

Community Child Care Clearinghouse



1521 Main Street

Niagara Falls

New York 14305

www.childcareofniagara.com

Toll Free: 1-800-701-4KID

Phone: 716-285-8572

Fax: 716-286-9693

E-mail: ccrniagara@niagaracap.org

2024 Fall Newsletter

Newsletter for Niagara County

Child Care Providers,

Parents & Child Advocates

Niagara Community Action

Board of Directors:

Tim Beach	Gary Heuck
Andrea Haseley	Andrew Kirsch
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Bridgette Myles	

CCR&R Staff:

Supervisor:	Angela Burns
Registrar Unit:	Kimmarie Brown Cindy Dugan Kristina Clark
Technical Assistant Specialist:	Erin Crump
Infant & Toddler Specialist:	Kelly Janese
Infant Toddler Mental Health Consultant:	Jameelah Masaed
Legally Exempt:	Debbie Perricelli Nicole Jeffords
Business Specialist	Donna Striffler
CC Referrals:	Elizabeth Springer

Technical Assistance/Legally Exempt/CC Supply
Specialist/ Referral Counselor: Coming soon!

Mission Statement:

Niagara Community Action Program, Inc. is a countywide agency dedicated to reducing poverty in a collaborative effort by initiating and conducting programs of self-sufficiency. Our ultimate goal is to empower individuals and families to reach their fullest potential.

Office Closings:

- October 14
- November 11, 28, 29
- December 24, 25

Contact Information:

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Clearinghouse of Niagara
1521 Main Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14305

Phone: 716-285-8572
Toll Free: 1-800-701-4KID (4543)
Fax: 716-285-9693
E-mail: crrniagara@niagaracap.org
Web: www.childcareofniagara.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CCRandR/>

Resources for Child Care Providers

Help is available to provide support to all child care programs that need assistance with issues that may arise in their child care program. We may also have quality initiative grants to eligible licensed and registered child care programs.

We're here to help if you have a curriculum which isn't working for you, a disgruntled parent or a screaming child.

We know these are just a sample of the issues you may face as a child care provider. If you would like help with these or any other problems in your child care program, contact:

- ❖ **Kelly Janese for children ages 6 weeks up to 3 years**
- ❖ **Jameelah Masaed for children 0 to 3 years**
- ❖ **Erin Crump or Donna Striffler for children 3 years through school age**

We will come into your program to observe and assess. We then will help you by providing technical support, trainings and create a quality improvement plan.

For more information about this service available to you, contact:

- ❖ **Kelly** 716-285-8572 ext. 104
- ❖ **Jameelah** 716-285-8572 ext. 120
- ❖ **Erin** 716-285-8572 ext. 115
- ❖ **Donna** 716-285-8572 ext. 116



Our referral counselor, Elizabeth, will be working with parents who need assistance in locating a registered or licensed child care program. In addition, she will work with providers to ensure that all information regarding child care vacancies is up to date in the referral database.

If you receive a *Provider Update Form* from us, please complete and return it as soon as possible. As you may know, available child care slots are few and, in some areas, non-existent. If you have openings, please keep our office informed. A voice message which is available for calls after hours or e-mail is sufficient.

Contact Elizabeth at: 716-285-8572 ext. 109 or send an email to crrniagara@niagaracap.org



Product Recalls

Name of Product:
MJKSARE High Chairs

Hazard:
The recalled high chairs violate the regulations for high chairs, as the leg openings on the high chair are too wide, posing an entrapment hazard to infants. Additionally, the high chairs pose a fall hazard because the tray can become disengaged from the product.

Remedy: Refund
Recall Date: September 12, 2024
Units: About 4,760

Consumer Contact: TONGAO by email at gztaamz@163.com



Name of Product:
Squeeze Plush Ball Toys

Hazard:
The squeeze ball toy contains a liquid and glitter combination inside a thick membrane. If the membrane is ruptured, the glittery water can splash onto a child's face and body, posing an injury hazard.

Remedy: Refund
Recall Date: August 22, 2024
Units: About 9,600



Consumer Contact: Shawshank LEDz Inc. collect at 480-802-1085 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. PT Monday through Friday, email at robert@shawshankledz.com, online at <https://shawshankledz.com/Disclosures-recall.html> or <https://shawshankledz.com/> and click on "Product Recall" for more information.

Name of Product:

Mamibaby and Cosy Nation Baby Loungers

Hazard:

The recalled baby loungers violate the federal safety regulations for [Infant Sleep Products](#) because the sides are too low to contain the infant; the sleeping pad is too thick, posing a suffocation hazard; an infant could fall out of an enclosed opening at the foot of the lounger or become entrapped; and the loungers do not have a stand, posing a fall hazard if used on elevated surfaces. These violations create an unsafe sleeping environment for infants.

Remedy: Refund

Recall Date: August 15, 2024

Units: About 32,270

Consumer Contact:

MEIXIA Shop by email at recallemail@163.com.



Name of Product:

Pillowfort™ Weighted Blankets

Hazard:

A young child can become entrapped by unzipping and entering the blanket, posing a risk of death by asphyxiation.

Remedy: Refund

Recall Date: December 22, 2022

Units: About 204,000

Consumer Contact:

Target at 800-440-0680 from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT daily, or online at www.target.com and click on “Recall Information”, then on “Home Goods” for more information. Consumers can also click the “Products Recalls” tab on Target’s Facebook page for more information.



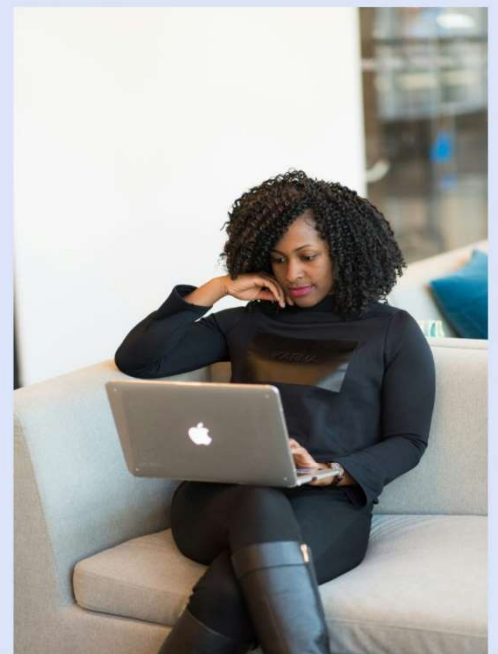
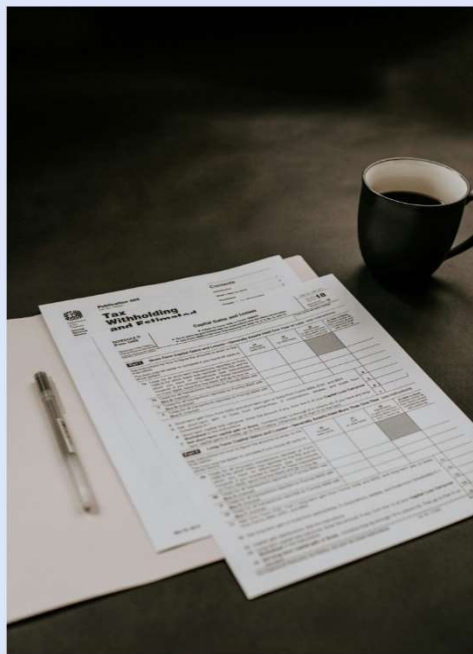
PROVIDERS - Call Donna Striffler to book your appointment!

(716) 285-8572 X 116 or email: dstriffler@niagaracap.org

1521 Main St. Niagara Falls, NY 14305

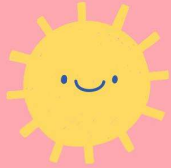
Child Care Budgeting and Record Keeping

FREE
one on one
appointment at
your convenience!



- Basic budgeting and record keeping for tax purposes
- Tracking income and allocating spending limits
- Payroll budgeting and understanding your profit margin
- Understanding essential and non-essential expenses

Why are routines so important?



Routines are crucial in a toddler class for several reasons:

1. Predictability and Sense of Security:

Toddlers thrive on predictability and routine. Knowing what to expect provides them with a sense of security and stability, which is essential for their emotional well-being. When toddlers have a clear understanding of what comes next, it reduces their anxiety and helps them feel safe and comfortable in the classroom environment.



2. Smooth Transitions:

Transitioning from one activity to another can be challenging for toddlers. Having a structured routine with consistent transitions helps minimize disruptions, confusion, and resistance during these shifts. Toddlers can anticipate what comes next, making transitions smoother and more manageable for both the children and the teachers.



3. Sense of Order and Organization:

Toddlers are in the early stages of learning about order and organization. A routine provides a framework for them to understand how things are organized and how their day unfolds. It helps them make sense of their environment and build a foundation for future learning and development.



5. Learning Opportunities:

Routines can be designed to incorporate various learning opportunities throughout the day. By integrating activities such as circle time, story time, outdoor play, and art, toddlers engage in a variety of experiences that support their cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development. Consistently following a routine ensures that these learning opportunities are consistently provided.

6. Behavior Management:

Routines play a significant role in managing challenging behaviors. When toddlers know what is expected of them and what is coming next, they are less likely to become frustrated, anxious, or exhibit disruptive behaviors. Routines provide a clear structure and set of expectations, allowing teachers to redirect and guide behavior more effectively.



