



Satellite Family Child Care System

May 2024
Newsletter

Adjusting the Accreditation Cycle

Current policy: accreditation cycle every 12-15 months

New policy: accreditation cycle every 15-21 months

**Beginning
June 1, 2024**

Reasons for the changes:

Satellite wants to provide family child care programs with more time to work on their own goals for their program and to relax a little before beginning a reaccreditation.

This change increases the amount of time your consultant is spending with you in supportive quarterly visits between reaccreditation cycles.

Moving from an accreditation window of three months (every 12-15 months) to an accreditation window of six months (every 15-21 months) gives both the program and the consultant more flexibility in scheduling the reaccreditation.

Additional details

- Action plan: If the accreditation is not completed by 21 months, the program and consultant must create an action plan, including the goal of completing the accreditation before the accreditation has expired. An action plan focuses the program and consultant on aligning the program with the accreditation standards. During the time of an action plan, a consultant works more intensively with a program to support their understanding of standards and the implementation of required changes.
- If the program is unable to accredit before the accreditation certificate’s expiration date (for any reason), the program may choose option #1 or #2 below.

Accreditation Certificate Adjustment

Current policy: Satellite accreditation certificates have no expiration date.

New policy: Satellite accreditation certificates expire two years after the accreditation.

Reason for the change:

City of Madison/Satellite accreditation certificates are currently the only form of quality verification in Wisconsin child care programs without expiration dates. YoungStar, NAFCC and NAEYC certificates expire. DCF requires that City of Madison/Satellite now implement expirations on their accreditation certificates.

Additional details

If a program does not receive reaccreditation before the expiration date, the program can choose:

1. To move to associate status and continue to work towards accreditation.
2. To voluntarily remove themselves from Satellite. If they choose this option, they may reapply to work with Satellite again after 1 year.

If the family child care program does not choose either #1 or #2, the program is considered “no longer participating” in Satellite. The program may reapply 1 year from the accreditation expiration date.



**A big welcome to our new Satellite Affiliate members,
all with shared goal of achieving accreditation!**

Manuela Aleman – Sweet Home Smiles

Congratulations on moving to Associate level with Satellite!

Jennifer Burke – Tender Heart Childcare

Betty Anne White – Small Steps – Great Expectations

Congratulations on your
first Accreditation!

Vicki Krueger – Minds
in Motion

LEARNING AND CONNECTING TOGETHER

Western Region Provider Appreciation Dinner

An evening filled with cheese curds and good conversation. We appreciate our Western Region folk!



Welcome Laura



Hello! My name is Laura Cruz, and I am an Administrative Assistant with Satellite. I am originally from Miami, Florida where my very first job was as an after-school teacher for a preschool. During college I worked as an assistant teacher and as a tutor for Student Athletes. I earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Florida Atlantic University and since then my experience has varied between education and science. Last year I served as a Bilingual Educational Assistant for Verona Area High School. In this role I helped Educators and English Learners with interpretation and translation in the classroom. I am happy to join the Satellite team because Satellite's mission aligns with my high value towards education.

When I am not working, I enjoy caring for my collection of indoor plants, watching TV shows, learning new languages, and traveling. I am currently learning Arabic with the hopes of visiting Morocco and practicing my new language skills.

LEARNING AND CONNECTING TOGETHER

SPOTLIGHT ON

M & M Sweet Child Care

Program Owner: Shelly Boelter; Affiliate Satellite Provider

2024 Terri Lynne Lokoff Teacher Award Winner



Shelley Boelter at the age of 12 years old dreamt of having a family child care and is living out her dream. She is the early childhood educator at M & M Sweet Child Care, a family childcare located in Hager City in a house she designed and built with the level for childcare. She is going on her 21st year as the owner/provider and had 2 ½ years prior experience working in group child care center.

2024 Terri Lynne Lokoff Teacher Award Winners!



Shelly completed the Family Child Care Credential with the University of Wisconsin – Platteville and the Preschool Credential with Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College now known as Northwood Technical College. She continues to learn about the early childhood field to better serve the children/families in her care. She hopes people will understand the importance and need of high-quality early childhood education. She enjoys spending time with her husband Chris and their children Caleb and Avery.

