Attach your business cards to a lollipop or place in a bag of treats.
- Spread the word! Tell everyone you know that you are providing child care.
- And last but certainly not least : Keep your provider profile updated by calling Child Care Options 582-3110 ext. 29 or dropping me a quick email [rr@skcdc.org](mailto:rr@skcdc.org) . Let me know when you have a change in your enrollment so that we are able to provide prospective parents the most current & correct information.

## Pilot Funded for Infant Toddler Credential 2

*-Karen White, Infant Toddler Specialist*

The Infant Toddler Credential (ITC) 2 has been put on the "fast track"! Making good use of ARRA funding to increase the quality of care for infants and toddlers, the Early Childhood Division at DHHS has determined that the ITC 2 will be a pilot project. This ensures that the first round of classes for this credential will be supported for the individuals that want to earn their ITC 2. This credential consists of 5 courses which do NOT need to be taken in any particular order. the courses that will be offered this year through the pilot are:

ECE 275 Working in Partnership With Families - starts Sept. 8 on ITV at 7:00.

ECE 270 Infants and Toddlers II: Strong Healthy Bodies & Curious Minds - starts in January.

They are both 3 credit classes. The final two classes for the ITC 2: ECE 280 Infant Toddler Language and Literacy and ECE 260 Infant Toddler Seminar will be scheduled next summer.

Child care providers who would like to participate in this pilot must have at least completed thier Associates degree in Early Childhood Education or closely related field and have taken the following courses or equivalents:

Sept. 22 - [Elephant Appreciation Day](#)

Sept. 26 - [National Pancake Day](#)

## Field Trip Fun



Looking for a fun field trip idea for September?

Why not head to a local apple orchard?

Use this link:

[Get Real Get Maine](#)

to find local local agricultural resources.

The site is the gateway to your search for agricultural fairs, farmers markets, local farms and special events. It changes with the season and is a host to many family-friendly outdoor opportunities

## Upcoming Trainings

### Making Transitions Fun

Date & Time:

Sept. 22, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Location: Winslow Elementary School

Date & Time:

Sept. 29, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Location: Child Care Options, Farmingdale

### Understanding ECERS

Date & Time:

Sept. 8, 6:00-8:00

Location: Waterville Inland Hospital

### American Red Cross First Aid

ECE 131 Introduction to Early Childhood Education; 3 credits  
ECE 135 Observing and Recording Children's Behavior; 3 credits  
ECE 140 Infants and Toddlers; 3 credits

If you have questions regarding whether your transcripts qualify for this pilot, please contact Martha Naber at 453-5198 or [mnaber@kvcc.me.edu](mailto:mnaber@kvcc.me.edu) . If you feel confident you qualify, you need to fill out the application for the Advanced Infant Toddler Caregivers certificate. Just go [here](#) .

Then you will need to call 453-5119 or 453-5134 to register for class. The business office will have a letter from MRTQ to pay your expenses. If you have questions about the Infant Toddler Credential system feel free to call Karen White, Maine Infant Toddler specialist at 207-749-7638,

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## Gubernatorial Election

Just two months from now the 2010 Maine gubernatorial election will take place on November 2nd. Democratic Governor John Baldacci is term limited and unable to seek re-election. Your vote is important, so click here [Maine](#) to learn about our gubernatorial candidates and their plan to support Maine children and families.

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## Just Two Easy Steps to Enroll in Quality for ME!

1. Join MRTQ Registry (this will cost \$10)-call the education Specialist for an application or go to <http://mrtq.musk.usm.maine.edu> and complete the application online. YOU MUST PRINT AND SIGN THE APPLICATION AND MAIL IT TO MRTQ WHEN YOU FINISH!
2. After you get your MRTQ certificate, you are then able to join Quality for ME. You can do this either in paper copy (call Barbara Sousa-6247909 or [Barbara.d.sousa@maine.gov](mailto:Barbara.d.sousa@maine.gov) for a paper copy) or go to <http://www.qualityforme.org>. Once you enter your licensing number you can walk through the application in about 15 minutes. BE SURE TO HIT 'SUBMIT' WHEN YOU FINISH!

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## Strengthening Maine Families

*-Amanda Lonsdale, SMF Coordinator*

Strengthening Maine Families supports child care providers to help parents become stronger parents.

Getting started with Strengthening Maine Families is easy: fill out the online self assessment, pick one area to work on, choose one strategy found on the website and try it for a month. To learn more, visit [www.strengthenme.org](http://www.strengthenme.org) or contact Amanda Lonsdale at [Amanda@strengthenme.org](mailto:Amanda@strengthenme.org) or 207-720-0316.

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## 6th Maine Autism Resource Fair

The 6th Maine Autism Resource Fair will be held on October 9th, at the Augusta Civic Center in Augusta, Maine from 8:30 to 4:00 p.m. The fair offers great resources to the citizens of Maine who

## & Pediatric CPR through Child Care Options

Date & Time:  
Saturday, September 25  
8:00 AM-5:00 PM  
Location: Child Care Options,  
Farmingdale

## Lunch & Learn RELATE: Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation.

Date & Time:  
September 15 11:30-1:00 PM  
Location: Child Care Options,  
Farmingdale

To register online click [here](#).

**Maine Early Care  
and Education  
Training Calendar** is now  
available online.  
Click [here](#).

**Resource Sharing from  
NACCRRRA (National  
Association of Resource and  
Referral Agencies)**

**New America Foundation  
Early Ed Watch Blog:** ["Birth to Thrive Series on Early Learning and Special Needs"](#)

**Center on the Developing  
Child at Harvard University  
Report:** ["The Foundation of Lifelong Health are Built in Early Childhood"](#)

## On Safety

[OnSafety](#) is the Official Blog Site of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Here you'll find the latest safety information as well as important messages that will keep you, your family, and the families you serve safe.

live, love and work in the autism community.

For more information and registration go to [www.maeproject.org](http://www.maeproject.org)  
or call Heidi at 626.3042

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extra caution when wearing  
baby slings.

[Forward theLINK eNewsletter](#)

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