

RR.TRCAC.ORG | February 2025

## WELCOME TO EARLY LEARNING IN THE KNOW

# Resource Newsletter

We're so glad your here!

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR Program Director

Dear Families and Child Care  
Providers,

As we step into February, a month filled with love, warmth, and reflection, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible work being done by our child care providers and the families who entrust their children to their care. This month, we focus on nurturing connections, fostering growth, and supporting one another in our shared mission to provide the best possible care for our children.

#### \*\*Supporting Families in Finding Quality Care\*\*

Our Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) team is here to support families in finding quality child care options that meet their unique needs. Whether you're looking for full-time care, part-time programs, or specialized services, we're here to guide you every step of the way. February is a great time to reassess your child care needs and explore the resources available to you.

For providers, we continue to offer training, resources, and support to help you deliver the highest quality care. From professional development opportunities and technical assistance, we're committed to helping you thrive in your vital role.



**\*\*February Focus: Building Strong Relationships\*\***

This month, we encourage families and providers to focus on building strong, positive relationships. For children, these relationships are the foundation of their social and emotional development. Simple activities like reading together, playing games, or having meaningful conversations can strengthen bonds and create lasting memories.

For providers, fostering strong relationships with families is equally important. Open communication, mutual respect, and collaboration ensure that children receive consistent, supportive care in all environments.

Wishing you a February filled with love, joy, and meaningful connections.

P.S. Don't hesitate to reach out to our team if you need assistance or have questions. We're here to help!

Warm regards,  
Sheri Noble  
Program Manager  
The Resource Connection Child Care Resource and Referral

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The **Calaveras Child Care Needs Assessment** is here! This report highlights the child care needs in our community and how we can support both parents and providers.

Why does this matter?

- \* Helps shape future child care resources
- \* Supports working families & providers
- \* Strengthens early learning opportunities

Check it out at [www.calaveraschildcare.org/reports.htm](http://www.calaveraschildcare.org/reports.htm) and be part of the conversation!

THE CALAVERAS CHILD CARE COUNCIL HAS  
COMPLETED THE CHILD CARE NEEDS ASSESSMENT, A  
CRUCIAL TOOL IN UNDERSTANDING THE CHILD CARE  
LANDSCAPE IN OUR COUNTY.

WE INVITE YOU TO REVIEW THE FINDINGS AND SEE  
HOW THEY SHAPE THE FUTURE OF CHILD CARE IN  
CALAVERAS COUNTY!





Center on the Developing Child  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

## How-to: 5 Steps for Brain-Building Serve and Return - Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University

This how-to video breaks down serve and return into 5 simple steps and features adults and young children doing each step together.

[Read More](#)

How did you like this article?



### Friend, Family & Neighbor Care

TrustLine Background Check is a helpful tool for parents choosing a potential nanny or babysitter. Caregivers Registered with TrustLine, have no disqualifying criminal convictions, arrests or substantiated child abuse reports in California.

[Read More](#)

### FROM THE SUBSIDY DEPARTMENT



Providers, if you need additional attendance/claim forms, please click the link below to download and print them out, or please contact our office to have them mailed to you.

[Attendance Forms](#)



# Family Child care Fundamentals Series

Our 4 week online series will provide you with a solid foundation to start and run a successful and professional Family Child Care business.

## Designing your Unique Program, Activities and Curriculum

Tuesday, January 21st  
6pm-8pm

Explore ways to leverage skills and interests and create a unique program that is fulfilling and attractive to families. Come away knowing how to create activities that support a child's whole development while also supporting your unique program idea. Build a curriculum plan you love teaching and children love following.

## Environmental Design and Business Marketing

Tuesday, January 28th  
6pm-8pm

What sets your child care business apart? Plan an environment that supports children's social, emotional and cognitive learning. Practice creating different activity areas and identify which ones are best for your program. Learn the basic principles of marketing and planning for full enrollment.

## Contracts, Policies and Communication with Families

Tuesday, February 4th  
6pm-8pm

Build your professional relationship with clients by creating a contract that creates clarity with families and a handbook that supports both your business and the clients you serve. Learn communication best practices with families at the time of enrollment and beyond.

## Business Finances and Preparing for Taxes

Tuesday, February 11th  
6pm-8pm

Create a working budget for your business. Set prices that are fair and profitable and walk away with a better understanding of your finances. Identify and set up your best method for record keeping. Learn what costs you can deduct from your business income and how to calculate time/ space.

Contact for more information or  
assistance with registering:

Karen Frazier (209) 754-1075  
kfrazier@trcac.org

Workshops are  
held virtually.

Register online  
with QR code



**The Resource Connection**  
Engaging Families  
Empowering Communities  
Enriching Lives

## Amador & Calaveras County

# Work From Home!

Child Care Resource & Referral is your trusted partner in the path to starting your family child care business. We offer guidance, trainings and valuable resources.

Infant/ Toddler care & after hour/ weekend care needed!

Personalized support to help you succeed

Business start up reimbursement's and supplies available.



## DO YOU LOVE CHILDREN?

**CONTACT US!**



**209-754-1075**  
Karen Frazier



**8085 Hwy 26 Suite G**  
Mokelumne Hill 95245

**Visit us at [rr.trcac.org](http://rr.trcac.org) - Be a Child Care Provider**

### Work with us today

Have any questions about providing child care?

We have dedicated staff to assist you in obtaining your family child care license, building your business and professional development!

let's chat!

## GOOD TOYS ARE HARD TO FIND



**DON'T WORRY, YOU CAN BORROW OURS**  
Child Care Resource & Referral Lending Library

### ALL FUN AND **FREE**

Our lending library provides a free play - literacy learning environment for providers and families to explore and borrow really fun toys and educational materials. The collection is designed for infants- toddlers, preschool and school age children. The library also includes a wide selection of picture, chapter, parenting and Early Learning provider books.

### LOTS OF WAYS TO **PLAY**

Building blocks, and musical instruments for **creative play**. Toys for **dramatic play** such as cars, trucks, & farm animals. Marble runs and sequence beads for **sensory play**. Sports equipment for large muscle **physical play**. Books for all stages of reading, including child care provider **business support**.

### LOTS OF TOYS **LEND**

The Lending library offers a community resource that allows families, providers, teachers and agencies to meet the specific and growing needs of children in a cost effective way. **Items may be borrowed free of charge** for up to 3 weeks with a valid TRC lending library account.



[trcacrr.myturn.com](http://trcacrr.myturn.com)



**Check us out!**

Over 5,000 educational items available

We add new items monthly. 8085 Hwy 26 Suite G Mokelumne Hill 95245

Visit our library online

## RR (Resource & Referral) Child Care Provider Resources



FEBRUARY 2025 WWW.RR.TRCAC.ORG VOLUME #15

### CHILD CARE RESOURCE HUB PROVIDER NIGHT:

Thursday, February 20th 4:30 - 7:00 pm

We are excited to invite you to our Child Care Provider Night! This evening is dedicated to helping you connect with local child care providers, ask questions of our staff, and receive items to enrich your program. Our lending library will also be open and stocked with new items!



The Resource Connection  
Engaging Families · Empowering Communities · Enriching Lives

Thursday, February 20th is Child Care Provider Night! Join us from 4:30-7:00 p.m. Stop by and grab some much needed supplies to get your New Year started on the right foot!



## Grandparent Café

SUPPORT & RESOURCES FOR  
GRANDPARENTS RAISING  
GRANDCHILDREN

- Free Respite Program
- Quarterly Meet Ups
- Monthly Zoom Meetings

For more info call (209) 754-1075  
or email [dbohall@trcac.org](mailto:dbohall@trcac.org)

The Resource Connection  
Engaging Families · Empowering Communities · Enriching Lives

Are you a grandparent raising your grandchild in Amador County? We still have room in our Grandparent Respite Program. Contact **Danell Bohall** for more information.