Back-and-Forth Interactions

Relevant Satellite Accreditation Standards

I. Interactions and Relationships

A. The provider's verbal and non-verbal communication with children helps build positive relationships and conveys support, respect, and trust.

4. The provider has back and forth verbal and non-verbal conversations with each child every day.



The Basics



"Ba ba baaa,"

"Oh, that's what you think about the book? Tell me more!"

"Oooooo ah!"

"What? You think that's going to happen next?"

"Da ba!"

"Wow, you have so much to say today!"



What are back-and-forth interactions?

Moments like these, between young children and caregivers, lay a foundation for healthy brain development. Also known as "serve and return", back-and-forth interactions involve a passing of exchanges between child and caregiver. These interactions begin when a child initiates an exchange with an adult through behaviors like **gazing, pointing, reaching, babbling, gesturing, talking, or making facial expressions**. An adult then returns the bid with a response, either verbal or nonverbal. Verbal responses can include **reassuring, supporting, noticing, naming, and describing** the child's experience. Nonverbal responses comprise everything unspoken – from helping a child reach a crayon, smiling and nodding from across the room, raising one's eyebrows, or imitating a face. These interactions model the turn taking nature of conversations and help children practice self-control. Many caregivers engage in these back-and-forth interactions often and naturally, especially when emotionally available.

Back-and-Forth Interactions (Cont.)

[Why are frequent back-and-forth interactions important?](#) Back-and-forth interactions provide young children with information about the world around them and their place within it. With rich opportunities for expanding language, wondering, and solving problems, “serve and return” is more effective than any device or media outlet that markets learning. These moments of caregiver-child synchrony are the building blocks of brain development and emotional regulation, fostering trust and emotional security. Back-and-forth interactions are especially important when young children are experiencing big feelings. Very young children cannot and should not be expected to handle big feelings on their own; they look to caregivers for support. Responses should be immediate and consistent, even if the caregiver is not ready to fully meet the child’s needs. A simple, “I hear you. I am coming soon,” to a toddler ready to be done with lunch might not help calm big feelings in the moment, but it does signal to them that they are cared for and held in mind. Research repeatedly shows that early sensitive and responsive caregiving, in which back-and-forth interactions play a significant role, is linked to social competence, emotion regulation, and executive function later in life.

I want to learn more!

- [5 Steps for Brain-Building Serve and Return](#)
- [Serve and Return: A Guide for Parents and Caregivers](#)
- [You’re the Best Teacher! Responsive Interactions with Young Children](#)
- [Young Children Develop in an Environment of Relationships](#)

This resource is available to you through Satellite Family Child Care System, a YoungStar Connect Partner.



Satellite Family Child Care System



Upcoming Professional Development



Children as the Co-Constructors of Their Own Learning: Emergent Curriculum in Family Child Care

This course will introduce Emergent Curriculum as a method of guiding curriculum practices in family child care. Participants will learn how to use observations of children to plan learning experiences that support (1) holistic child development and (2) the diverse needs of a mixed-age group. We will dive into the foundational principles of Emergent Curriculum through exploring the role of the family, the educator, and the environment. Join this interactive session to gain new ideas for how to follow the interests, temperaments, and cues of children when planning playful child-directed experiences.

May 15; 6 – 8 PM Zoom

English and Spanish

2 hours of Registry credit

[Register here](#) (by 5/13)



Exploring Quality in Family Child Care: Defining Your Philosophy

How *do* children learn? What do children *need* to learn? What *should* children learn? Answers to these questions inform practices like outlining your daily routine, planning activities, determining guidance techniques, understanding the role of the educator, setting up the environment, choosing materials, and so forth. A written philosophy provides transparency and clear expectations for families, helping decide whether a family will be a good fit for a program. Come to this session to reflect on your own set of beliefs, goals, and values about child development and learn how to articulate it through a program philosophy statement.

