

# CHATTERBUG

December 2024



The month of December is full of fun and festivities. Here are some special observances to keep in mind as you and the children in your program celebrate this special time of year!



Dec. 1st - National Christmas Lights Day  
Dec. 12th - National Gingerbread Day  
Dec. 13th - National Hot Cocoa Day  
Dec. 18th - National Bake Cookies Day  
Dec. 26th - National Candy Cane Day

hello  
winter

## Reading



**Making friends is hard!**  
Once you find a friend, how do you BE a good friend? Jojo looks around and everyone seems to have friends but her. She feels sad and lonely. Then, Jojo meets Puddles, the snowman made with magic friendship snow. For every child who struggles to make friends and parents who try to show them how, this children's book celebrates the special bond between friends. Jojo will reassure children that they too can learn how to make friends. Join the more than 20,000 people who have read this book and discover how Jojo makes a forever friend.







# Office of Children and Family Services

## Regulations Review Outdoor Play

**GFDC 416.7 (h)**  
**FDC 417.7 (h)**

Programs must offer daily supervised outdoor play, except during inclement or extreme weather or unless otherwise prohibited by a health care provider. Parents may request and programs may permit children to remain indoors during outdoor play time so long as such children will be supervised by an approved caregiver.

**DCC 418-1.7 (k)**

Daily supervised outdoor play is required for all children in care, except during inclement or extreme weather or unless otherwise ordered by a health care provider. Parents may request and programs may permit children to remain indoors during outdoor play time so long as such children will be supervised in accordance with section 418-1.8 of this Subpart.





# Professional Development



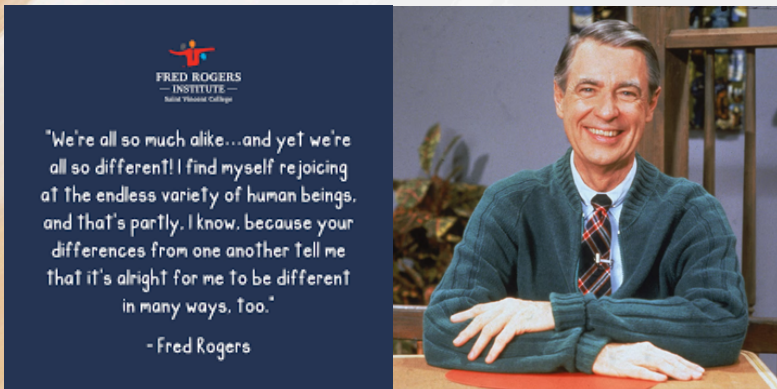
**Diversity:** The differences between people, including their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, language, ability, religion, socioeconomic status, and more

**Equity:** Ensuring that everyone has access to the same resources and opportunities

**Inclusion:** Creating a welcoming and respectful environment

**Belonging:** The feeling of being accepted and part of a community

**Refer to Page 7 of this newsletter for Grant opportunities to assist with DEIB!**



"We're all so much alike...and yet we're all so different! I find myself rejoicing at the endless variety of human beings, and that's partly, I know, because your differences from one another tell me that it's alright for me to be different in many ways, too."

- Fred Rogers

We believe everyone is special in their own way, and we want everyone to feel welcome and included, no matter how they look, where they come from, or what they like to do. We celebrate our differences and learn from each other to be kind and respectful friends."

## Ways to implement DEIB in your child care program

### Simple language:

Use easy words that children can understand, focusing on concepts like "different is good," "being kind to everyone," and "respecting others."

### Positive emphasis:

Highlight the benefits of diversity, emphasizing that everyone has unique talents and perspectives to share.

### Focus on inclusion:

Express the importance of making everyone feel like they belong and can participate fully.

### Concrete examples:

Use relatable scenarios to explain what inclusive behavior looks like, like sharing toys, saying nice things, and asking others to play.

YOU  
Belong!





# CACFP & Nutrition

Just a reminder that CACFP participants must have 1 hour of CACFP training plus civil rights for 2024. If you haven't completed training, please contact The Chautauqua Child Care Council.

