

# Early Learning News

July, August, September 2023



# Include



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2023

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# Take a Look Inside

This edition of *Early Learning News* may have a different style, but it continues to be filled with helpful, relevant information.

The calendar view of our monthly training classes is perforated for easy removal. This allows you to tear it out and share as needed.

The "Pass Along to Parents" page is also perforated. This is a wonderful resource to share with parents, and it's copyright-free!

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*Inclusion*  
**is not tolerance,**  
**it is unquestioned**  
*Acceptance.*

# Day of Caring Highlights 2023

The United Way of Southwest Alabama (UWSWA) held its 29th Annual Day of Caring, one of the region's largest single days of volunteerism on April, 28th 2023



Day of Caring volunteers witness first-hand how their support makes a difference as they paint and make repairs, plant trees and ready gardens for planting, sort food donations, and help our agencies complete projects they do not have the time or resources to do throughout the year. Volunteers also have the opportunity to hear the stories of those whose lives have been impacted because of the donations made to the UWSWA.



This year was a successful event, thanks to Renasant Bank in Mobile, GRECS Staff and the help of others and the engaging projects GRECS provided to the volunteers. Collectively, 47 volunteer teams provided over 2852 volunteer hours – a value of \$80,940.00! The exposure GRECS and the other agencies get through Day of Caring helps tell our stories and outlines the benefits our hard work provides to the community.



United Way  
of Southwest Alabama



It is only with your help, that events like Day of Caring are possible. Through your participation, you help fight for the health, education, financial stability, and access to life's basic essentials for every person in every community we serve. GRECS's passion, expertise, and resources help the fight become a win. We are grateful for your support!

# Infant / Toddler Institute

WITH

## Dr. Rosemarie Allen

Rosemarie Allen has served as a leader in early childhood education for nearly 40 years. Her life's work is centered on ensuring children have access to high-quality early childhood programs that are developmentally and culturally appropriate. She is currently an Associate Professor in the School of Education at the Metropolitan State University of Denver. Her classes are focused on ensuring teachers are aware of how issues of equity, privilege, and power impact teaching practices. She is also the President & CEO of the Institute for Racial Equity & Excellence. In 2012, Dr. Allen was appointed a Global Leader for Young Children by the World Forum on Early Care and Education. She collaborates with professionals and advocates from more than 80 countries who meet to share inspiration and information on issues impacting children and families worldwide. Rosemarie earned her B. A. from California State University, M.Ed from Lesley University, and EdD in Equity and Leadership in Education at the University of Colorado, Denver.



### Session 1: Preventing Early Childhood Suspensions, It's All About You!

This workshop will provide information regarding the relationship between children's behavior and the adult's responses to undesired behavior. The role of implicit bias on behavioral expectations will be discussed, and strategies provided for aligning practitioner expectations with those of children and families.

### Session 2: The Role of Implicit Bias in Explaining Disparities in Early Childhood Expulsions and Suspensions.

This session will provide information on the impact of implicit bias on the disproportionate number of children of color who are suspended and expelled from early childhood programs. The workshop will focus on solutions, interventions, resources, approaches, and strategies to address implicit bias, especially as it pertains to exclusionary discipline.

Friday, August 4, 2023

3-hour session 9:00-12:00

More details to come!

Stay up-to-date on session information and subscribe to our newsletter at [www.greccs.org](http://www.greccs.org)!



## Get To Know Our Training Sites and Locations!

When Registering for training classes, please make note of the time & locations of the session. Classes are held in 7 counties - Baldwin, Clarke, Conecuh, Escambia, Mobile, Monroe & Washington.

### Baldwin County

Daphne Public Library

Kids Plus CDC

Goodwill Community Center

The Learning Tree at "First Fairhope"

Coastal Alabama Community College, Bay Minette Campus

Country Day School

### Clarke County

Jackson City Hall

### Conecuh County

David Burt Agriculture Center

Future Achievers

532 S. Main St Evergreen, AL 36401

### Escambia County

Coastal Alabama Community College

Flomaton Public Library

### Monroe County

Monroe County Public Library

Patty Pat's Daycare Center #2

### Mobile County

GRECS Training Rooms -

3101 International Dr bldg 6

### Washington County

Spot for Tots Child Care Center

Washington County Public Library



If you have any questions or need directions

Call us at  
251-473-1060  
or visit  
[www.grecs.org](http://www.grecs.org)

# CCDF Health and Safety Courses 2023

Looking for DHR CCDF Health and Safety Training Courses? We've Got You Covered for this quarter in July, August and September 2023!

- July 6:** Free Public Health and Safety: First-Aid and CPR Training; 8:00am-12:00pm; **Mobile**
- July 26:** Water Safety; 6:30pm-8:30pm; **Mobile**
- August 14:** CPR and First Aid Refresher Session; 9:30am-10:30am; **Mobile**
- August 15:** 4-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 5, 6, 7, 8; 8:00am-12:00pm; **Mobile**
- August 31:** Workplace Violence; 6:30pm-8:30pm; **Mobile**
- September 27:** 4-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 1, 2, 3, 4; 8:00am-12:00pm; **Mobile**



## Getting Started

We will introduce you to the foundational information you need to provide safe environments, nurturing interactions & developmentally appropriate experiences for the children in your care. This basic-level, 12 hour course is broken down into (3), four-hour segments. The training you receive will meet Alabama Department of Human Resources' 12-hour training requirement to work in child care.

(Presenter: GRECS Staff; DHR: CD, CCPF, LD, QCCL, PDG, HSUP; Alabama Pathways: CGD, ICFC, LEE, HSN, PPD; CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8; CCDF: 3, 4, 13, 15, 20; Basic Training Level: 12 hours/12 CEUs; Appropriate for ALL Age Groups)

**July 18th - July 20th, 2023 | 12:00pm - 4:00pm**  
GRECS Training Room, Mobile



# SUPER SATURDAY

with

## LISA KIRKLAND!

### "THE ART LESSON AND WHAT'S SO POSITIVE ABOUT POSITIVE DISCIPLINE"

Join us on Saturday to explore art activities which include take home bags to encourage family involvement and introduce participants to the concept of using positive discipline and guidance in their classrooms. (AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, ICFC; DHR: LD, CCPF, PDG, QCCL; CDA: 2, 3, 4, 8; CCDF: 15, 17, 18; Basic Training Level; 4 hours/0.4 CEUs; Age Groups: ALL)