June 11; 1 – 2 PM Zoom

English and Spanish

1 hour of Registry credit


[Register here](#) (by 6/7)

Satellite Calendar

Evening Professional Learning Opportunities

Dates	Time	Event	Location	Registration	Registry hours*	
Curriculum Philosophy Series						
May 15	6-8 pm	Children as the Co-Constructors of Their Own Learning: Emergent Curriculum in Family Child Care	Zoom	Register here! by 5/13/24	2	E, Sp
June 26	6-8 pm	Fostering True Play in Your Program: AnjiPlay in Family Child Care	Zoom	Register here! by 6/24/24	2	E, Sp
July 17	6-8 pm	Nurturing Children’s Imagination: Waldorf in Family Child Care	Zoom	Register here! by 7/15/24	2	E, Sp
August 14	6-8 pm	Building Children’s Independence: Montessori in Family Child Care	Zoom	Register here! by 8/12/24	2	E, Sp
September 11	6-8 pm	Children as Naturalists: Forest School in Family Child Care	Zoom	Register here! by 9/9/24	2	E, Sp
Single Training Sessions						
October 9	6-8 pm	Making it work – incorporating rich art experiences into a mixed age setting in your family child care program	Zoom	Register here! by 10/7/24	2	E, Sp
November 13	6-8 pm	Nature based programming during the winter – indoors and out in your family child care program	Zoom	Register here! by 11/11/24	2	E, Sp
December 11	6-8 pm	Pleasant children’s transitions between daily activities in your family child care program, including the wisdom and examples from Satellite programs	Zoom	Register here! by 12/9/24	2	E, Sp

Saturday Events

Dates	Time	Event	Location	Registration	Registry hours*	
September 28	9-5 pm	Safety Saturday (Only for programs participating in Satellite’s accreditation system)	Satellite Office	<i>Coming soon</i>	7	E, Sp

Obtaining Registry Credit* for Satellite’s Virtual (Zoom) Professional Development Sessions


To receive Registry credit at the conclusion of virtual (Zoom) professional development, follow these steps:

1. Each participant must register individually even if viewing the training with other participants on the same screen.
2. You must be present for the entire session. Late arrivals may not be admitted.
3. At the conclusion of the session, you complete an evaluation and then enter your information to receive Registry credit. This must be completed at the end of the session or your professional development hours will not be entered into the Registry by Satellite Family Child Care System. **


You can view and print your proof of attendance through your [Wisconsin Registry](#) account. It may take several weeks before your attendance is entered into the Registry. Certificates of completion will not be mailed or emailed to participants.

**If you do not complete the steps above and wish to receive professional development credit for a Satellite event that you attended, you will need to complete the DCF form “Continuing Education Record—Independent Reading/Video Viewing “ found here: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cclicensing/ccformspubs>


Exploring Quality in Family Child Care

Dates	Time	Topic	Location	Registration	Registry hours*	
June 11	1-2 pm	Defining Your Philosophy	Zoom	Register here! by 6/7/24	1	E, Sp
July 9	1-2 pm	Risky Play	Zoom	Register here! by 7/5/24	1	E, Sp
August 6	1-2 pm	Back-and-Forth Interactions	Zoom	Register here! by 8/3/24	1	E, Sp
September 24	1-2 pm	Child-Directed Play	Zoom	Register here! by 9/20/24	1	E, Sp

Guided Book Studies (*English only*)

Dates	Time	Book	Location	Registration	Registry hours*	
July 11 – August 29	1-2 pm	Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder	Zoom	Register here! by 6/13/24	16	E
October 3 – November 21	1-2 pm	Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder	Zoom	Register here! by 9/5/24	16	E

Enjoyable time with other family child care providers

Dates	Time	Event	Location	Registration	
May 14	5:30-8:30 pm	Provider Appreciation Dinner	Tenney Park Shelter Madison	Register here!	E, Sp
May 22	6-8 pm	Provider Appreciation Dinner	Pullmans at Trolley Square Appleton	Register here!	E
September 25	6-8 pm	Gathering in Appleton – dinner and mindful art activity	Appleton	<i>Coming soon</i>	E
October 2	6-8 pm	Provider Appreciation Dinner	Milwaukee	Register here!	E, Sp
October 23	6-8 pm	Gathering in Madison -- dinner and mindful art activity	Madison	<i>Coming soon</i>	E, Sp