Please contact Chris Wigren 716-661-9430 ext. 2269



## Banana Oat Cookies



### Ingredients

1 cup banana, mashed, use overripe banana  
1/2 cup yogurt, low-fat plain  
1/4 cup water  
1 cup quick oats (not "instant")  
raisins (1/2 cup, optional)  
sunflower seeds (1/2 cup, optional)  
cinnamon (optional)  
chocolate chips (optional)

### Directions

Wash hands with soap and water. Make sure utensils and counter top are clean.  
Preheat oven to 375 °F.  
Mix mashed bananas with yogurt and water.  
Add quick oats. Mix well.  
Add optional raisins or sunflower seeds if you wish and mix well.  
Add optional cinnamon to taste if you wish and mix well.  
The batter should be thick and easily to scoop with a spoon.  
Grease a baking sheet. Place a tablespoon of dough on the sheet, press lightly to make a flat disk. Repeat with remaining dough. Refrigerate if any is remaining in the bowl.  
Bake at 375 °F for 20 minutes. Flip cookies over and return to oven to bake 15 minutes longer or until cookies are crisp.

## Healthy Holiday COOKIES

### Ingredients

4 medium apples  
1 cup flour  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/2 cup brown sugar, packed  
1 cup oats, uncooked  
1/2 cup margarine, 1 stick (or butter)  
4 sprays of cooking spray

### Directions

Wash hands with soap and water.  
Preheat the oven to 350 °F.  
Put the flour, salt, baking soda, cinnamon, brown sugar, and oats in the mixing bowl. Stir together.  
Add the margarine to the bowl. Use the 2 table knives to mix the ingredients and cut them into crumbs.  
Lightly grease the bottom and sides of the baking dish with cooking spray.  
Spread half of the crumb mixture in the greased baking dish.  
Remove the core from the apples and slice them. Put the apple slices into the baking dish.  
Top the apples with the rest of the crumb mixture.  
Bake in the oven for 40-45 minutes.  
Cut into squares. It will fall apart easily.

## Apple Cinnamon Bars



You can use applesauce (16 ounces) or canned apples in place of fresh apples. You can use either peeled or unpeeled apples.



Food and Nutrition Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/main-dish-recipes-cacfp>





# *Child Care* **CONVERSATIONS**

On the 4th Wednesday of each month, the Chautauqua Child Care Council invites you to an informational Zoom Meeting. This one hour community forum has been created to discuss all things Child Care related. Please join the Registrars and special guest speakers as we discuss OCFS regulations, grants, community events and much more!

*Due to the Christmas Holiday, Child Care Conversations will take place on Wednesday, December 4, 2024 at 6:00 pm*

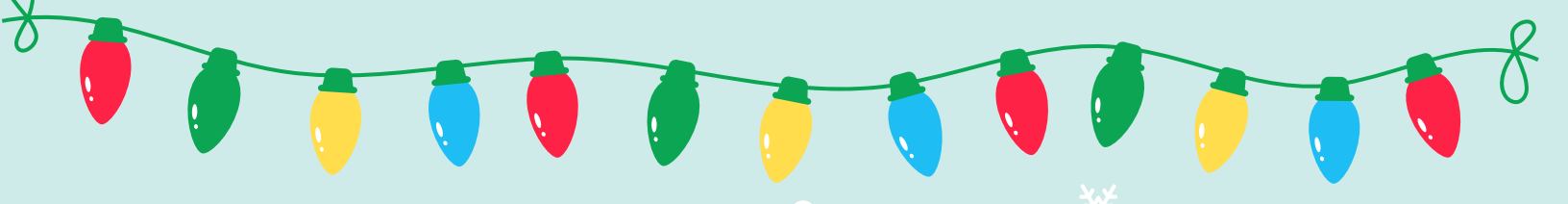
For more information contact the  
Chautauqua Child Care Council Registrars

Rebecca Potter  
rpotter@chautopp.org  
716-661-9430 ext. 2290

Christina Maddox  
cmaddox@chautopp.org  
716-661-9430 ext. 2289







The Chautauqua Child Care Council still has plenty of grants to help assist your child care program needs! These grants are designed to address the needs of the children in your care in a variety of ways that help promote social-emotional care, diversity, mindfulness, health & safety and business care.

These grants are available to all Registered/Licensed programs in Chautauqua County that are in good standing and meet the required capacity of enrolled children receiving child care assistance.