**Saturday, August 12, 2023 | 9:00am-1:00pm**

**Future Achievers, Evergreen  
532 S Main St Evergreen AL 36401  
251-578-0364**

## Meet the Presenter

### Dr. Abigail Baxter

Ph.D., Developmental Psychology/Assessment, Peabody College of Vanderbilt University, 1990

I am involved with Alabama's Early Intervention System at the local and state levels. I consult with families of children with disabilities, other professionals serving children with disabilities and their families, as well as the public schools. I provide professional development to early interventionists and child care professionals. I am also a Board Member for Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services an agency that provides Early Head Start services in southwest Alabama. My philosophy of education is simple. I want my students to be passionate about teaching ALL students, including those with disabilities. I want them to understand that ALL children can learn and that we have not done our jobs as teachers if our students do not learn. Learning should be a fun process for all involved. In addition, I want my students to appreciate the role that research plays in their work as a teacher and as a professional. They should research and evaluate the effectiveness of their work with their students. They should turn to the professional research literature to find the strategies that will best work with each student. Finally, I want my students to be advocates for the students they teach as well as for their families.



### Featured Sessions

- July 17th, 2023: *Inclusion in the Early Childhood Setting*; 6:00pm-8:00pm; **Mobile**
- August 14th, 2023: *Motor Development*; 6:00pm-8:00pm; **All Counties Webinar**
- September 18th, 2023: *Milestones in Language Development*; 6:00pm-8:00pm; **Mobile**

More information about each class is provided on pages 7-12 and on our website!

Register for each session at [www.grecs.org](http://www.grecs.org)

# Special Delivery Courses

Please Contact: Vicki Giles

251-473-1060

vgiles@grecs.org

We are offering special delivery courses for the following sessions:

- Introduction to the Child Associate Credential (CDA)
- What is Your PIECE? Professionalism in Early Childhood Education (APT)
- Kids and Allergies: What to Look For (APT)
- Preparing for Emergencies In the Child Care Setting

Please contact us for more details on how you can schedule a training or if there are other sessions you need!

## Online Sessions GRECS Webinars:

July, August and September 2023 Webinars:

- **August 2nd** -Alabama Quality STARS: Lift Them Higher with Quality Early Care and Education; 10:00am-12:00pm
- **August 14th** - Motor Development; 6:00pm-8:00pm
- **August 29th** - What is Alabama Pathways?; 9:30am-10:30am;
- **August 29th**- What is Alabama Pathways?; 6:00pm-7:00pm
- **September 6th** -Alabama Quality STARS: Lift Them Higher with Quality Early Care and Education; 12:00pm-2:00pm
- **September 15th** -Introduction to the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA); 12:00pm-1:00pm

### Go Online and Register Today!

All webinars are available for ALL COUNTIES and centers who are interested and are free of charge! Contact Hours will be offered for each session and can be found in your student profile upon completion

## Infant/Toddler Course 2023

This 12-hour course designed for the experienced early childhood educator, addresses some of the most common issues facing caregivers of babies and toddlers. Join us for two days packed full of information on important topics like coping with crying and feeding challenges, setting effective limits, and encouraging self-control in young children. (AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, HSN, ICFC, PPD; DHR: CD, PDG, CCPE, QCCL, LD, HSUP; CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8; CCDF: 2, 6, 15, 17, 20; Intermediate Training Level; 12 hours/1.2 CEUs; Age Groups: Infants, Toddlers)

**August 4th, 2023**

**8:30am-3:30pm**

**GRECS Training Room, Mobile**



## Alabama Early Learning Guidelines (AELG)

The Alabama Early Learning Guidelines were developed to promote continuity of high-quality care and learning for children ages 0-5. The AELG course serves as a guide for understanding child development and for implementing best practices to prepare children for success in school and in life. Participants who complete this course will receive 18 training hours and the official AELG Credential issued by the Alabama Department of Human Resources. This course may only be completed once. If you have received this credential through AELG face-to-face training or the online version, you will not receive credit again. (CDA Content Areas: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 | DHR Categories: CD, CCPE, HSUP, LD, PDG, QCCL | Alabama Pathways to Quality and Education Core Areas: CGD, COA, DIV, HSN, ICFC, LEE, MA, PPD | CCDF: 5, 8, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20)

**You must attend**

**Session 1: Orientation before taking any other session.**

**September 13th, 2023 (Day 1)**  
**8:30am-3:30pm**

- Session 1 – Orientation
- Session 2 – Observations and Assessment
- Session 3 – The Role of Parent and Caregiver

**September 20th, 2023 (Day 2)**  
**8:30am-3:30pm**

- Session 4 – Self-Concept and Emotional Development
- Session 5 – Social Development
- Session 6 – Language and Literacy

**September 27th, 2023 (Day 3)**  
**8:30am-3:30pm**

- Session 7 – Physical Development
- Session 8 – Cognitive Development
- Session 9 – Putting It All Together

**If you have taken any AELG Sessions within the last year but missed a session, you can register, attend and make up those classes to complete and receive your AELG Credential!**



# July '23 TRAINING

**July 6, 2023 | 8:00am-12:00pm 4 hrs**

## First-Aid and CPR Training

CCDF: #10 First aid and CPR | AL Pathways: HSN | CDA: 1 | DHR: HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**PRESENTER:** Pamela Senters, RNC

Training is to provide participants with the practice and assimilation of skills to perform CPR and Basic First-aid with a certification from The Emergency Care and Safety Institute (ECSI) for the child care setting.

**July 11, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs**

## Baby Sign Language - It's Handy

CCDF: 13, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 3 | DHR: CD, PDG | Basic | Infant, Toddler, Preschooler | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Vicki Giles

One way of teaching a baby or toddler to express feelings, wants and needs without crying is through simple sign language.

**July 13, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## There's No App to Replace Your Lap: Reading to Infants and Toddlers

CCDF: 13, 15 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: CD, LD | Basic | Infant, Toddler | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Victoria Bolton

Participants will gain an understanding of what types of books are appropriate for this age and how to incorporate reading throughout the day to the children in their care.

**July 14, 2023 | 10:00am-12:00pm 2 hrs**

## Alabama Quality STARS: Lift Them Higher with Quality Early Care and Education

CCDF: 13, 20 | AL Pathways: LEE, PPD, MA | CDA: 5, 6 | DHR: QCCL, CCPE, AM | Basic | ALL | GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**PRESENTER:** Symone Mixon, Amber Edwards, Rachel McIntosh

This session provides an overview of the Alabama Quality STARS: Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS), a systemic approach to assessing, improving, and communicating the level of quality in early childhood education programs.

**July 17, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## Inclusion in the Early Childhood Settings

CCDF: 17, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, ICFC | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: QCCL, CCPE, AM | Intermediate | ALL | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Abigail Baxter, PhD

Learn strategies to work with children with disabilities in inclusive settings.

**July 18, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs**

## Curiosity and Wonder (APT)

CCDF: 13, 16, 17 | AL Pathways: LEE, CGD | CDA: 1, 2, 8 | DHR: CD, LD | Basic | Preschool | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** APT Staff

This training will provide ideas on how to use children's natural curiosity, wonder and questioning for purposeful early science experiences.

**July 18, 2023 | 12:00pm-4:00pm 4 hrs**

## Getting Started (Day 1)

CCDF: 3, 4, 13, 15, 20 | AL Pathways: LEE, PPD, CGD, ICFC, HSN | CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 | DHR: QCCL, CCPE, CD, LD, PDG, HSUP | Basic | ALL | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .4 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** GRECS Staff

See page 4 for more information and visit our website at [www.greecs.org](http://www.greecs.org).

**\*MUST ATTEND ALL THREE DAYS TO RECEIVE CREDIT\***

**July 19, 2023 | 12:00pm-4:00pm 4 hrs**

## Getting Started (Day 2)

CCDF: 3, 4, 13, 15, 20 | AL Pathways: LEE, PPD, CGD, ICFC, HSN | CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 | DHR: QCCL, CCPE, CD, LD, PDG, HSUP | Basic | ALL | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .4 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** GRECS Staff

See page 4 for more information and visit our website at [www.greecs.org](http://www.greecs.org).

**\*MUST ATTEND ALL THREE DAYS TO RECEIVE CREDIT\***

**July 20, 2023 | 12:00pm-4:00pm 4 hrs**

## Getting Started (Day 3)

CCDF: 3, 4, 13, 15, 20 | AL Pathways: LEE, PPD, CGD, ICFC, HSN | CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 | DHR: QCCL, CCPE, CD, LD, PDG, HSUP | Basic | ALL | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .4 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** GRECS Staff

See page 4 for more information and visit our website at [www.greecs.org](http://www.greecs.org).

**\*MUST ATTEND ALL THREE DAYS TO RECEIVE CREDIT\***

**July 20, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs**

## Welcome to Your Classroom: Creating an Environment for All Children to be Successful

CCDF: 13, 15 | AL Pathways: HSN, CGD, LEE, COA | CDA: 1, 2, 3, 8 | DHR: PDG, HSUP | Preschoolers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Erin Franklin

The goal for this training is to identify and examine the different ways that classroom environment can affect behavior and learning and how to best implement new strategies.

**July 20, 2023 | 5:30pm-7:30pm 2 hrs**

## Get Kids Moving

CCDF: 13, 17, 19, 20 | AL Pathways: HSN, CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 8 | DHR: CD, HSUP | ALL | Basic | Spots for Tots - 92 Jefferson Ave Chatom, AL 36515 | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Vicki Giles

Get your children moving with simple, strategic activities that encourage movement both indoors and outdoors.

**July 22, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am 2 hrs**

## The Art Lesson

CCDF: 17, 18 | AL Pathways: ICFC, CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 3, 4, 8 | DHR: LD, CCPE | Toddlers, Preschoolers | Basic | Monroe County Public Library, Monroeville | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Lisa Kirkland

This training will use picture books to expand art activities and include take home bags to encourage family involvement.

# July '23 TRAINING

**July 24, 2023 | 5:30pm-7:30pm 2 hrs**

## Introduction to the Child Development Associate Credential

CCDF: 20 | AL Pathways: PPD | CDA: 6 | DHR: QCCL, CCPF | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: LaDanika York**

This introduction is designed for any professional early child care educator considering applying for the CDA credential.

**July 25, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs**

## SuperVision

CCDF: 13, 15, 19 | AL Pathways: HSN, ICFC | CDA: 1, 5 | DHR: QCCL, AM | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Paula Reese and Vicki Giles**

In this session, we will develop understanding of effective supervision for creating a safe early childhood environment.

**July 26, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs**

## Water Safety Essentials

CCDF: 5, 7 | AL Pathways: HSN, PPD | CDA: 1, 5, 6 | DHR: HSUP, CCPF | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Avery Fick**

Living on the Gulf Coast water is all around us. This session will explore how to keep children and teachers safe around the water.

**July 27, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am 2 hrs**

## Director's Forum: Top 15 Reasons Employees Stay

CCDF: 13, 20 | AL Pathways: LEE, PPD, MA | CDA: 5, 6 | DHR: QCCL, AM | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Paula Reese / Vicki Giles**

This training will allow participants to “unpack” 15 reasons why employees stay if you are losing employees. If you not constantly losing employees, let's see why they might be staying and share best practices. Participants will compare company culture and practices to the top reason's employees stay.

**July 27, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## Celebrating Mistakes: Embracing a Growth Mindset

CCDF: 18, 19 | AL Pathways: LEE, ICFC | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: QCCL, CCPF | School-Agers | Intermediate | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Desira Keith**

How do you create a mindset that encourages children to continue to work to solve a problem and not give up? This training will provide strategies to incorporate and practice using a Growth Mindset in your classroom.

# August '23 TRAINING

**Aug 1, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## Sweet Home Alabama

CCDF: 13 | AL Pathways: LEE | CDA: 3 | DHR: CD, LD | School-Age | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Olivia Brown**

In this 2-hour trainings, we will visit the history, culture, and the foods through the eyes of children.

**Aug 2, 2023 | 10:00am-12:00pm 2 hrs**

## Alabama Quality STARS: Lift Them Higher with Quality Early Care and Education

CCDF: 13,20 | AL Pathways: LEE, PPD, MA | CDA: 5, 6 | DHR: CCPF, QCCL, AM | ALL | Basic | Webinar

**PRESENTER: Symone Mixon, Amber Edwards, Rachel McIntosh**

A systemic approach to assessing, improving, and communicating the level of quality in early childhood education programs.

**Aug 3, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## Toddlers as Investigators

CCDF: 13,18 | AL Pathways: LEE, CGD, COA | CDA: 2, 3 | DHR: CD, LD | Toddlers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Erin Franklin**

Come learn how to use the emergent curriculum to create toddler rooms filled with exploration and curiosity.

**Aug 4, 2023 | 9:00am-12:00pm 3 hrs**

## Infant/Toddler Institute with Dr. Rosemarie Allen!

See page 3 for more information on Super Saturday with Dr. Rosemarie Allen! We are excited to see you all there. You won't want to miss this session!

**Aug 8, 2023 | 5:30pm-7:30pm 2 hrs**

## Creating Literacy-Rich Environments

CCDF: 19 | AL Pathways: LEE, CGD | CDA: 2, 8 | DHR: CD, LD | All | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Desira Keith**

Participants will explore ways to create a learning environment full of literacy to help young children with pre-reading skills and language development.

**Aug 10, 2023 | 10:30am-12:30pm 2 hrs**

## Stories and Songs, Oh, My! Using Books & Music to Enrich Learning in the Infant & Toddler Classroom (APT)

CCDF: 13, 15, 20 | AL Pathways: LEE, CGD | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: CD, LD | Infants, Toddlers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: APT Staff**

This training is designed to bring reading and music into the infant and toddler classroom in a fun, simple way.



Register online: [www.grecs.org](http://www.grecs.org)



# July 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 
3 	4 <b>GRECS and EHS Closed for Independence Day</b>	5	6 Free Public Health and Safety: First-Aid and CPR Training; 8:00am- 12:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	7	8
10	11 Baby Sign Language – It's Handy; 6:30pm- 8:30pm; <b>Mobile</b>	12 	13 There's No App to Re- place Your Lap: Reading to Infants and Toddlers; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	14 Alabama Quality STARS: Lift Them Higher with Quality Early Care and Educa- tion; 10:00am- 12:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	15
17 Inclusion in the Early Child- hood Setting; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	18 Getting Started (Day 1); 12:00pm-4:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>  Curiosity and Wonder (APT); 6:30pm-8:30pm; <b>Mobile</b>  	19 Getting Started (Day 2); 12:00pm- 4:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	20 Getting Started (Day 3); 12:00pm-4:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>  Welcome to Your Class- room: Creating an Envi- ronment for All Children to be Successful; 6:30pm- 8:30pm; <b>Mobile</b>  Get Kids Moving; 5:30pm-7:30pm; <b>Spots for Tots, Chatom</b>  	21	22 The Art Lesson; 9:30am- 11:30am; <b>Monroe County Public Library, Monroeville</b>  
24 Introduc- tion to the Child Development As- sociate Credential (CDA); 5:30pm- 7:30pm; <b>Mobile</b>	25 SuperVision; 6:30pm- 8:30pm; <b>Mobile</b>  	26 Water Safety Essentials; 6:30pm- 8:30pm; <b>Mobile</b>	27 Director's Forum: Top 15 Reasons Employees Stay; 9:30am-11:30am; <b>Mobile</b>  Celebrating Mistakes: Embracing a Growth Mindset; 6:00pm- 8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	28	29  
31					

\*All classes in Mobile County will be held at Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services unless otherwise noted.

# August 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Sweet Home Alabama; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	2 Alabama Quality STARS: Lift Them Higher with Quality Early Care and Education; 10:00am-12:00pm; <b>Webinar</b>	3 Toddlers As Investigators; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	4 <b>Infant/Toddler Institute with Dr. Rosemarie Allen</b> <b>9:00am-12:00pm</b>	5
7  <b>MCPSS</b> <b>Back to School</b>	8 Creating Literacy-Rich Environments; 5:30pm-7:30pm; <b>Mobile</b>	9  <b>BCBE</b> <b>Back to School</b>	10 Stories and Songs, Oh, My! Using Books & Music to Enrich Learning in the Infant & Toddler Classroom (APT); 10:30am-12:30pm; <b>Mobile</b>  Making Sense of Sensory Play; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	11  	12  <b>Super Saturday with Lisa Kirkland;</b> <b>9:00am-1:00pm;</b> <b>Future Achievers, Evergreen</b> 
14 CPR and First Aid Refresher Session; 9:30am-10:30am; <b>Mobile</b>  Motor Development; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Webinar</b>	15 4-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 5, 6, 7, 8; 8:00am-12:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>  It's Not Bad to Be Mad!; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b> 	16	17 A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood: Our Workplace; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	18	19
21  	22 Feel the Power of Positivity! Promoting a Positive Mindset to Achieve Positive Outcomes; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>  Moving from Crafts to Process Art; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>The Learning Tree, Fairhope</b>	23 Fostering Positive Relationships to Build an Effective Team; 9:30am-11:30am; <b>Mobile</b>  	24 Empowering Kids Through Daily Affirmations; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	25  	26 Exploring Nature with Young Children; 9:30am-11:30am; <b>Coastal Alabama Community College, Bay Minette</b> 
28 The Visual Classroom: Increasing Student Confidence Using Visual Cues; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	29 What is Alabama Pathways?; 9:30am-10:30am; <b>Webinar</b>  What is Alabama Pathways?; 6:00pm-7:00pm; <b>Webinar</b> 	30	31 Workplace Violence; 6:30pm-8:30pm; <b>Mobile</b>		

\*All classes in Mobile County will be held at Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services unless otherwise noted.



# August '23 TRAINING

**Aug 10, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## **Making Sense of Sensory Play**

CCDF: 13, 17, 20 | AL Pathways: LEE, CGD | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: CD | Infants, Toddlers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Victoria Bolton**

This training will cover how sensory play helps infants and toddlers grow and develop using fun, hands-on activities, and age-appropriate books.

**Aug 12, 2023 | 9:00am-1:00pm 4 hrs**

## **Super Saturday with Lisa Kirkland: The Art Lesson and What's So Positive About Positive Discipline**

CCDF: 15, 17, 18 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, ICFC | CDA: 2, 3, 4, 8 | DHR: LD, CCPF, PDG, QCCL | ALL | Basic | Future Achievers, Evergreen | .4 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Lisa Kirkland**

Explore art activities which include take home bags to encourage family involvement and introduce participants to the concept of using positive discipline and guidance in their classrooms.

**Aug 14, 2023 | 9:30am-10:30am 1 hr**

## **CPR and First Aid Refresher Session**

CCDF: 10R | AL Pathways: HSN | CDA: 1 | DHR: HSUP | ALL | GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**PRESENTER: Pamela J. Senters, RNC**

The purpose of this training is to provide participants with CPR and basic First Aid refresher facts.