4. Independence and Self-Regulation:

Routines empower toddlers to become more independent and develop self-regulation skills. When they know what is expected of them and the sequence of activities, they can take ownership of their actions and navigate through the day with a sense of autonomy. Routines provide opportunities for toddlers to develop self-help skills, such as dressing themselves, cleaning up, and following instructions.



7. Time Management:

A routine helps teachers manage time efficiently. By following a predetermined schedule, they can allocate appropriate time for different activities, ensuring a balance between active and quiet periods, group and individual work, and structured and unstructured play. This time management fosters a productive and engaging learning environment for toddlers.



Infant Toddler Services

- Implementing the NYS Child Care Regulations
- Behavior issues specific to infants & toddlers
- Grants & materials for your program
- Finding resources & tip sheets
- Information on the development & behavior of infants & toddlers
- Free group & one-on-one training for new & experienced staff specific to infant & toddler care
- On-site advice & assistance



We Serve:

- Child care resource & referral agencies
- Family child care homes
- Group family child care homes
- Child care centers
- Families
- Agencies serving families and children

Contact:

Kelly Janese - Infant Toddler Specialist

(716) 285-9681 ext. 104

Jameelah Masaed - Infant Toddler Mental Health

Consultant (716) 285-9681 ext. 120

Community Child Care Clearinghouse of Niagara

Old Fashioned Crock Pot Chicken and Dumplings

TIME: 5 HRS 15 MINS

SERVINGS: 8

Ingredients

- 2 lbs Chicken breast, skinless, and thawed boneless
- 1 tsp Poultry seasoning
- 1/2 tsp Garlic powder
- 1/2 cup Onion
- 1 tbsp Parsley, dried
- 16 oz Peas and carrots
- 1 tsp Thyme, dried
- 32 oz Chicken broth
- 10 1/2 oz Cream of celery soup
- 10 1/2 oz Cream of chicken soup
- 1/4 tsp Black pepper
- 1/2 tsp Salt
- 2 cans Biscuits, refrigerated



- First, place the boneless, skinless chicken breasts into your large 6-quart slow cooker. (Be sure they are thawed, not frozen)
- Top them with the diced onions – we’re building flavor right from the start!
- Now, in a medium bowl, let’s mix together the cream of chicken soup, cream of celery soup, broth, and seasonings. Whisk until creamy and smooth.
- Spread that creamy soup mixture over the chicken in the slow cooker.
- Now, let’s add the bag of frozen peas and carrots on top.
- Cover the crockpot with its lid and cook on high for 4 hours. But here’s the trick – no stirring! We want to keep that heat inside.
- After 4 hours, remove the chicken breast. Try to do this quickly, replacing the lid to keep the broth bubbling on high.
- On a cutting board or large plate shred the chicken pulling it with two forks.
- Stir in the shredded chicken quickly and place the lid back on. Continue cooking on high.
- Next, we are going to prep the biscuits. Place a piece of canned biscuit dough on a cutting board. Using a sharp, long-blade knife, cut the biscuit into thin strips. Rotate the cutting board and cut the strips in the other direction to create small squares.
- Quickly open the slow cooker lid and drop the uncooked biscuit strips right on top.
- Quickly put the lid back on, and let it cook for an additional 1 hour. At the thirty minutes to go mark, slightly lift the lid just enough to gently stir the dumplings with a long-handled spoon. This helps them break apart instead of being one big massive dumpling. Cover and continue cooking.
- Now, the grand finale! When the cooking time is up, stir everything well.

Sweet Potato Cream Pie

Vanessa Aldaz, MPH, RD, CDE

“This recipe offers the aromas and comfort of the autumn and winter season. Its luxurious, creamy texture and right amount of spice is sure to make you a sweet potato lover year-round,” says Aldaz.

Ingredients

- 1 pie crust (you can make at home or purchase at the store)
- 2 cups sweet potato, steamed and mashed (about two large potatoes)
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon grated nutmeg
- 1/8 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- 1/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/4 cup white granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons dark maple syrup
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 2 eggs



Directions

- Peel sweet potatoes and cut into small cubes.
- Steam on low heat for about 20 minutes or until fork-tender, and then mash and set aside.
- Preheat your oven to 375 degrees.
- Prepare pie crust in a pie or tart pan. If you're using a tart pan, place a cookie sheet in the oven to preheat as well.
- Mix sweet potatoes, sugars, syrup, spices and salt.
- Add heavy cream and eggs, and then mix until well-blended. Pour mixture into the pie crust.
- If using a pie pan, bake in the middle of the oven for 40–45 minutes, or until the filling is set. If using a tart pan, place the pan on top of the heated cookie sheet and bake in the middle of the oven for 35 –40 minutes, or until the filling is set. Note: Check at 35 minutes for both preparations to account for differences in ovens.
- Transfer to a cooling rack. When fully cooled, garnish with whipped cream and toasted pecans.