**Creating a Welcoming and Inclusive Environment  
(Culturally Responsive)**

**Business Care**  
FDC/GFDC only




## 2024 Grants

**Safe and Supportive Spaces  
for Children  
(Trauma-Informed)**

**Health and Safety**  
FDC/GFDC only

**Mindfulness and Social  
Emotional Care**



For more information contact the  
Child Care Council  
716-661-9430  
ext. 2290 or 2295



# Community Events



## Jamestown Holiday Parade

Dec 07, 2024 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Downtown Jamestown

Jamestown, NY 14701

Join us on Saturday December 7th 2024 for one of Jamestown NY's biggest events of the year when we hold the 2nd Annual Jamestown NY Jingle and Mingle Winter Festival and Gingerbread & Candy Land Holiday Parade!

There will be activities both for children and adults during the day with the Parade beginning at 6:00 pm. The famous Jamestown NY Christmas tree lighting ceremony will be on Tracy Plaza at City Hall and the night will be capped off with a spectacular fireworks show!

The parade theme will be Gingerbread & Candy Land!



## Holiday Whobilation at Chautauqua Safety Village

Wednesday, December 11th, 2024.

General Hours: 4:30 - 7:00pm

CSV Members hours are: 4:00 - 7:00pm

(members get early entry for pictures with Santa and craft before opening to the general public. All other festivities begin at 4:30pm).

Cost:

Admission: \$6 per person (All activities are included)

Children 2 and under are free

Admission includes all activities.



### Description:

The entire family will love our Whobilation Christmas Experience!

Take Your Own Picture with Santa

Decorate a Christmas Cookie with Mrs. Claus

Scope out the North Pole Observation Station

Meet the Grinch & Dare to Visit his Lair

Watch the Storytelling of the Grinch

Walk Among the Floats in our Interactive Stationary Parade

Take Your Own Paw Patrol & Frozen Character Pictures

Visit Santa's Workshop, Make a Craft, Play Games, & use the Cars Track

This event will take place in-person, and will be mostly outdoors. Please dress warmly.

The event ends at 7:00, admissions will close at 6:15pm. Please allow yourselves time to enjoy all the fun!

Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

Games include: Indoor snowball fight, Christmas bowling, skee-ball, rodeo bounce, Grinch bingo and so much more...



Dec 14, 2024 9:00 AM

Northwest Arena

319 West Third Street, Jamestown, NY 14701

Join Santa for Pancakes and Ice Skating at the Northwest Arena! This year we have added a little art craft and make sure you have your phone charged up for Pictures with Santa in our holiday wreath!

Kids under 10 years old the cost is \$5

Adults \$10

Tickets online or at the Northwest Arena



## Brunch with Santa at Pearl City Hops

Dec 14, 2024 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Pearl City Hops

150 West Fourth Street, Jamestown, NY 14701

Brunch with Santa at Pearl City Hops!

Join us Saturday, December 14th from 10am-2pm for a festive morning filled with holiday cheer!

Includes brunch, hot chocolate bar, face painting, arts & crafts, family photo opportunities, and a special present from Santa!

\$30 Adults | \$16 Kids (6-10) | FREE for Kids 5 & Under

Reserve your spot today: (716) 488-7227 ext. 0

Reservations required!



# NEW PROVIDER SPOTLIGHT!

*Kaelyn Horton*



**Meet Kaelyn Horton! Kaelyn is our newest Family Day Care Provider! She resides in Stockton with her partner Joshua and their daughter Novalee. Kaelyn is a great addition to Chautauqua County's Child Care Family!**



# Advocacy & Resources

Click any of the links below to learn more!



[www.chautauquaopportunities.com](http://www.chautauquaopportunities.com)



[www.chautauquaopportunities.com/  
chautauqua-child-care-council/](http://www.chautauquaopportunities.com/chautauqua-child-care-council/)



[www.empirestatechildcare.org](http://www.empirestatechildcare.org)



[naeyc.org](http://naeyc.org)



[childcareaware.org](http://childcareaware.org)



[www.earlycareandlearning.org](http://www.earlycareandlearning.org)



[www.zerotothree.org](http://www.zerotothree.org)



[www.parentnetworkwny.org](http://www.parentnetworkwny.org)



MyPlate  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

<https://www.myplate.gov>



Office of Children  
and Family Services

<https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/>

**Share The Chatterbug with your employees and your families!**

The Chautauqua Child Care Council is a division of  
Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.



CHAUTAUQUA OPPORTUNITIES, INC.  
HELPING PEOPLE...CHANGING LIVES...