**Aug 14, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## **Motor Development**

CCDF: 13, 17, 20 | AL Pathways: CDG, LEE, ICFC | CDA: 2, 3, 6, 8 | DHR: HSUP, CD | ALL | Intermediate | Webinar

**PRESENTER: Dr. Abigail Baxter, PhD**

This course will review the major fine and gross motor developmental milestones.

**Aug 15, 2023 | 8:00am-12:00pm 4 hrs**

## **CCDF Health and Safety Training: 5, 6, 7, 8**

CCDF: 5, 6, 7, 8 | AL Pathways: HSN | DHR: HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**PRESENTER: Pamela J. Senters, RNC**

We will introduce you to the foundational information you need to provide safe and healthy environments in the child care setting.

**Aug 15, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## **It's Not Bad to Be Mad!**

CCDF: 13, 15, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD, ICFC | DHR: CD, PDG | Toddlers, Preschool, School Age | Intermediate | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Vicki Giles**

In this session, we'll explore strategies and materials to guide children to name and appropriately express their big feelings.

**Aug 17, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## **A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood: Our Workplace**

CCDF: 16, 20 | AL Pathways: LEE, ICFC | DHR: QCCL, CCPF | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Paula Reese**

Learn caregiving as a vital component of education and child development as a crucial building block of human community.

**Aug 22, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## **Feel the Power of Positivity!**

CCDF: 13, 15, 19 | AL Pathways: ICFC, MA | CDA: 3, 5 | DHR: PDG, AM | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Sandy Resa and Michelle Denney**

Join us as we discuss strategies for creating a culture of positivity among students and staff.

**Aug 22, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## **Moving from Crafts to Process Art**

CCDF: 13 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: CD, LD | Preschoolers | Intermediate | The Learning Tree at Frist Fairhope | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Desira Keith and Paula Reese**

Come learn the value of moving from craft activities to process art.

**Aug 23, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am 2 hrs**

## **Director's Forum: Fostering Positive Relationships to Build an Effective Team**

CCDF: 13 | AL Pathways: PPD, MA | CDA: 5, 6 | DHR: AM, CCPF | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Dr. Jason C. Bryant**

Part of being an effective team is forming and maintaining positive relationships among staff.

**Aug 24, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## **Empowering Kids Through Daily Affirmations**

CCDF: 13, 15 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 1, 3, 8 | DHR: CD, PDG | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: LaDanika York**

The goal of this course is to discuss why daily affirmations are important and ways to teach affirmations in the classroom.

**Aug 26, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am 2 hrs**

## **Exploring Nature with Young Children**

CCDF: 13 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2 | DHR: CD, LD | Toddlers and Preschoolers | Basic | Coastal Alabama Community College, Bay Minette | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Lisa Kirkland**

This training will help participants discover ways to implement gardening in their programs and explore other areas of nature around their center.

**Aug 28, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## **The Visual Classroom: Increasing Student Confidence Using Visual Cues**

CCDF: 15, 19 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 1, 3 | DHR: CD, PDG | Preschoolers, School-Agers | Intermediate | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Vicki Giles**

Using visuals allows children to confidently participate in classroom activities and routines.

**Aug 29, 2023 | 9:30am-10:30am 1 hr**

## **What is Alabama Pathways?**

CCDF: 18 | AL Pathways: PPD | CDA: 5, 6 | DHR: QCCL, CCPF | ALL | Basic | Webinar

**PRESENTER: DHR Staff**

Alabama Pathways is a free online resource for early childhood professionals working in child care facilities. The professional development system addresses the training and education needs of caregivers and teachers in the field of early childhood and school-age care.

**Aug 29, 2023 | 6:00pm-7:00pm 1 hr**

## **What is Alabama Pathways?**

CCDF: 18 | AL Pathways: PPD | CDA: 5, 6 | DHR: QCCL, CCPF | ALL | Basic | Webinar

**PRESENTER: DHR Staff**

Alabama Pathways is a free online resource for early childhood professionals working in child care facilities. The professional development system addresses the training and education needs of caregivers and teachers in the field of early childhood and school-age care.

**Aug 31, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs**

## **Workplace Violence**

CCDF: 5, 7 | AL Pathways: HSN, MA, ICFC | CDA: 1, 5 | DHR: QCCL, HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER: Avery Fick**

During this session we will explore and identify possible risk factors for exposure to violence in their centers and ways to minimize them.

# September '23 TRAINING

**Sep 6, 2023 | 12:00pm-2:00pm 2 hrs**

## Alabama Quality STARS

CCDF: 13, 20 | AL Pathways: LEE, PPD, MA | CDA: 5, 6 | DHR: QCCL, CCPF, AM | ALL | Basic | Webinar

**PRESENTER:** Symone Mixon, Amber Edwards, Rachel McIntosh

This session provides an overview of the Alabama Quality STARS.

**Sep 7, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## The Power of Play

CCDF: 20 | AL Pathways: LEE, CDG | CDA: 2, 3 | DHR: QCCL, CD | Infants, Toddlers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** LaDanika York

We will discuss ways to effectively implement play throughout the day using songs, movements, free play, and structured play.

**Sep 12, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## Biting, Tantrums and Other Challenging Behaviors

CCDF: 15, 20 | AL Pathways: LEE, CDG | CDA: 1, 5, 7 | DHR: PDG, CD | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Paula Reese

Learn what behaviors are typical for children of certain ages and how adults can respond in ways that diminish negative behaviors and prevent future occurrences.

**Sep 13, 2023 | 8:30am-3:30pm 6 hrs**

## (Day 1) Alabama Early Learning Guidelines -AELG (Session 1, 2, 3)

CCDF: 5,8,13,15,16,17,18,20 | AL Pathways: HSN, CGD, COA, DIV, ICFC, LEE, MA, PPD | CDA: 1,2,3,4,6,7,8 | DHR: HSUP, CD, CCPF, LD, PDG, QCCL | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**PRESENTER:** GRECS Staff

See page 6 for more information and visit our website at [www.grecs.org](http://www.grecs.org)

**Sep 14, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs**

## Playing It Safe: How to Create Safe Spaces for Children (APT) (CTF)

CCDF: 13, 15, 16 | AL Pathways: CDG, LEE | DHR: CD, PDG | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Olivia Brown

We will discuss the elements of a safe space and ways to effectively implement those spaces for young children.

