



3rd Quarter NEWSLETTER

DICE
PACIFIC
PROFESSIONAL SOLUTIONS, LLC

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Sharing experiences! Ms. Jessa Jade Cruz passionately recounts her remarkable journey within the program.

The System of Support

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program initiative is to develop and implement a system of support for CCDF License-Exempt Family, Friend, or Neighbor (LEFFN) and Licensed Family, Friend, or Neighbor (LFFN) home child care providers in meeting the CCDF program's requirements.

Training and technical assistance

DICE Pacific, LLC. offers a wide variety of trainings and technical assistance for LEFFN and LFFN providers. We are available to assist applicants with the application process, registration for online webinars, etc.. Trainings include the 12 Health and Safety Pre-Service Training Topics, Strengthening Business Practices, The Growing Brain, and Mind in the Making.

Grant opportunity for quality activities

Quality child care is essential for the growth and development of our youngest citizens. As we navigate through these challenging times, the importance of quality care cannot be overstated. While the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provided much-needed support to many child care providers, yet some unfortunately did not receive the assistance they needed.

To bridge this gap and ensure that all children receive the quality care they deserve, a new grant opportunity has emerged specifically for home child care providers who were not eligible for the ARPA grant. This grant opportunity is truly exciting and its potential to enhance the quality in each family child care home.

Hybrid Health & Safety Training introduced

The Health & Safety Training Topics were presented in August 2023 with a new addition to the training style. To ensure that all LEFFN & LFFN providers have access to the training, a hybrid training style was adopted. The hybrid training allowed Mr. Kevin Castro to facilitate the training topics with both face-to-face participants and virtual participants from the islands of Tinian and Rota.

Presented by Mr. Kevin Castro, the Health & Safety Training Topics are required for new & ongoing family child care providers to successfully complete. Providers are expected to complete 30 hours of health & safety training in their first year of service and 15 hours when they renew their certification. The ages of the children in the providers care determine what specific topics the provider must complete to meet the requirements to renew their certification.



9 complete Adult & Pediatric First Aid / CPR course

The Pediatric First Aid / CPR course incorporates the latest science and teaches participants to recognize and care for a variety of first aid emergencies. The course is designed for participants to be equipped with the knowledge and tools to help any person experiencing a health emergency.

The 9 participants have successfully completed the instructor-led training with Mr. Kevin Castro and are now certified, with the certification being valid for two years.



The Mind in the Making learning journey continues

Family child care providers and members of the community are introduced to a learning journey that was designed to be both useful and inspiring. The learning material, *Mind in the Making: The Seven Essential Life Skills*, is presented with supporting research on brain development, child development, and adult learning.

Each module starts off with adults having to first focus on themselves and how they can promote the life skills in their daily lives. After reflecting on themselves, the module then shifts to how adults can promote the life skills in the children's lives. After looking at the science behind each life skill, participants end each module by creating realistic goals for themselves.

The participants of cohort 3 recently completed their learning journey in September 2023. *Mind in the Making: The Seven Essential Life Skills* is presented by Mr. Marvin Ngeskebei.



Family child care providers nurture ongoing learning in developing brains

The Growing Brain: From Birth to 5 Years Old is an innovative professional development opportunity that provides a toolkit of how the brain develops, along with ways you can encourage healthy brain development in children from birth to 5 years old.

Participants will develop skills and strategies to:



- understand the architecture and neurobiology of brain development
- support language, cognition, prosocial behavior, and social-emotional development
- reduce toxic stress that can negatively influence brain development of very young children

The Growing Brain: From Birth to 5 Years Old was presented by Ms. Jaime Untalan.



System of Support outreach activities

✓ **KKMP | Radio Talk Show**
○ **August 29, 2023**



✓ **CCDF | Partner Meeting**
○ **September 19, 2023**

