

Early Care & Education Projects

OUR MISSION: We educate, connect, and equip early childhood professionals.

OUR VISION: Enhancing the quality of care and education for young children throughout Arkansas.

April 15, 2022

Greetings Commissioners and guests,

Below is a brief update on the Family Child Care Network since the last commission meeting. We have been very busy working with amazing providers. We have lots of wonderful things going on across the state. Here are just a few of the highlights.

1. **Family Child Care Network Support:** Twenty-Five (25) % of Shaneil “PJ” Yarbrough’s time is now dedicated to working with the Family Child Care Network in the Ouachita and Nevada Counties in Region 4
2. **Family Child Care Network Support:** A Be Well Care Well Coach has been added to the Family Child Care Network in Washington and Benton counties in Region 1. Twenty-Five (25) % of her time will be spent working with the Family Child Care Network, while 75% of her time will be spent working with 10 Family Child Care Providers through the BWCW model.
3. **Providers in the Network:** We have continued to receive additional Memorandums of Understanding from licensed and unlicensed providers across the State. We have engaged with and received MOUs from 152 providers since July 2020.
4. **Brigance Developmental Screening Kits:** We have begun a campaign to provide Brigance Screening tool kits to providers across the State. Training Sessions have begun, and kits are being utilized in three regions thus far. We have trained 14 providers in 6 counties on how to use the tool. As they complete the screenings in their programs, we will work with them to make any needed referrals to the Educational Cooperatives and First Connections contractors in their areas. Our goal is to get screening kits in every region and every home. We encourage providers to screen at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year.
5. **Licensing:** The FCCN is currently working with 12 potential providers to license.
6. **Advisory Council:** We have added a provider from each region to the Advisory Council. That gives us five providers on the council to speak for the providers in their area.
7. **Leveling up in Better Beginnings:** We continue to assist providers on their journey to quality. We are very pleased with the number of homes that have chosen to commit to moving up in quality.
8. **Contacts:** During January, February, and March, the FCCN made 717 contacts with providers through calls, texts, emails, face-to-face, and ZOOM.

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