

Spring 2025 Professional Development Training Calendar



YWCA Northwestern Illinois
4990 East State Street, Rockford, Illinois 61108
815.484.9442 Training Ext. 211 www.ywcanwil.org

YWCA Hours of Operation:

Monday-Friday

8:00am – 5:00pm

Walk-Ins 8:30am-4:30pm





YWCA Building Closures:


Monday, May 26th, 2025


Thursday, June 19th, 2025


***Registration will close a week prior to all IN PERSON trainings,
unless otherwise noted***

Date	Training Title	Time & Address	Audience & Course Description	Registration CDA Area & Fee
Tuesday, 4/8/2025, Tuesday, 4/15/2025, & Thursday, 4/29/2025 	Program for Infant Toddler (PITC): Module 4 Introductory Presenter: Andrea Capriotti	6:00 PM to 8:00 PM (Session 1 & 2) 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM (Session 3) In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108	Providers Ages 0-3 This training focuses on culture and its implication for families and providers. Participants will learn how family experiences, knowledge, and childrearing beliefs and practices can be incorporated into early care and classroom settings. Cultural expectations and biases will be explored, and participants will have the opportunity to increase their cultural awareness in terms of how their assumptions may affect their interaction with young children and families. Participants will demonstrate their understanding of how family structures, diversity in social, cultural, linguistic, or religious backgrounds influence family approaches to parenting in children birth to three, each other, and the community. Participants will gain an understanding of how relationships among caregivers, infants/toddlers, and families can impact other child-family, child-practitioner, and practitioner-family relationships.	To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org CDA: 8 FREE *Registration closes at 5pm on 3/17/2025* *This is a 3-part series. Participants must attend ALL sessions and complete the online assessment, in order for credit to be given. *

Date	Training Title	Time & Address	Audience & Course Description	Registration CDA Area & Fee
Saturday, 4/5/2025 	CPR & First Aid Certification Introductory Presenter: Jim Manson	9:00 AM to 2:00 PM In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108	All Providers This course is certified through the American Heart Association. It is a video-based, instructor-led course that teaches students critical skills needed to respond to and manage an emergency until emergency medical services arrive. Skills covered in this course include first aid; choking relief in adults, children and infants; and what to do for sudden cardiac arrest in adults, children, and infants. This course also covers anaphylactic shock.	To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org CDA: 1 FREE
Thursday, 4/17/2025	Managing Student and Educator Stress During Difficult Times Introductory Presenter: Alexis Rutishauser	6:00 PM to 8:00 PM In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108	All Providers This workshop focuses on unique stressors that students may face during difficult times, especially those related to home, societal expectations, and academic pressure. Participants will learn how to recognize signs of stress in themselves and their students to mitigate burn out, conflict, and behavioral concerns. This workshop includes exposure to classroom interventions/strategies.	To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org CDA: 5 & 6 FREE

Date	Training Title	Time & Address	Audience & Course Description	Registration CDA Area & Fee
Saturday, 4/19/2025 	CPR & First Aid Certification Introductory Presenter: Jim Manson	9:00 AM to 2:00 PM In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108	All Providers This course is certified through the American Heart Association. It is a video-based, instructor-led course that teaches students critical skills needed to respond to and manage an emergency until emergency medical services arrive. Skills covered in this course include first aid; choking relief in adults, children and infants; and what to do for sudden cardiac arrest in adults, children, and infants. This course also covers anaphylactic shock.	To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org CDA: 1 FREE
Wednesday, 4/23/2025	Stimulating Environments Through Words and Actions Introductory Presenter: Stephanie Koclanis	6:00 PM to 7:30 PM Zoom Live	All Providers Talking and playing with children seems like a natural occurrence for an educator. However, sometimes we get stuck; a little bogged down in the "housekeeping" tasks of the day. In this training, we will discuss how to expand a child's experience in every part of their day. You will discover: new vocabulary to introduce in centers, questions to produce critical thinking, new materials to display in "unpopular" areas, and how to join children in their play as a true participant.	To register click here CDA: 3, 6, & 8 FREE