**Sep 15, 2023 | 12:00pm-1:00pm 1 hr**

## Introduction to the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential

CCDF: 20 | AL Pathways: PPD | CDA: 6 | DHR: QCCL, CCPF | ALL | Basic | Webinar

**PRESENTER:** LaDanika York

This introduction is designed for any professional early child care educator considering applying for the CDA credential.

**Sep 16, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am 2 hrs**

## What's So Positive About Positive Discipline

CCDF: 15, 17 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: PDG, QCCL | ALL | Basic | Monroe County Public Library | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Lisa Kirkland

This training will introduce participants to the concept of using positive discipline and guidance in their classrooms.

**Sep 18, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## Milestones in Language Development

CCDF: 13, 17, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 1, 2, 3, 8 | DHR: LD, CD | Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Abigail Baxter, PhD

This course will review the major receptive and expressive language development.

**Sep 19, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs**

## Kitchen Chemistry: Mixing Science with Simple Ingredients (APT)

CCDF: 19 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 1, 2, 3 | DHR: LD, CD | School-Agers | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** APT Staff

Join us as we discover ideas for preparing exciting Science activities for children.

**Sep 19, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP): What's That?

CCDF: 13, 16, 20 | AL Pathways: ICFC, CGD | DHR: CD, CCPF | ALL | Intermediate | Kids Plus, Foley | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Vicki Giles

Come to this session to discover how DAP promotes young children's optimal learning and development, strategies and ideas for helping families understand DAP.

**Sep 20, 2023 | 8:30am-3:30pm 6 hrs**

## (Day 2) Alabama Early Learning Guidelines -AELG (Session 4, 5, 6)

CCDF: 5,8,13,15,16,17,18,20 | AL Pathways: HSN, CGD, COA, DIV, ICFC, LEE, MA, PPD | CDA: 1,2,3,4,6,7,8 | DHR: HSUP, CD, CCPF, LD, PDG, QCCL | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**PRESENTER:** GRECS Staff

See page 6 for more information and visit our website at [www.grecs.org](http://www.grecs.org)

**Sep 21, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs**

## Socialization for Infants and Toddlers

CCDF: 17, 20 | AL Pathways: LEE, CGD | DHR: CD, PDG | Infants, Toddlers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Victoria Bolton

In this training, we will answer these questions and many more through hand-on activities and discussions.

**Sep 23, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am 2 hrs**

## What's So Positive About Positive Discipline

CCDF: 15, 17 | AL Pathways: LEE, CGD | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: QCCL, PDG | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Lisa Kirkland

This training will introduce participants to the concept of using positive discipline and guidance in their classrooms.

**Sep 26, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am 2 hrs**

## Director's Forum: Workplace Violence

CCDF: 5, 7 | AL Pathways: HSN, MA, ICFC | DHR: QCCL, HSUP, AM | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** Avery Fick

During this session we will explore and identify possible risk factors for exposure to violence in their centers and ways to minimize them.

**Sep 26, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## Thinking Outside of the Bin: Exploring STEM Bins (APT)

CCDF: 13 | AL Pathways: LEE | DHR: CD | School Agers | Intermediate | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

**PRESENTER:** LaDanika York

This training will explore STEM, within plastic, portable bins, in a fun and safe way.

**Sep 27, 2023 | 8:00am-12:00pm 4 hrs**

## 4 Hour DHR Health and Safety CCDF Training.

CCDF: 1,2,3,4 | AL Pathways: HSN | DHR: HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**PRESENTER:** Pamela J. Senters, RNC

We will introduce you to the foundational information you need to provide safe and healthy environments.

**Sep 27, 2023 | 8:30am-3:30pm 6 hrs**

## (Day 3) Alabama Early Learning Guidelines -AELG (Session 7, 8, 9)

CCDF: 5,8,13,15,16,17,18,20 | AL Pathways: HSN, CGD, COA, DIV, ICFC, LEE, MA, PPD | CDA: 1,2,3,4,6,7,8 | DHR: HSUP, CD, CCPF, LD, PDG, QCCL | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**PRESENTER:** GRECS Staff

See page 6 for more information and visit our website at [www.grecs.org](http://www.grecs.org)

**Sep 28, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs**

## Did You Hear What I Said? How to Communicate Effectively (APT)

CCDF: 15,20 | AL Pathways: ICFC, PPD | DHR: QCCL, CCPF | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs






**PRESENTER:** Desira Keith

The goal of this training is to discover what communication is, the components of communication and what makes a good communicator. This training will also discuss the dos and don'ts of being a good communicator.



# September 2023

GULF REGIONAL  
Early Childhood Services

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 	2
4 <b>GRECS and EHS Closed for Labor Day</b>	5	6 <i>Alabama Quality STARS: Lift Them Higher with Quality Early Care and Education</i> ; 12:00pm-2:00pm; <b>Webinar</b> 	7 <i>The Power of Play</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	8	9 
11	12 <i>Biting, Tantrums and Other Challenging Behaviors</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b> 	13 (Day 1: <i>Alabama Early Learning Guidelines AELG</i> ) Sessions 1, 2, 3; 8:30am-3:30pm; <b>Mobile</b>	14 <i>Playing It Safe: How to Create Safe Spaces for Children (APT) (CTF)</i> ; 6:30pm-8:30pm; <b>Mobile</b> 	15 <i>Introduction to the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA)</i> ; 12:00pm-1:00pm; <b>Webinar</b>	16 <i>What's So Positive About Positive Discipline</i> ; 9:30am-11:30am; <b>Monroe County Public Library, Monroeville</b> 
18 <i>Milestones in Language Development</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	19 <i>Kitchen Chemistry: Mixing Science with Simple Ingredients (APT)</i> ; 6:30pm-8:30pm; <b>Mobile</b>  <i>Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP): What's That?</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Kids Plus, Foley</b>	20 (Day 2: <i>AELG</i> ) Sessions 4, 5, 6; 8:30am-3:30pm; <b>Mobile</b>	21 <i>Socialization for Infant and Toddler</i> ; 6:30pm-8:30pm; <b>Mobile</b>	22 	23 <i>What's So Positive About Positive Discipline</i> ; 9:30am-11:30am; <b>Mobile</b>
25 	26 <i>Director's Forum: Workplace Violence</i> ; 9:30am-11:30am; <b>Mobile</b>  <i>Thinking Outside of the Bin: Exploring STEM Bins (APT)</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	27 <i>4-Hour DHR Health &amp; Safety CCDF</i> : 1, 2, 3, 4; 8:00am-12:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>  (Day 3: <i>AELG</i> ) Sessions 7, 8, 9; 8:30am-3:30pm; <b>Mobile</b> 	28 <i>Did You Hear What I Said? How to Communicate Effectively (APT)</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; <b>Mobile</b>	29	30 

\*All classes in Mobile County will be held at Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services unless otherwise noted.

