



### Introducing the New TRS Assessor

My name is Jodelle Block and I am the new Texas Rising Star Assessor. Although I am new to Child Care Services, I am not new to Child Care. I have over twenty years' experience as a teacher and director of child care centers, and I recently retired as an elementary school teacher. I am excited to be the one to handle the final step in your journey of becoming certified or recertified as a Texas Rising Star provider. I know becoming a TRS Child Care provider is rigorous work, but the improvement to the quality of care you can offer is immeasurable. As a Texas Rising Star provider, you can receive maximum daily reimbursements based on your Star Level, as well as possible additional financial assistance toward the purchase of new equipment and materials for your center. I realize that everyone's ultimate goal is to provide the highest quality of care possible for our young children. Child Care Services is available to help you achieve that goal.

### UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

**Wed. and Thurs., August 1-2, 2018**

**Education Service Center Region 15**

*Building a Solid Foundation in the Early Years*

**Early Childhood Conference**

Keynote Speaker is a certified Conscious Discipline trainer.

**9:00 AM – 4:00 PM at Region 15; cost is \$25 per pay**

**Saturday, August 11, 2018**

**West Texas Training Center – San Angelo**

**Sharon Scallion**

*Fun with Math & Science Activities in the Classroom\**

*Preventing the Spread of Communicable Diseases\**

**9:00 AM – 3:00 PM; cost is \$10**

*\*Both courses align with Administrative & Practitioner (Caregiver) Texas Core Competency Areas*

**Saturday, September 8, 2018**

**Texas A&M AgriLife Extension / Region 15**

**“Wild About Kids” Child Care Conference**

**8:00 AM – 3:00 PM at Region 15; cost is \$25**

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**Saturday, September 29, 2018**

***Alphabets Under the Big Top,***

**a Literacy Workshop by Lakeshia Dorsey**

More info coming soon...

### MILITARY FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS NEEDED

If you are a LCCH or RCCH that might be interested in becoming a military family child care provider, please contact Carmen Trufant at Goodfellow Air Force Base about this wonderful opportunity. You may call her at 325-654-3239 or e-mail [maria.trufant@us.af.mil](mailto:maria.trufant@us.af.mil). The base will supply eligible caregivers with all of the materials and training needed to care for children of military families.



## CDA CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to our newest CDA-holders! These seven caregivers began this professional education journey last fall and have now earned their Child Development Associate credentials. We are so proud of these ladies for all of their hard work and dedication!

**Cristina Barba** – Eden CCCC in Eden, TX  
**Cassy Castillo** – Steady Steps in Mason, TX  
**Victoria Eureste** – Eden CCCC in Eden, TX  
**Juanita Menchaca** – Sonny's DCH in San Angelo, TX  
**Natalia Ramon** – Steady Steps in Mason, TX  
**Lisa Sanchez** – YMCA Preschool in San Angelo, TX  
**Patricia Thomas** – Steady Steps in Mason, TX

This brings the **total number of CDAs** earned with CCS-Concho Valley Workforce Development Board scholarships to **twelve** over the last two years!

## TRAINING RECAP

We had a full house for **Albert Wright's** workshop in June, and **Henry Munoz** from ECI packed the room for our July evening training!



Please be sure to register as early as possible for our CCS-sponsored trainings to ensure that you get a seat!

*Being a **Texas Rising Star** facility provides many valuable benefits! Contact Paige Bickford at 325-653-2321, ext. 1279, to find out more about becoming a TRS provider.*

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## Organize for a New School Year

With summer winding down, it's time to start thinking about the new school year. The beginning of a new school year is the perfect time to update and organize your child care space. To help you get started, here are a few suggestions:

- **Over-the-door clear shoe organizers** make great storage devices. You would be amazed at how much you can fit into those pockets. They conveniently hang on the back of a closet door, and you can see exactly what is stored inside.
- **Stand-alone containers** with clear drawers are the answer to finding what you need easily. Things get lost in file cabinets, but with see-through drawers you won't have to dig through file cabinets searching for or putting away things. Everything associated with learning units can go into the drawers. Small containers can be stacked to save space.
- **Plastic shoe boxes and magazine holders** create fool-proof storage spaces that you can maintain with almost no effort. Clear plastic shoe boxes are good for storing things so you can see what is inside at a glance.
- **Binders** are great for storing important paperwork in one place. Binders can house several sections, including:
  - calendars
  - year-at-a-glance
  - schedules
  - lesson plans
  - contact information
  - meeting notes
- **Label** all of your storage containers with the items inside using removable labels. As you get new items, you might consider throwing out some of the older things in your collection that you no longer use.
- **Chronology** is an important element for organizing materials. Organize and rotate your learning units in the order you plan to teach them throughout the year so they will be in order for the next year.

Keep your end goal in mind and work on refining your process. Some of the best ways to stay organized are to keep everything in one place, have a system that you can stick to, and take time to reflect and make notes as you go along. Staying organized will help you stay focused and allow you to create great lessons while keeping instruction moving ahead. Once you are organized, you will feel so good!