Date	Training Title	Time & Address	Audience & Course Description	Registration CDA Area & Fee
Thursday, 4/24/2025 	Immunizations, Administering Medications and Preventing Allergic Reactions Introductory Presenter: Emily McKnight	6:00 PM to 7:30 PM In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108	All Providers In this training, providers will learn the proper procedures to follow when administering medications and how to prevent allergic reactions. Providers will also learn the correct way to document when medications are given to a child and what paperwork is needed on file. Immunizations will also be discussed as you learn what children need and what age is best for each vaccine.	To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org CDA: 1 FREE
Tuesday, 4/29/2025	Not the Same Old Song and Dance Introductory Presenter: Stephanie Koclanis	6:00 PM to 7:30 PM Zoom Live	All Providers Ever catch yourself singing every word to a song from your childhood but not remember what you had for breakfast? Or wonder why you have to sing the ABC's to figure out what letter comes next? Unlike language, music utilizes every subsystem of our brains. In this training providers will learn how important music is to early childhood development and ways to incorporate it into your daily routine.	To register click here CDA: 2, 3, & 8 FREE


Date	Training Title	Time & Address	Audience & Course Description	Registration CDA Area & Fee
Saturday, 5/3/2025 	CPR & First Aid Certification Introductory Presenter: Jim Manson	9:00 AM to 2:00 PM In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108	All Providers This course is certified through the American Heart Association. It is a video-based, instructor-led course that teaches students critical skills needed to respond to and manage an emergency until emergency medical services arrive. Skills covered in this course include first aid; choking relief in adults, children and infants; and what to do for sudden cardiac arrest in adults, children, and infants. This course also covers anaphylactic shock.	To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org CDA: 1 FREE
Tuesday, 5/6/2025	The Art of Authenticity Intermediate Presenter: Stephanie Koclanis	6:00 PM to 8:00 PM In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108	All Providers *Free gift for participating!* Adapted from Dr. Karissa Thacker's book 'The Art of Authenticity.' Participants will work through how to bring their best self forward when the pressure is high; reflecting on such questions as: "What are my strengths?", "How do I work best?", "What are my values?", "Where do I belong?" "What can I contribute?"	To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org CDA: 3 & 6 FREE




Date	Training Title	Time & Address	Audience & Course Description	Registration CDA Area & Fee
Thursday, 5/8/2025	<p>Every Child Ready to Read and Basics Illinois Workshop</p> <p>Introductory</p> <p>Presenters: Amy Pfeifer and Emily Klonicki</p>	<p>6:00 PM to 7:30 PM</p> <p>In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108</p>	<p>All Providers and Parents</p> <p>*Please note this training is open to parents as well as childcare providers!*</p> <p>Join Amy Pfeifer of Rockford Public Library and Emily Klonicki of Alignment Rockford for an enriching and fun early literacy workshop that combines the best of two successful curricula: the Public Library Association’s Every Child Ready to Read (ECRR) and The Basics Illinois. This unique integration will provide you tools and tips to enhance literacy skill-building and support holistic development.</p> <p>ECRR emphasizes key practices—talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing—that empower parents, caregivers, and educators to prepare children for reading success. The Basics Illinois, modeled after the Boston Basics, focuses on five fundamental principles rooted in neuroscience research. This approach nurtures cognitive, language, and emotional growth in children aged 0-3 years.</p>	<p>To register contact: AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org</p> <p>CDA: 5</p> <p>FREE</p>

Date	Training Title	Time & Address	Audience & Course Description	Registration CDA Area & Fee
Tuesday, 5/13/2025	<p>Managing Student and Educator Stress During Difficult Times</p> <p>Introductory</p> <p>Presenter: Alexis Rutishauser</p>	<p>6:00 PM to 8:00 PM</p> <p>In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108</p>	<p>All Providers</p> <p>This workshop focuses on unique stressors that students may face during difficult times, especially those related to home, societal expectations, and academic pressure. Participants will learn how to recognize signs of stress in themselves and their students to mitigate burn out, conflict, and behavioral concerns. This workshop includes exposure to classroom interventions/strategies.</p>	<p>To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org</p> <p>CDA: 5 & 6</p> <p>FREE</p>
Saturday, 5/17/2025 	<p>CPR & First Aid Certification</p> <p>Introductory</p> <p>Presenter: Jim Manson</p>	<p>9:00 AM to 2:00 PM</p> <p>In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108</p>	<p>All Providers</p> <p>This course is certified through the American Heart Association. It is a video-based, instructor-led course that teaches students critical skills needed to respond to and manage an emergency until emergency medical services arrive. Skills covered in this course include first aid; choking relief in adults, children and infants; and what to do for sudden cardiac arrest in adults, children, and infants. This course also covers anaphylactic shock.</p>	<p>To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org</p> <p>CDA: 1</p> <p>FREE</p>