# Full Diversity: Meeting the Needs of Young Children with Developmental Delays



**Y**oung children—birth to age 8—with developmental delays are a critical part of an early childhood program’s diversity. They deserve to be fully included within the culture, activities, and mission of the program.

**W**hile meeting the unique needs of young children with developmental delays is complex and fraught with challenges, these are some general ideas to address the needs of this vulnerable population:

- Make sure your curriculum is truly developmentally appropriate, with lots of play, art, music, and dance.
  - Make sure academic and behavioral expectations—especially around restricting movement and direct instruction—are truly developmental.
  - Make sure all activities can be adjusted—both easier and more difficult.
- Before recommending a child be assessed for a delay or disability, examine all other possible reasons for the child’s difficulties (i.e. inappropriate expectations, the classroom environment, non-English speaking children, their home situation, and so on). Studies show that screening recommendations can become self-fulfilling prophecies.
  - Give all students—including those with developmental delays—many opportunities to succeed throughout the day.
  - If a child has been assigned a disability label—i.e. ADHD or autism spectrum disorder—do not use it around children, parents, or other teachers (except those who need this information), and never assign a child a label without due process (assessments and parent permission). Do not allow children to use a label to describe a child with a delay.



- Never use what a child likes to do or is good at doing as a reward for achieving skills or tasks. Affirmations should not have to be earned. Further, never take away what a child can do and is good at doing as a punishment.
- Make sure a child’s treatment or therapy does not interfere with activities the child likes and enjoys, such as playing with other children or outdoor activities. Effective therapy is embedded within pleasurable and ongoing classroom activities.

**F**inally, as with all forms of diversity, early childhood programs and schools need to make sure that there are books and other curricular materials in the classroom that show and discuss a diversity of people with disabilities, and that show these people leading successful and productive lives.

To read more about “Full Diversity: Meeting the Needs of Young Children with Developmental Delays” visit [communityplaythings.com](https://www.communityplaythings.com)



## **Training Levels**

**Basic** = Most appropriate for entry-level professionals who are new to early childhood and/or school-age care. Basic Level Training covers a foundational understanding and demonstration of developing skills.

**Intermediate** = Most appropriate for professionals who have at least (2) years of experience and 120 hours of training in child development, and are moving toward more formal education. Intermediate Level Training includes expanding knowledge and application, and refining skills.

**Advanced** = Most appropriate for professionals who have at least three (3) years of experience and 30 credit hours in child development. Advanced Level Training focuses on a more thorough knowledge and understanding of developmentally appropriate practice and highly effective application and demonstration of skills.

## **DHR Performance Standards Training Areas**

CD = Child Development

HSUP = Health, Safety, and Universal Precautions

QCCL = Quality Child Care and Licensing

CCPF = Child Care Professional and the Family

LD = Language Development

PDG = Positive Discipline and Guidance

AM = Administration and Management

## **CDA (Child Development Associate) Subject Areas**

1. Planning a safe, healthy learning environment
2. Advancing children's physical and intellectual development
3. Supporting children's social and emotional development
4. Building productive relationships with families
5. Managing an effective program
6. Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
7. Observing and recording children's behavior
8. Understanding principles of child development and learning

## **Alabama Pathways Core Knowledge Areas (CKA)**

CGD = Child Growth and Development

HSN = Health, Safety and Nutrition

LEE = Learning Experiences and Enrichment

DIV = Diversity

COA = Child Observation and Assessment (Planning for Individual Needs)

ICFC = Interaction with Children, Families and Communities

PPD = Personal and Professional Development

MA = Management and Administration

## **CCDF Training Areas**

1. *Prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations)*
2. *Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) prevention and use of safe sleep practices*
3. *Administration of medication*
4. *Prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions*
5. *Building and physical premises safety, including identifying electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic*
6. *Prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome and abusive head trauma*
7. *Emergency preparedness and response planning for natural or man-caused events*
8. *Handling and storage of hazardous materials, including correct disposal of bio-contaminants*
9. *If applicable, appropriate precautions in transporting children*
10. *First-aid and CPR*
11. *Recognizing and reporting child abuse and neglect*
12. *Identifying and serving homeless children and their families*
13. *Promoting the social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development of children, including those related to nutrition and physical activity, using scientifically-based, developmentally appropriate and age appropriate strategies*
14. *Caring for children in geographic areas with significant concentrations of poverty and unemployment*
15. *Implementing behavior strategies, including positive behavior interventions and support models that promote positive social and emotional development and reduce challenging behaviors, including reducing expulsions of preschool-aged children for such behaviors*
16. *Engaging parents and families in culturally and linguistically appropriate ways to expand their knowledge, skills and capacity to be meaningful partners in supporting their children's positive development*
17. *Understanding early neurological development*
18. *Using data to guide program improvement*
19. *Supporting positive development of school-age children*
20. *Improving the quality of programs and services for infants and toddlers*

## **Target Age Groups**

Infants = Birth to 12 months

Toddlers = 1 and 2 year olds

Preschoolers = 3 and 4 year olds

School-agers = 5 to 12 year olds

ALL = Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers, and School-agers





*Alabama Pathways* is a free online resource to provide a path to support and advance the best practices for those who care for and teach children from birth through 12 years. In accordance with Child Care Licensing and Performance Standards for Day Care Centers and Nighttime Centers Regulations and Procedures and Licensing and Performance Standards for Family Day Care Homes Family Nighttime Homes and Group Day Care Homes Group Nighttime Homes Regulations and Procedures, all licensed providers in the State of Alabama are required to participate in the Alabama Professional Development Registry (PDR) and must be enrolled in the PDR system by September 16, 2022.

**The Professional Development Registry (PDR) will allow you to:**

- Create your own early childhood professional and training profile.
- Document your professional accomplishments and professional certificates.
- Identify your current place on the Alabama Pathways Professional Development Lattice.
- Collaborate with state-designated training agencies to help you identify and reach your goals.
- Link to official training organizations.
- Access to available resources.

