

WINTER 2025



# SC CCRR QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

MERRY  
MERRY  
MERRY  
Christmas

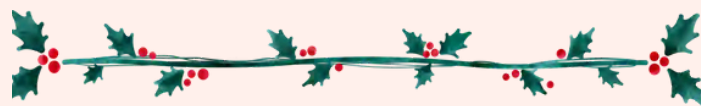
As we wrap up the year, the South Central CCRR team has been busy elves—working hard to complete new trainings so we can better support our wonderful SC providers.

Whether you need help with classroom setup, room arrangement, developmental concerns, or overall program support, we're here to lend a hand this holiday season and beyond.

During this season of gratitude, we want to thank you for the strong partnerships we're blessed to have across the region.

We look forward to a new year filled with learning, growth, and meaningful connections.

Wishing you a joyful Christmas and a bright start to the year ahead!



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SC CCRR is located on the campus of

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# TRAININGS



## Safe Sleep

January 10th  
9:00am - 1:00pm

## Loose Parts

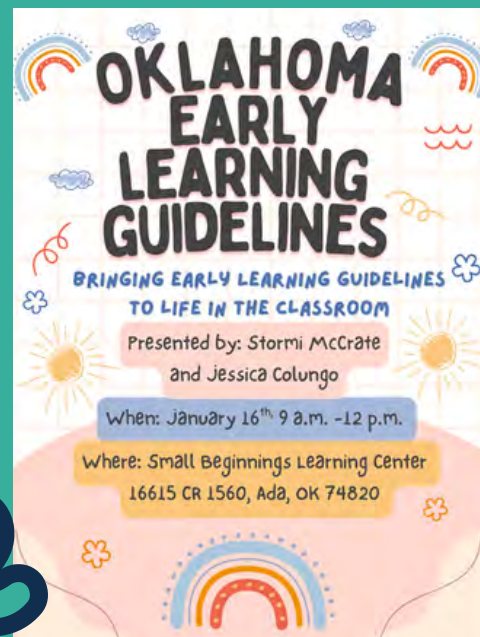
February 7th  
9:00 am-12 pm

## TBA

April 11th  
9:00 am-12 pm

# Save The Date

## CENTERS:

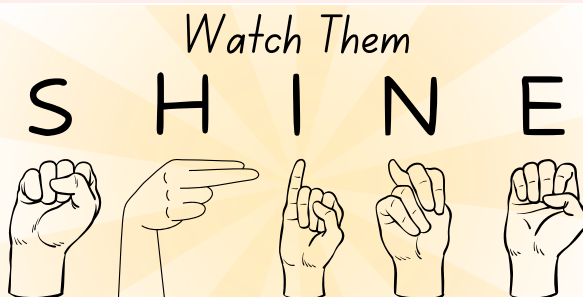


## A DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR OUR ANNUAL REGIONAL RECONNECT EVENT!!!

BE WATCHING FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION: JANUARY 2026!

# Regional

March 7, 2026



using sign language to spark connection

# Reconnect

Location: Ada, OK





# BULLETIN KITS

WE ARE  
MERRY  
AND  
BRIGHT



FROSTYS FIRST



PICTURE



These bulletin board kits are BRAND NEW  
and ready to be delivered!

SCAN THE  
QR CODE  
TO PLACE  
YOUR ORDER



ECU SC-CCRR'S

## MISSION:

to ensure all  
oklahoma families  
have access to  
quality child care  
through  
community-based  
resource and  
referral services

## STORIES IN MOTION

We've had so much fun on our Stories in Motion  
road trip this quarter!

It's been a joy visiting programs, sharing  
engaging activities, and seeing children light up  
as the stories come to life.

Thank you to all the providers who completed  
the update for a chance to be part of this special  
event—we appreciate your participation and  
enthusiasm.

We can't wait for more adventures ahead!







# CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

Click on the pictures for more ideas and instructions!



## Shared Services

*Needing ideas for fun activities or lesson plans?*

**Shared Services has you covered! They have a variety of ideas for multiple curriculum areas including:**

Outdoor Play

Nutrition

Theme-Based Lesson Plans

Emotional Regulation

Anti-Bias Education

Nature-Based Learning

Click on the area you want to learn more about!



**Families needing help?**





Need to  
Update your  
information???



Don't forget to  
follow us on  
Facebook:  
@ECUCCRR

## 9 TIPS to keep kids germ-free at school



Some things spread like wildfire in a school – the latest lingo, the latest trends and, unfortunately, the latest germs. Share these tips with your kids to keep them as healthy as possible:

Nearly **22 million** school days are missed each year due to colds alone.



### WASH YOUR HANDS.

Teach younger kids to scrub their hands in warm, soapy water until they finish singing the entire alphabet song. Teach older kids to count to 20 before rinsing.



### DON'T SHARE.

This applies to personal items, such as water bottles, earbuds, hats, hairbrushes and lip balms.



### COVER SNEEZES AND COUGHS.

Teach kids to sneeze and cough into the crook of their elbow or a tissue – not their hands.



### HANDS OFF YOUR FACE.

Teach younger kids especially to keep their fingers out of their mouths, noses and ears.



### SKIP THE WATER FOUNTAIN.

If your children's school doesn't allow water bottles, teach them to use the water fountain without putting their mouths on the spigot.



### EAT YOUR FRUITS AND VEGGIES.

A nutritious diet can give young immune systems a healthy boost.



### GET ENOUGH SLEEP.

Sleep helps keep kids' immune systems strong. Follow these guidelines per night:  
Ages 10 to 17: 8.5 to 9.5 hours  
Ages 5 to 10: 10 to 11 hours  
Ages 3 to 5: 11 to 13 hours



### GET THE FLU SHOT.

This is the single best way to protect your kids from influenza every year.



### STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL.

Sick kids' weakened immune systems may make them vulnerable to even more germs – and they need to avoid infecting others.

## business corner

### FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT TIP FOR PROVIDERS:

As you prepare for a new year, take a moment to review your monthly expenses and compare them to your enrollment patterns. Identifying slow seasons early helps you plan ahead, set aside a small cushion, and avoid surprise budget gaps. Even tracking just three key areas—food, staffing, and supplies—can give you a clear picture of where small adjustments can make a big impact.

Click here for a free  
“Essential  
Information for  
Childcare Provider  
Taxes” guide!



## HELPFUL RESOURCES

### Measles vaccine:

[cdc.gov/measles/vaccines/index.html](https://cdc.gov/measles/vaccines/index.html)

### Warmline:

[okwarmline.org](https://okwarmline.org)

### CECPD:

[cecpd.org/](https://cecpd.org/)

### DHS locator:

[oklahoma.gov/okdhs/contact-us/dhs-office-locations.html](https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs/contact-us/dhs-office-locations.html)

### QRIS:

[oklahoma.gov/okdhs/services/child-care-services/qris.html](https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs/services/child-care-services/qris.html)

### Scholars:

[okhighered.org/scholars/](https://okhighered.org/scholars/)

### ECU CCRR:

<https://www.ecok.edu/current-students/student-services/centers-programs/child-care-resource-and-referral-agency.php>

## PYRAMID MODEL IMPLEMENTATION



We still have a few spots open to become a Pyramid Model Implementation Site! If you'd like to learn more, reach out to Stormi McCrate for details.



**THE PYRAMID MODEL CONSORTIUM**  
Supporting Early Childhood PBIS

[Home](#)

[Programs Supporting the Pyramid Model](#)

[Resources](#)

[Practice-Based Coaching](#)

[Currently Implementing](#)

**CLICK HERE**



Oklahoma - Pyramid Model Consortium

## Oklahoma PYRAMID MODEL

Promoting Social Emotional Competence in Oklahoma's Young Children

### VISION STATEMENT

All Oklahoma early childhood practitioners, in partnership with families, will have the knowledge, skills, disposition, and supports necessary to nurture infants and young children's social-emotional well-being within their family, culture, and community.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Oklahoma Pyramid Model State Leadership Team is to develop the state infrastructure so that all early care, health, and education providers implement the Pyramid Model of positive behavior interventions and support with fidelity.



## OKLAHOMA PARTNERSHIP FOR SCHOOL READINESS



### Telehealth for Child Care Professionals

Get help & advice for the toughest work days without leaving for home. Now, child care professionals, state employees, and their families can seek medical advice anytime, anywhere without a visit.

#### HOW IT WORKS

Talk directly with a physician or licensed mental health professional on your schedule, anytime, anywhere within minutes by phone, video, or mobile app - 24/7/365



#### TELEMEDICINE

24/7 access to a board-certified doctor for non-emergency care for you, employees and their families anywhere, and anytime in order to get help with many common conditions, including: cold & flu, fever, rashes, asthma, allergies, sports injuries, sore throat, and more.

#### SERVICES OFFERED

- Unlimited care, no per-call fees or co-pays
- Services are completely confidential and available to employees and their dependents
- Prescriptions called into your local pharmacy



#### TELETHERAPY AND MENTAL HEALTH

24/7 access to a experienced therapists, counselors, psychiatrists and behavioral health specialists to support many common issues, including: alcohol and substance use, stress, life changes, trauma, and more.



PDG



OKLAHOMA  
PARTNERSHIP  
FOR SCHOOL  
READINESS



OPSR

Merry  
Christmas



Best  
Wishes  
to you

We want to share our sincere gratitude to Carrie Williams, our State OPSR Executive Director, as she embarks on the next step in her career. Carrie's strong leadership, steady support, and deep commitment have left a remarkable imprint on early childhood efforts throughout Oklahoma. We are grateful for her service, collaboration, and unwavering dedication to early childhood in Oklahoma, and we wish her all the best in the journey ahead.

### OKLAHOMA STRONG START

#### Helping Oklahoma's Child Care Workforce: Free ChildCareforChild Care Professionals

The Oklahoma Strong Start Benefit Program provides free child care to eligible staff working in licensed child care facilities. The program helps address the state's child care workforce shortage by easing costs so providers can stay focused on the children they care for.

#### Who's Eligible?

To qualify, applicants must:  
Work 20 hours per week (on average), either:  
Directly with children (care, supervision, education)  
In a supporting role at a licensed child care facility

#### Work in a facility that:

- Is licensed under the Oklahoma Child Care Facilities Licensing Act
- Participates in the DHS Child Care Subsidy Program

#### Meet income limits:

- Two-parent household: ≤ \$120,000/year gross income,
- Single-parent household: ≤ \$60,000/year gross income, or
- Have children enrolled in a child care program that participates in the DHS Child Care Subsidy Program

#### Program Benefits



FREE child care  
for eligible staff in  
licensed facilities



No co-pays for  
child care subsidy



Income-based  
support for eligible  
households

The three-year pilot is led by the Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness and Oklahoma Human Services, with funding authorized by House Bill 2778 and provided through the federal Preschool Development Grant.



Learn more at  
[okschoolreadiness.org/oklahoma-strong-start-program](https://okschoolreadiness.org/oklahoma-strong-start-program)



OKLAHOMA  
PARTNERSHIP  
FOR SCHOOL  
READINESS



OKLAHOMA  
HUMAN SERVICES