Date	Training Title	Time & Address	Audience & Course Description	Registration CDA Area & Fee
Tuesday, 5/20/2025	Teaching Young Children with Disabilities Introductory Presenter: Andrea Capriotti	6:00 PM to 8:00 PM In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108	All Providers This training aims to prepare educational professionals to be successful in the classrooms and create naturally inclusive environments. Participants will build confidence in using the most effective and positive methods to implement when teaching young children with disabilities.	To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org CDA: 3 & 8 FREE
Wednesday, 5/28/2025	Do I Have Control Without Being Controlling? Introductory Presenter: Stephanie Koclanis	6:00 PM to 7:30 PM Zoom Live	All Providers In this training, providers will learn how to bring caring, trust, boundaries, and connection into their program. Providers will develop strategies to help children thrive in a structured environment without relying on control.	To register click here CDA: 5, 6, & 8 FREE

Date	Training Title	Time & Address	Audience & Course Description	Registration CDA Area & Fee
Monday, 6/2/2025, 6/9/2025, 6/16/2025, & 6/23/2025 	Strengthening Business Practices for Child Care Centers: Budgeting, Financial reports, Marketing, and Staff Recruitment Introductory Presenter: Stephanie Koclanis	5:00 PM to 9:00 PM (Session 1) 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM (Sessions 2, 3 & 4) In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108	Licensed Child Care Center Providers This is a 4-part series focusing on building and strengthening your business. There will be small group discussion and homework after each session. A business plan will need to be completed at the end of the series to achieve credit.	To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org CDA: 5 & 6 FREE *Registration closes at 5pm on 5/9/2025* *This is a series training. Participants must attend all 4 sessions in order for credit to be received*
Saturday, 6/7/2025 	CPR & First Aid Certification Introductory Presenter: Jim Manson	9:00 AM to 2:00 PM In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108	All Providers This course is certified through the American Heart Association. It is a video-based, instructor-led course that teaches students critical skills needed to respond to and manage an emergency until emergency medical services arrive. Skills covered in this course include first aid; choking relief in adults, children and infants; and what to do for sudden cardiac arrest in adults, children, and infants. This course also covers anaphylactic shock.	To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org CDA: 1 FREE

Date	Training Title	Time & Address	Audience & Course Description	Registration CDA Area & Fee
Saturday, 6/14/2025 	CPR & First Aid Certification Introductory Presenter: Jim Manson	9:00 AM to 2:00 PM In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108	All Providers This course is certified through the American Heart Association. It is a video-based, instructor-led course that teaches students critical skills needed to respond to and manage an emergency until emergency medical services arrive. Skills covered in this course include first aid; choking relief in adults, children and infants; and what to do for sudden cardiac arrest in adults, children, and infants. This course also covers anaphylactic shock.	To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org CDA: 1 FREE
Wednesday, 6/18/2025	Ish and Dot: Make a Mark and See Where it Takes You! Introductory Presenter: Stephanie Koclanis	6:00 PM to 8:00 PM In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108	All Providers *Free Books and hands-on activities for participants* Participants will engage in hands-on activities to extend, Peter H. Reynolds' books Ish and The Dot; which promote self-expression, kindness, courage, and creativity.	To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org CDA: 3 FREE
Wednesday, 6/25/2025	Director's Dialogue Presenters: Lisa Bock and Stephanie Koclanis	12:00 PM to 1:00 PM In Person YWCA 4990 East State St., Rockford, IL, 61108	Childcare Directors and Owners *Feel free to bring a sack lunch* Join our Director Dialogue for the latest CCR&R updates, networking with fellow directors (home childcare or centers), and gain actionable insights to elevate your program's quality and impact.	To register contact: Annemarie at AnnemarieT@ywcanwil.org FREE