Cataveras Children's Council Presents

**IT TAKES A VILLAGE** Rain or Shine

# Calaveras CHILDREN'S FAIR

**APRIL 5TH, 2025  
11AM TO 2PM**

For the safety of all attendees, please note that dogs are not permitted at this event.

Music \* Public Health \* Fire & Police Community Resources \* Lunch \* Car Seat Checkpoint \* Face Painting Reptiles & Animals \* Outdoor Activities **FREE!**

Calaveras High School  
350 High School St. San Andreas

For more information please contact: 209-754-1075 or kfrazier@trcac.org

Amador County Children's Council

**THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS...**

# SAVE THE DATE!

27th Annual **Celebrate Our Children Festival!**

Join us for Amador County's Premier Annual Event for Children & Families!

Check out photos from past years events, here: [amadorrccc.org/gallery](http://amadorrccc.org/gallery)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 26**  
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
**ARGONAUT HIGH SCHOOL, JACKSON**

Unlocking the MYSTERIES of Learning!

# UPK Universal PreKindergarten

## California's Great Start



### ENROLL AMADOR

## UPK MIXED DELIVERY WORKGROUPS

UPK Mixed Delivery systems offer a variety of early learning and child care settings to allow parents and guardians an authentic choice to meet the needs of their families. The local UPK Mixed Delivery Workgroup identifies program types available to families and develops clear access and information about these options. All meetings are open to the public.

For info, visit us - [www.enrollamador.org](http://www.enrollamador.org) & 'Enroll Amador' Facebook page

For questions, please contact us - (209) 754-1075 [esimmons@trcac.org](mailto:esimmons@trcac.org)

- THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10**  
3:30 PM
- THURSDAY, JANUARY 9**  
5:30 PM
- THURSDAY, MARCH 13**  
3:30 PM
- THURSDAY, JUNE 12**  
5:30 PM

### UPK Universal PreKindergarten ENROLL CALAVERAS

## UPK WORKGROUPS

ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

**TUES 22** **OCTOBER 22, 2024 @ 10:30 AM**  
Child Care Resource and Referral  
8065 Hwy 26 Ste G  
Mokelumne Hill CA 95245

**TUES 21** **JANUARY 21, 2025 @ 5:30 PM**  
Calaveras Office of Education  
185 S. Main St.  
Angels Camp CA 95222

**TUES 18** **MARCH 18, 2025 @ 10:30 AM**  
Child Care Resource and Referral  
8065 Hwy 26 Ste G  
Mokelumne Hill CA 95245

**TUES 20** **MAY 20, 2025 @ 5:30 PM**  
Calaveras Office of Education  
185 S. Main St.  
Angels Camp CA 95222

COME BY TO GAIN INSIGHT ON THE EARLY LEARNING AND CARE OPTIONS FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 3 AND 4 YEARS OLD. VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

**CONTACT US**  
[estackpole@trcac.org](mailto:estackpole@trcac.org)  
209.754.1075





## WORKFORCE PATHWAYS GRANT INCENTIVES

Through the Quality Counts California Workforce Development Grant, we help actively employed early learning and child care (ELC) professionals in Amador County to receive stipends and reimbursements for Child Development Permits, ECE college courses, and several other incentives!

- 1. Academic Achievement Stipends:** ELC professionals can receive stipends ranging from \$400 to \$900 for completing college coursework within or related to early childhood education
- 2. Child Development Permit Stipends:** ELC professionals can receive stipends for renewing, maintaining, OR upgrading their Child Development Permits. *This can be submitted every year, if you continue to keep your Permit current.*
- 3. Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential Stipend:** Professionals who earn a CDA credential can receive up to a \$300 stipend.
- 4. Mentor Appreciation Program Stipend:** Those participating in mentor programs at local colleges can receive up to a \$500 stipend upon completion.
- 5. Financial Support for Tuition and Books:** ELC professionals can receive reimbursements for their early childhood education-related educational expenses such as tuition and books.
- 6. Workforce Registry Profile Support Stipend:** Up to a \$300 stipend is available for professionals who need help creating OR updating their Workforce Registry profiles. *(Help must be given by our office)*
- 7. Culturally Diverse Books/Materials:** Attendees of dual-language workshops will receive culturally diverse books or materials.

These incentives aim to support ELC professionals' career growth, ensure access to quality education and resources, and promote cultural diversity in early learning settings. This plan also strives to help sustain and build the local ECE workforce in Amador County, by encouraging existing ELC professionals and those new to the profession, to remain in the field.

*All applications/requests for stipends, and supporting documentation are due by June 1, 2025.*

FOR QUESTIONS, AND TO APPLY FOR THESE STIPENDS, PLEASE CONTACT:

ERIKA SIMMONS  
AMADOR CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL  
(209) 754-1075  
esimmons@trcac.org



Complete your professional journey in Early Childhood Education today!



### About Us

Through Quality Counts California (QCC) efforts, The Resource Connection Child Care Resource and Referral plays a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of early childhood workforce pathways in Calaveras County by supporting providers actively employed in the early learning sector.

### Our Mission

The Resource Connection's mission is to engage families, enrich lives, and empower communities by providing essential resources and support in Amador and Calaveras Counties.

### Participants

Teaching in for Calaveras County Early Learning Providers

- Head Start Staff
- Private Preschool Staff
- Local Family Child Care Providers
- State Preschool Staff
- License-Exempt Providers

### Financial Support for Tuition and Books

ELC professionals can request assistance for their early childhood education-related educational expenses.

### Academic Education Stipends

Stipends ranging from \$400 to \$900 for completing coursework within or related to early childhood education and/or renewing, maintaining or upgrading their Child Development Permit.

### Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential Stipend

Professionals who earn a CDA credential can receive a \$300.

### Culturally Diverse Books and Materials

Attendees of dual-language workshops will receive culturally diverse books or materials.

### ECE Mentorship Program

Participants in mentor programs at local colleges can receive up to a \$500 stipend upon completion of 1,000 hours of on-the-job training.

### Workforce Registry Support

Up to a \$300 stipend for professionals who need help creating or updating their Workforce Registry profiles.

Complete the application HERE



Contact: Sheri Noble | snoble@trcac.org | 209-754-1075

## CP (Community Partners) Keeping Communities and Children Connected



Amador QUALITY FOR KIDS  
Supporting the Best Early Care & Education for Our Children

Are you a preschool teacher, childcare, or family, friend, or neighbor (FFN) provider?

Sign up today for Quality for Kids to earn some amazing incentives as you grow in the field of early childhood.

Incentives Include:

- Participation in ongoing campaigns
- Early childhood education and safety classes
- Learning opportunities-online, in-person, etc.
- Professional development hours

Learn about all the incentives and opportunities you can earn while participating in Quality for Kids, along with exciting NEW incentives added this year!

For more information call Aimee at (209)257-1092 or email q4k@first5amador.com

Our Partners:  
The Resource Connection  
Amador Child Care Council  
FIRST 5 CALAVERAS



First 5 Calaveras Sponsored Services available to Strong Start enrolled Family Child Care Providers (FCCP), Friends Family Neighbors (FFN) & Private Child Care Centers

- \* Social Emotional Development Coaching-** on-site coaching and support with social and emotional observations, environments, expectations and resources.
- \* Meta Services-** provides "free" mental health trauma informed services to children and families ages 0-5 that are not currently attending mental health services.
- \* Ready Rosie** – a free educational app – with modeled moments designed to bring valuable lessons into real life situations in an engaging way for everyone.
- \* Ready for Kindergarten** – booklets all about preparedness and options for tk/k in Calaveras County.
- \* ASQ** – Ages and Stages early childhood assessment, and developmental tracking tool.
- Strong Start Enrollment – Quality Improvement Plan and Professional Development Stipends.**

For more information contact Autumn Andah  
aandah@calaverascov.ntv.gov, 209-754-6916



## Early Care and Education Get Together

A Virtual and Learning Community, Available, Calaveras County, The Inman Center, San Diego

*Share, Listen, Support, Nurture*

**Dates:** 2025-1/8, 2/12, 3/12, 4/9, 5/14, and 6/11  
 4:30-6:30PM, 2nd Wed. of the month

**VIRTUAL** professional learning community. Monthly Get Together via Zoom.

Please RSVP one week before each session:  
 Allison Barr, Facilitator  
 Call or text: 209-481-7666  
 abarr@calaveras.k12.ca.us

**ARE YOU...**  
 A New Director? Site Supervisor? Family Child Care Home Provider? Aspiring administrator? Experienced Director with new challenges?

**Staff shortages, enrollment challenges, burnt out and exhausted? Feeling overwhelmed? Isolated? Want to start off the year on a positive note? Need a community of support and new ideas? Love to learn and grow?**

**THEN.....**  
 Come share your challenges and opportunities. Problem solve with others.  
 Receive support, resources, and build on your strengths.

↪ Professional growth hours available

## Early Care and Education Get Together

A Virtual and Learning Community, Available, Calaveras County, The Inman Center, San Diego

*Share, Listen, Support, Nurture*

**Dates:** 2025-1/8, 2/12, 3/12, 4/9, 5/14, and 6/11  
 9-11 AM, 2nd Wed. of the month

**VIRTUAL** professional learning community. Monthly Get Together via Zoom.

Please RSVP one week before each session:  
 Janet Davis-Cook, Facilitator  
 Call or text: 209-743-6157  
 jcook@caltel.com

**ARE YOU...**  
 A New Director? Site Supervisor? Family Child Care Home Provider? Aspiring administrator? Experienced Director with new challenges?

**Staff shortages, enrollment challenges, burnt out and exhausted? Feeling overwhelmed? Isolated? Want to start off the year on a positive note? Need a community of support and new ideas? Love to learn and grow?**

**THEN.....**  
 Come share your challenges and opportunities. Problem solve with others.  
 Receive support, resources, and build on your strengths.

↪ Professional growth hours available

# ENROLL AMADOR

Children who take part in early childhood programs and activities have improved social skills, do better in school, and learn important life skills that stay with them forever... which in turn promotes healthy, successful children and youth.

Scan QR Code here to visit the new ENROLL AMADOR WEBSITE, and see all options available in Amador County!

**Universal Prekindergarten (UPK)** is a Mixed Delivery System that brings together ALL of these program options in one simple, helpful place.

**Mixed Delivery Systems** offer a variety of early learning and child care settings to allow parents and guardians an authentic choice, to meet the needs of their own families.

**The new ENROLL AMADOR WEBSITE is your guide!**  
[www.enrollamador.org](http://www.enrollamador.org)  
 & 'Enroll Amador' Facebook page

For questions, please contact Amador Child Care Planning Council: (209) 754-1075

UPK Universal | California's Quality Start

## UPK Universal ENROLL CALAVERAS

Your guide to help families in Calaveras County choose the best early learning and child care options for their children.

Families with 4 year olds have many early learning options that include: TK, private preschool, care through family childcare homes, and subsidized programs.

[ENROLLCALAVERAS.ORG](http://ENROLLCALAVERAS.ORG)

Available from July 1st to Dec 31st 2023-2024

Available from January 1st to Dec 31st 2024-2025

Available from January 1st to Dec 31st 2025-2026

Find the best fit for you and your family by using our online guide!

Scan me

## FIRST 5 CALAVERAS SPONSORED 0-5 PLAYGROUPS

Mondays 10:30-11:00am @ The San Andreas Community Covenant Church Gym  
 Not in Session During CUSD Breaks

Wednesdays 9:30-11:00am @ The Rail Road Flat Community Center

Wednesdays Story Time 10:30-11:00am  
 Free Play 11:00am-12:30pm @ The San Andreas Library

Wednesdays 10:00-11:00 @ The Blue Mountain Youth Center, Main St. West Point  
 not in session during CUSD Breaks

Fridays 10:00am @ The Mokelumne Hill Library

Beginning in January 2025: Mountain Ranch Youth Center Monday Mornings more info coming soon

Scan me

# Playgroups

Free to all children ages 0-5 in Amador County and their Mom, Dad, Grandparent, or Caregiver

**All Sites 9:30-11:00am**

**Tuesday-Jackson**  
 First 5 Amador Learning Lab  
 975 Broadway, Jackson

**Wednesday-Ione**  
 Ione Memorial Hall  
 207 S Amador St, Ione

**Thursday-Plymouth**  
 Plymouth Community Church  
 18519 Poplar St, Plymouth

Playgroups will not be in session:  
 Nov. 26, 27, 28  
 Dec. 24, 25, 26, 31  
 December 5th and 12th (Plymouth)

For questions call (209) 257-1092 or check

Talk, read, sing, play

## Messy Mornings

"Learning Through Play"

"DRESS FOR MESS!"  
 Join us for messy, unstructured play time!

**EVERY FRIDAY**  
 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

First 5 Amador's Indoor/Outdoor Learning Lab  
 975 Broadway, Jackson

This playgroup is open to all Amador County children aged 0-5, and their parents or caregivers

Messy Morning will NOT be in session the following days:  
 October 18, November 1 and 29, December 27 (2024)

For more information, call 209-257-1092

FIRST 5 AMADOR

## RAIL ROAD FLAT COMMUNITY CENTER Play Group 2025

\*NEW DAY\* (starting February 6)  
**THURSDAYS 9:30-11am**

Families with babies and children 0-5 years old!

RRF Community Center is located at 298 Rail Road Flat Rd. across from RRF General Store (209) 293-4446

FIRST 5 CALAVERAS

Amador  
**QUALITY FOR KIDS**  
Supporting the Best Early Care & Education for Our Children

## Self-Care: A Guided Watercolor Workshop

Come enjoy a fun and simple way to make your self-care a priority by creating a one-of-a-kind watercolor piece to take home and frame.

- Thursday, February 13, 2025
- Dinner @ 5:30pm
- Guided Workshop @ 6:00pm

All materials will be provided for you, and you will receive a two-hour PD certificate and incentives to take home.

Child Care is available as needed.  
RSVP required

RSVP at  
209-257-1092,  
q4k@first5amador.com  
or QR





Hosted by Mrs. Lyman

## Music and Movement CLASSES

**Mondays**  
9:30-10:30  
Ages 0-5

**February 3, 10, 24**  
**March 3, 17, 24, 31**  
**April 7, 14, 28**

First 5 Amador  
975 Broadway, Jackson

This activity is funded by the California Arts Council, Amador Arts Council, and First 5 of Amador.

Mom-Me Time 

**February 6th**  
5:30 p.m.

Repeating with a new topic on the first Thursday of each month!

## Heart Healthy Habits

Do Your Part to Care for Your Heart

Presented by:  parents of teachers

Take home a complimentary gift \*while supplies last!

Win a special giveaway from: 

Light meal for Moms, Childcare available for 0-7. Light snack for children. Please call ahead if you need childcare. 209-257-1092



Meal Sora Rader, MS, NCC, DCC

First 5 Amador  
975 Broadway  
Jackson



Sponsored in part by the Heart Health Services Act 



# 2/2025 February



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		FCC Fundamental's 6p-8p	<b>REMINDER</b> Attendance sheets DUE			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		FCC Fundamental's 6p-8p			Happy Valentine's Day	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	PRESIDENT'S DAY Office Closed			Provider Night 430-7pm		
23	24	25	26	27	28	



[Find Child Care](#)

The Resource Connection Child Care Resource and Referral Services | 8085 Highway 26 Ste G | Mokelumne Hill, CA 95245-9423 US

(209) 754-1075 / [rrinfo@trcac.org](mailto:rrinfo@trcac.org) / Facebook

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