**Things to remember:**

- Website address – [www.alabamapathways.org](http://www.alabamapathways.org)
- An updated User Guide is always available for your reference on your dashboard
- FAQ's - <https://www.alabamapathways.org/api/file/s/faq>
- When adding info into the profile, go to each tab to add information: education, employment, etc.
- A Help Desk will be available on the footer of the page on the left side.
- When setting up your account, remember to use your PERSONAL email.
- As a FINAL step, don't forget to associate yourself with the facility at which you are working.

Your profile belongs to you! Take it along wherever your professional journey may take you! All you have to do is log in!

## What is Alabama Pathways?

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023 | 9:30-11:30A AND 6:00-8:00P | GRECS TRAINING ROOM, MOBILE**

**THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023 | 9:30-10:30A AND 6:00-7:00P | VIRTUAL TRAINING, WEBINAR**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2023 | 9:30-10:30A AND 6:00-7:00P | VIRTUAL TRAINING, WEBINAR**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023 | 9:30-11:30A AND 6:00-8:00P | GRECS TRAINING ROOM, MOBILE**

Do you have questions about Alabama Pathways? Participants will discuss the goal of Alabama Pathways and how it can help teachers in the early childhood profession. Alabama Pathways is a free online resource for early childhood professionals working in child care facilities. The professional development system addresses the training and education needs of caregivers and teachers in the field of early childhood and school-age care. The goal of Alabama Pathways is to provide a path to support and advance the best practices of those who care for and teach children from birth through 12 years.

**CCDF: 18 | AL Pathways: PPD | CDA: 5, 6 | DHR: QCCL, CCPF | ALL | Basic | Q.I. Professional Development | 0.2 CEUs | 2 hours | Presenting DHR Staff**



Register today.  
Scan and select the  
"getting started" tab.



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Lift them higher with quality early  
care and education.



334-604-6260



info@alabamaqualitystars.org

## APT SUMMER ONLINE TRAINING

EACH QUARTER, ALABAMA PUBLIC TELEVISION™ OFFERS FREE ONLINE TRAINING FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN EXPANDING THEIR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT! WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO CHECK OUT WHAT THEY HAVE IN STORE AND REGISTER DIRECTLY THROUGH THEIR WEBSITE.

[HTTPS://APT.V.ORG/EDUCATION/LEARN-ONLINE/](https://aptv.org/education/learn-online/)

Registration opens on their website

Monday, June 12th, 2023

Alabama Early Learning Guidelines: **July 10 – August 28, 2023**

Exploring Literacy Development with PBS KIDS! **July 10 – July 31, 2023**

Essentials of High-Quality Early Care and Education

**July 10 – July 31, 2023**

Exploring STEM with School-Aged Children

**August 7th – August 28, 2023**

Approaches to Play for Preschoolers

**August 7th – August 28, 2023**



Scan the QR Code for APT's Summer 2023  
Facilitated Training Opportunities:



Scan the QR code for APT's On-Demand  
2-Hour Training Catalog – Always Available:

## Smart Horizons On-Demand Courses

Our online training courses are designed to help you meet your professional goals. Whether you simply want to complete annual training requirements or you're trying to acquire training hours for a CDA, our courses provide a variety of engaging topics designed specifically for you!

We have scholarships available for this program!

Call Sofie McNamara at 251-473-1060  
for more information!





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# ALABAMA'S NEW SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDCARE SUBSIDY

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Benefits for Child Care Centers, Family and Group Home Providers

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## Availability

Alabama's new Special Needs Childcare Subsidy is available statewide.

## Reimbursement

Participating centers will be reimbursed \$250 per week. There is no penalty when a child is not in attendance, so the center will be reimbursed regardless of attendance.

## Inclusion Support

Childcare staff will have FREE access to training, consultation, technical assistance, and adaptive materials provided by Childcare Enhancement with a Purpose (CCEP) Inclusion Consultants statewide to support inclusion in the classroom.



## About the Subsidy

Financial assistance is now available for qualifying Alabama families of a child with special needs to attend quality, inclusive childcare programs statewide. To qualify, the child must be receiving services (IFSP, IEP, private therapy, etc.).

To learn more, or to determine eligibility, contact Melissa Anderson, Statewide Childcare Enhancement with a Purpose Project Manager, at [manderson@ucphuntsville.org](mailto:manderson@ucphuntsville.org) or 256-859-4900.



# The Resource Place

at  **GULF REGIONAL  
Early Childhood Services**

**Call today to make your appointment with us!**

**Browse our comprehensive lending library and workroom where you'll find:**

**Children's Books \* Teacher Resource Books\* Outdoor Play Materials\*  
Manipulatives\* Puzzles\* Puppets\* Big Books \* Laminating Machine \*  
Bulletin Board Paper and More!!!!**

**Call 251- 473-1060**  
**Open: Daily | 9am-4pm**

**visit our website for more information at [www.grecs.org](http://www.grecs.org)**

## Interested in a Membership?

Visit our website at [www.grecs.org](http://www.grecs.org) and fill out our online application today!

If you need more assistance or have any questions,  
please contact

Marybeth Fields at 251-473-1060 ext 1702

### Coming Soon

We are looking forward to having our library and resources available online to check out and reserve at your convenience! More information to come, subscribe to our newsletters to stay up-to-date!



## Support Children's Trust Fund

*We are celebrating over 20 years of collaboration with the Children's Trust Fund supported through the Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention!*

*Caring for the Caregiver allows us opportunities to provide training and support to Child Care providers. We appreciate all who participate to make this project possible and help educate parents and caregivers on the prevention of child neglect and abuse.*

*The next time you renew your car tag, Purchase this specialty tag at your local Probate office. It is tax deductible & proceeds directly fund community-based prevention programs.*



The Bright Beginnings Project families and children are enrolled in the comprehensive center based early learning programs provided in the GRECS Early Head Start classrooms. In addition, families of children enrolled in other infant-toddler classrooms at our child care center partner centers are also invited to participate. Many thanks to our friends at PNC, to all of the families for their enthusiastic response, and to the staff for their part in making this project such a success!



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the latest happenings and  
events!



GULF REGIONAL  
**Early Childhood Services**



United Way  
of Southwest Alabama



**July 4th, 2023**  
GRECS & EHS offices are CLOSED for  
Independence Day

**September 4th, 2023**  
GRECS & EHS offices are CLOSED for  
Labor Day