Date	Training Title	Time & Address	Audience & Course Description	Registration CDA Area & Fee
For your convenience, we have added Icons to the Trainings that are Gateways Registry approved, ExceleRate or Health and Safety Trainings-please refer to the key below:				
 Gateways Registry Approved Trainings  ExceleRate Approved Trainings  Health & Safety Trainings				

IDHS Required Health and Safety Trainings For License Exempt Providers

One-time trainings:	Format:	How to Access:
CPR/First Aid	Hybrid (Online/In-person) and Traditional (In-person)	Approved CPR providers: American Heart Association; American Safety & Health Institute (ASHI); American Red Cross; American Trauma Event Management (ATEM); Emergency Care and Safety Institute (ECSI; Edward Atkinson/Emergency Response Health Network; Ellis & Associates, Inc.-Orlando, FL; EMS Safety Services; MEDIC FIRST AID; National Safety Council; Pro-Trainings, LLC; R.H. Sanders & Associates/Titan CPR Associates <i>*Contact CPR entities directly for time/dates of trainings*</i>
Child Abuse and Neglect/Mandated Reporter Training	Online	Link to website : Illinois Mandated Reporter Training (dcfstraining.org)
ECE credential: Level 1	Online through Illinois Gateways i-Learning system	Link to Illinois Gateways i-Learning: https://courses.inccrra.org .
Child Development, Health & Safety Basics: Six (6) hours	Online through Illinois Gateways i-Learning system	Link to Illinois Gateways i-Learning: https://courses.inccrra.org .

****CPR****

If you are unable to participate in one of the YWCA CPR and First Aid classes or classes are full, a list of alternate entities is below. You will need to follow up with the individual entities to find course offerings and times. If you have further questions, please follow up with your DCFS Representative.

List of approved CPR providers (Effective June 14, 2022):

1. American Heart Association
2. American Safety & Health Institute (ASHI)
3. American Red Cross
4. American Trauma Event Management (ATEM)
5. Emergency Care and Safety Institute (ECSI)
6. Edward Atkinson/Emergency Response Health Network
7. Ellis & Associates, Inc.-Orlando, FL
8. EMS Safety Services
9. Know CPR
10. MEDIC FIRST AID
11. National Safety Council
12. Pacific Medical Training
13. Pro-Trainings, LLC
14. Titan CPR Associates

ADDITIONAL ONLINE TRAININGS:

All Gateways approved trainings can be found at <https://courses.inccrra.org>.

You must be a Gateways Member to take the courses, become a member [here](#).

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Spring Reading and Family Events at the Rockford Public Library [Link](#)

Spring Reading and Family Events at the Freeport Public Library [Link](#)

Training Policies and Procedures

The following training policies and procedures apply to all YWCA Northwestern Illinois Child Care Solutions sponsored workshops and conferences.

Registration

- Pre-registration is required for all trainings.
- Typically, class size is limited. When class maximum has been met, registration will be closed.
- Participants are registered on a first come, first serve basis.
- Registration closes 7 days prior to the scheduled training date.
- Walk-ins are discouraged and may not be allowed admittance.

Training Participation

- Late arrivals—a 15 minute Grace Period will be given at all training sessions (including virtual trainings).
- This grace period begins at the advertised start time. Participants will not be allowed in after the 15-minute grace period.
- Early departures will not receive a training certificate; participants must stay until the training is finished.
- At the discretion of the trainer—if an attendee is considered to be disruptive in behavior, he/she may be asked to leave the training and will not receive a certificate or refund (if there was a fee).
- Adult learners' only; Children are not to be in attendance at training sessions.