Key



Language

E English

Sp Spanish

LEARNING AND CONNECTING TOGETHER

New & Updated Curriculum Units

[Link to Unit and Equipment List](#)

Yoga
Toddler/
Preschool



Yoga
Preschool/School Age



Zoo
Toddler



Zoo
Preschool



Supporting Children's Sensory Needs

Your Satellite accreditation consultant can help support you to use these items in a way that is safe and helpful for children.

reach  DANE
Satellite Family Child Care System



Balance Sphere



Swivel Chair



Squeeze, Squish, Touch, and Look Sensory Bin



Noise Reducing Headphones



Weighted Bin #1

Weighted Bin #2



Visual Aids Bin



Pressure and Resistance Sensory Bin



Wisconsin Wayfinder supports families of children with delays, disabilities, special health care needs, and mental health conditions. Children's resource guides are helpers who assist families, caregivers, professionals, and organizations in finding a wide array of supports and services available through the Children's Resource Network. Their services are free and confidential. Click [here](#) for more information.

Safe diaper changing procedures help maintain hygienic child care settings. See this [printable fact sheet](#) for an easy reminder.



The CACFP provides reimbursement for nutritious meals and snacks served to children in child care programs. Click [here](#) for more information.



Professional Resources

Satellite Services

- [Mentor Program](#)
- [Satellite new member application](#)
- [Resource loans—equipment, curriculum units, & resource books](#)
- [Report your family child care program's child openings here](#)

reachDANE

Satellite Family Child Care System

Wisconsin

- [T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Program](#)
- [REWARD Stipend Program](#)
- [Wisconsin Early Childhood Shared Services Network \(WEESSN\)](#)
- [The Wisconsin Registry](#)
- [Child Care Forms and Publications \(Licensing\)](#)
- [YoungStar Connect](#)
- [Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation](#)



Professional Organizations focused only on Family Child Care

- [Wisconsin Family Child Care Association](#)
- [Home Grown](#)
- [National Association for Family Child Care](#)



The May Financial Wellness session is:

Tackle Your Credit Card Debt! Consumer debt in America officially hit 1 trillion dollars of July 2023. Americans of all age levels are carrying credit card balances that have stemmed from financial hardships to overspending. This session was created to help identify spending causes, provide strategies to tackle credit card debt, and encourage a financial game plan to reach your goals.

Join us live on [05/08/24 @ 11:30am](#) via Zoom with time to ask your questions or listen to the recording [here!](#)

(Use "Reach Dane" as the organization with whom you're affiliated)

W.E.C.A.N.

Brooke Legler-Skidmore, co-owner of The Growing Tree Group Center and **Corrine Hendrickson**, owner of Corrine's Little Explorers Family Child Care, co-founded [Wisconsin Early Childhood Action Needed](#) (WECAN – [link to Facebook page](#)) in 2020. They volunteer and work to inform and empower child care professionals, parents, community members, business owners, and others to advocate for investment in early childhood care and education. Their goals are to increase the accessibility, affordability, and quality of early childhood care and education in the state of Wisconsin. WECAN understands the core of the issue to be the low wages and lack of benefits as a cost of providing high-quality care to all children that our communities require to thrive.



WECAN is hosting a **Day Without Child Care Rally** at the Capitol in Madison on **May 18** from **2 – 4:30pm**.

Scheduled speakers will begin at 2 pm. Those in attendance will have space to share their stories. This will be followed by a walk around the capitol.

ALL are welcome. Learn more about opportunities to connect with others before the rally [here](#) (sign up by May 3).



Childcare
CHANGEMAKERS
a project of **COMMUNITY CHANGE ACTION**

On **May 13**, ChildCare Changemakers is asking everyone to do a **day of action** to bring awareness to how many families go days without child care, and without sustainable state and federal investments, even more will go without child care as programs begin to close. For more information on how to host your own event or find one to attend, click [here](#).