Fees, Refunds, & Cancellations

- If YWCA Child Care Solutions cancels a workshop/series due to low enrollment all participants that registered will be contacted by phone or email no later than two days prior to the session and a refund will be processed, as applicable.
- If unforeseen circumstances occur, including but not limited to inclement weather, presenter cancellation/illness, or power outage, registrants will be notified as soon as possible. Every effort will be made to contact each provider via phone call or email.
- A participant may cancel a class for which they are registered up to 5 business days prior to the scheduled date to receive a refund. If it is 4 business days or less before the class is to be held, no refunds will be given nor will substitutions be made.
- Pre-registration fees are non-refundable for no-show registrants.

Certificates

- A certificate of attendance will be distributed at the end of each workshop/ or conclusion of a series.
- To receive a training certificate, participants must stay until the trainer is finished.
- Replacement certificates must be issued at the request of an individual participant. A processing fee of \$5.00 will be charged and the certificate will be held until payment is made.
- Certificates are only to be released to the individual who participated at the training.

Virtual Learning

- Please utilize a webcam to maximize the relationship and connection between trainer and participants
- Attendance, participation and interaction with trainer is required and will be verified through virtual platform
- Your safety and attention must be verified: No driving, shopping, etc. while participating in training
- Must complete evaluation form after each training, before certificate can be issued

YWCA Northwestern Illinois Child Care Solutions Provider Services CORE Team

How can we help YOU?

Carol Lyons - CORE Receptionist

- Handles all front office, administration duties for CORE team
- Responsible for greeting guests, answering phones, handling company inquiries and the sorting and distribution of mail

**Extension:
200**

Stephanie Jones - Referral Specialist (Lead) and Admin Support

- Provides customized child care referrals upon request and processes TANF referrals as needed
- Assists with processing all incoming child care provider grievances
- Provides administrative support and completes program related errands

**Extension:
224**

[Email
Stephanie](#)

Annemarie Toldo – Training & Technical Assistance Coordinator & Referral Specialist

- Creates and manages the quarterly training calendar for ongoing professional development
- Manages and processes applications for CPR/First Aid Reimbursement and Professional Development Funds
- Offers technical assistance regarding Gateways Registry membership, online trainings, credentials and accreditations, and various training related information
- Enters data for training registrations and provides applicable training certificates
- Back up to the Referral Lead

**Extension:
211**

[Email
Annemarie](#)

Leisha Kury – Community Systems Development & Grants Specialist

- Works and connects with programs and services across health, early care and education, family support, and social services
- Coordinates community outreach and collaborations
- Responsible for the promotion, technical assistance, receiving, and awarding of funds for:
 - Quality Improvement Cohorts
 - Training Stipends
 - Accreditation Assistance
- LECC Health & Safety Grants

**Extension:
204**

[Email Leisha](#)

Andrea Capriotti – Infant Toddler Specialist

- Promotes the ExceleRate Illinois program and offers technical assistance to licensed Family Child Care Providers and licensed Child Care Centers; assists with Silver Circle of Quality renewal process
- Coordinates consultations, trainings, observations, and assessments of children ages 0-3
- Assists with implementing Continuous Quality Improvement Plans

**Extension:
228**

[Email Andrea](#)

<p>Quality Specialist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes the ExceleRate Illinois program to licensed Family Child Care Providers and licensed Child Care Centers; assists with Silver Circle of Quality renewal process • Coordinates consultations, trainings, observations, and assessments of children ages 3-12 • Assists with implementing Continuous Quality Improvement Plans 	<p>Extension: 234</p>
<p>Silvia Diaz - Higher Education Workforce Navigator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruits and connects incumbent early childhood care and education workforce members with appropriate early childhood programs at 2- and 4-year institutions • Creates strong relationships with early care and education employers, members of the incumbent workforce, and ECE programs at 2- and 4-year institutions of higher education • Maintains an up-to-date and ongoing understanding of all early childhood programs offered by 2- and 4-year institutions within SDA1 • Provides assistance with the technicalities of completing the FAFSA to qualify for federal aid, access state scholarship monies for the EC workforce, and apply to the relevant institution and programs. • Local expert for the Smart Start Workforce grant. 	<p>Extension: 205 Email Silvia</p>
<p>Crystal Garkey - Data, Recruitment & Retention Specialist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintains and updates provider database • Assists in the recruitment and retention of child care providers • Offers information on starting a child care business 	<p>Extension: 218 Email Crystal</p>