OUR COMMUNITY

Join the Community

Satellite Family Child Care Circle

A virtual space for Satellite family child care providers to connect, learn, and share. This group is only for providers affiliated with Satellite Family Child Care System. We want this to be your space to share ideas, photos, activities, and more!

For more information, please contact:



Grace Eilers

geilers@reachdane.org

(608) 400-2823



Noche Latina

A monthly event for Spanish speaking, Satellite affiliated family child care providers and their families held at Satellite's office. Noche Latina focuses on building a network of supportive relationships among Latin providers and their families. We also have a lot of fun!

For more information, please contact:



Estella Vargas

evargas@reachdane.org

(608) 852-7724



OUR COMMUNITY

Satellite believes in the power of community. Consider attending a family child care provider-led group affiliated with Satellite. Participation in all support groups is a benefit of Satellite and completely voluntary.

Arcoíris

The purpose of the Arcoíris support group is to provide meetings with child care providers. The goal of the Arcoíris support group is to share resources with each provider who attends the meetings. There is no cost to the Arcoíris support group for providers who want to attend. Meetings are the third Friday of every month from 6:30-8:30 pm. Meetings are usually at a Madison-area provider's home, but can also be at a restaurant, park, library, etc. For the meeting, each provider is invited to bring a dish, dessert, or drink to share. During the meeting, the food that has been provided is shared. Ideas, resources, situations are also shared and new providers who are attending the meeting are introduced. The Arcoíris support group maintains confidentiality inside and outside the meetings of all topics discussed. This group is conducted in Spanish.

For more information, please contact:



Margarita Ugalde

ugaldemargarita7@gmail.com

Sojourn

Sojourn is a community of accredited family child care professionals who empower one another to reach their own unique potential through person connections, reflective process, and shared leadership. We strive for a balance between personal and professional issues in our discussions. We use a shared leadership model for Sojourn meetings which allows each member to grow and participate in various roles. Join Sojourn to build relationships with other professional child care providers, experience professional growth through group process responsibilities, and participate in discussion about family child care issues. This group is conducted in English and meets in the Madison area.

For more information, please contact:



Shannon Davis

badgerclan2@gmail.com

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SATELLITE ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Shannon Davis

Advisory Committee Member
Accredited Family Child Care Provider

Mykenzie Lerg

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Nancy Rosales

Advisory Committee Member
Accredited Family Child Care
Provider

Maria Luisa Mas

Advisory Committee Member
Accredited Family Child Care
Provider



Satellite Advisory Committee

Satellite deeply values input from those within the family child care community.

At each Advisory Committee meeting, the facilitator presents information about Satellite's support services and/or accreditation and then asks committee members related open-ended questions. Committee members are encouraged to use their unique backgrounds, personal and professional roles, and experiences as they share their perceptions and ideas.

Satellite's facilitator actively listens with the goal of utilizing committee members' expertise and experiences to strengthen the Satellite Family Child Care System.

Terri Lynn Alexander

Advisory Committee Member
Accredited Family Child Care Provider

Laura Simkin

Advisory Committee Facilitator
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Abby Abrisham

Advisory Committee Member
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SATELLITE TEAM



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Contact Laura with all general questions
related to accreditation and Satellite services.



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CONFIDENTIALITY

Satellite staff keep confidential within Satellite your program's information that you share with your accreditation consultant, the Satellite director and associate director. This information is documented in records of contact that only Satellite's staff access. Satellite's team works together, harnessing our collective skills and knowledge to support your program.

Need assistance? Contact us so we can help!

Satellite

(608) 275-6740

satellitefcc@reachdane.org

Mailing and drop-off address:
2096 Red Arrow Trail, Fitchburg, WI 53711

Label mailed and dropped off items with "attention:
Satellite" & and the Satellite staff person's name

SATELLITE'S PARTNERS

Thank you to our partners for helping us provide these services at no cost to participants:

