

Your Quarterly News & Updates Vol.3, Issue 2/Spring 2023
From The Wisconsin Association of Child and Youth Care Professionals, Inc.



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WACYCP BADGER BUZZ



"Meeting the needs of Wisconsin's Child and Youth Care Professionals"



Recognizing National Child Abuse Prevention Month

[GO HERE](#)

Join Us Today!

<https://www.wacycp.org/membership/membership-options>

Today you have the Wisconsin Association of Child and Youth Care Professionals (WACYCP). Whether you're exploring career options, newly employed, or celebrating another milestone, we help light the way. We provide the resources and support, where, how, and when you need it. By giving you access to training specialized just for you, we help you develop key competencies, which improve program outcomes. Better outcomes reduce errors and stress, while nurturing the spirit, which brought you to this work in the first place. We battle isolation and burnout by connecting you with a statewide network of supportive peers. We advocate for you as a professional in both public and private venues. We celebrate your victories and rally to your challenges.

Individual Memberships Are Free!

Inspired By This Newsletter?

Consider forwarding it to two CYC colleagues or friends.

Was this newsletter forwarded to you by a friend? Sign up here to get it delivered to your inbox quarterly: wacypmembervoice@gmail.com

Illustration: geralt on Pixabay.com

LOOK WHAT'S WAITING FOR YOU IN THIS EXCITING ISSUE:

- GREETINGS FROM THE WACYCP BOARD
- YES YOU CANMAKE IT HAPPEN
- ENROLL NOW!
- DID YOU HEAR THIS?
- NOW HEAR THIS
- IT'S A GUY THING
- BE AWARE WITH SELF-CARE
- GET HELP HERE WITH YOUR CYC CERTIFICATION APPLICATION!
- FROM THE BUSINESS SIDE OF CYC
- ATTENTION ADMINISTRATORS & SUPERVISORS: Training Your Night Shift
- GETTING OFF THE SIDELINES: It's Never Too Late To Invest In WACYCP!
- READY RESOURCES
- FROM CLASSROOM TO COMMUNITY
- PROFESSIONAL CYC CERTIFICATION WORKBOOK IS KEY TO SUCCESS
- READY RESOURCES
- CLASSROOM TO COMMUNITY
- READY RESOURCES
- AS THE TWIG IS BENT...
- DID YOU HEAR?
- SALUTE TO AGENCY MEMBERS:
- NOW HEAR THIS!
- YOUR AD CAN GO HERE AS A MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT!*

***Down's Syndrome Association of WI seeks Madison/Dane Co. office space (see ad)**

Editor's Comment: While we happily understand if you regard the Badger Buzz like you might a good book, you don't have to finish this entire issue in one sitting, as much as you might like to (LOL). We know there's a broad range of CYC information and resources in each issue, which reflects the scope of professional activities within our field. So, we suggest you take an initial scan of each issue, read what grabs your attention, then come back for a deeper dive later.

We're all very busy. But doesn't real life-long learning and personal professional development deserve more than the usual three-minute attention span and 15-second sound bite, which seems to have become the norm for most of today's social media formatting? We believe you'll be glad you did.

Is there something you'd especially like to read? Text us at (608)846-2860 or email us at propman46@gmail.com and we'll get right on it!

LIKE WHAT YOU SEE? FEEL FREE TO SHARE, ANNOUNCE, PRINT AND POST AS YOU SEE FIT. REPRINTS?-See terms and conditions at end of this issue.

WANT MORE? Join WACYCP (www.wacycp.org) and get the quarterly Badger Buzz as a benefit! Individual memberships are free.

SAY AND SHARE HERE! Would you like to write for the Badger Buzz? Contact Michael Mitchell at propman46@gmail.com or (608)846-2860 in Madison.

Greetings from the WACYCP Board

WACYCP PARTICIPATES IN GREAT CYC EVENTS!



Hello Fellow Badger Child And Youth Care Workers,

The WACYCP is excited to host 2 important events coming up in May 2023: International Thank a Youth Worker Day and 23rd Annual Youth Work Awards Event

Thursday May 4 th - a day to honor and thank all the tremendous youth care workers out there for all the hard work and dedication they give to the youth and families every day. We will also be handing out awards at our 23 rd Annual Awards Events to be held that night at

Doc's Smokehouse in downtown Milwaukee. Nominations are open and due by Monday April 17th .

SEE OUR FULL ANNOUNCEMENT BELOW!

The second event is the Direct Care Pre-Conference that is a part of the larger Annual Conference for Together the Voice.

Capturing Quality: Equity, Experience, Efficacy



www.togetherthevoice.org

ACRC in
Minneapolis
2023

Marriott City Center
May 16-19

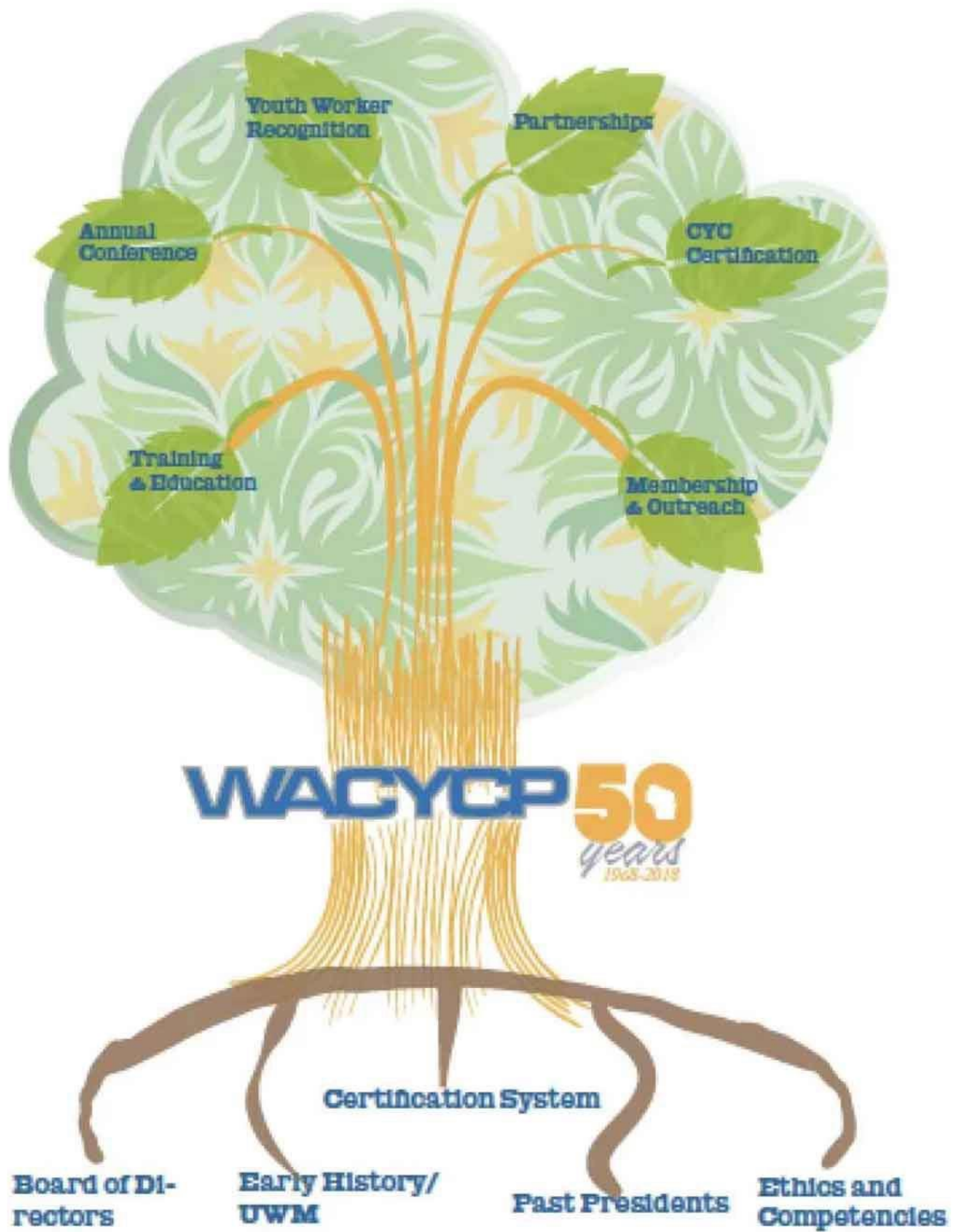


WACYCP plans to coordinate a group of youth workers to attend this special event, with transportation being provided up to Minneapolis. If you are interested in attending, contact WACYCP Board Member Jody Rhodes at jodyrhodeswi@gmail.com and she can give you all the details. More information on the whole conference can be found at the link below:

Annual Conference - Association of Children's Residential & Community Services (ACRC) (togetherthevoice.org)

Enjoy this copy of the Badger Buzz,

Romero Ference
WACYCP Board President



Yes, You Can Make It Happen!

SPRING FORWARD AND GET CERTIFIED OR RENEW

TODAY



“Certification has helped me consolidate the many workshops, webinar, trainings and conferences I attend every year into one recognized professional document, without overloading my resume.”---Michael

The Child & Youth Care Certification Board (CYCCB) provides an assessment process and certification to child and youth care practitioners who demonstrate their commitment to high standards of care and commitment to ongoing competence development. The CYC certification program is the most rigorous demonstration of competence in the field.

Steps in the Certification Process: CYCCB uses a multi-method approach to competence demonstration. Certification

is awarded to candidates who successfully demonstrate their CYC competence through completion of all the steps listed below:

STEP ONE – CHOOSE LEVEL

Determine which certification level best describes your experience, training/education and level of competence. Choose the highest level at which you qualify. Practitioners can apply at any of the three CYC certification levels: Entry(CYC), Associate (CYC-A), and Professional (CYC-P). It is not necessary to complete certification at a lower level before applying at a higher level. The Entry and Associate Levels are not available in Canada.

STEP TWO – TEST

Schedule and complete testing with a passing score. Practitioners are typically able to pass the situational judgement exam at the highest level for which they qualify.

STEP THREE – COMPLETE APPLICATION

Complete an application form for the level chosen and provide supporting documentation. This includes documenting: 1) minimum requirements of education, experience & training; 2) provision of colleague references & supervisor assessment; 3) proof of membership in a professional association; 4) agreement to abide by ethical standards; and 5) confirmation of eligibility to work with children, youth & families.

STEP FOUR – COMPLETE PORTFOLIO

Complete a written portfolio (professional level only).

STEP FIVE – RENEW CREDENTIAL

Renew certificate on a two-year cycle.

**SEE BELOW FOR A WORKBOOK AND WEBINAR ASSISTANCE
START TODAY! YOU’LL BE SO GLAD YOU DID!**

Illustration: rawpixel on Pixabay.com

CYC Certification

HIRE THE COMPETENCE YOU NEED



Get your jobs in front of people that are CYC qualified

CYCCB LAUNCHES WORKFORCE CONNECTION

Practitioners certified by CYCCB are some of the most qualified people in the youth services profession.

CYCCB recently launched WORKFORCE CONNECTION so employers looking for staff can get their jobs in front of people that are qualified and have demonstrated competence in the knowledge and skills they are seeking to hire.

[For more information or to list a job](#)



Did You Hear This?

23RD ANNUAL WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF CHILD AND YOUTH CARE PROFESSIONALS (WACYCP) YOUTH WORK AWARDS CELEBRATION



Ceremony to be held in person on Thursday May 4 th at 6:30 pm
Doc's Smokehouse, 754 N Vel Phillips (4 th Street) downtown Milwaukee
For reservations go [HERE](#)

We are seeking nominations in several categories for youth work done in 2022. All nominees and nominators will receive a special invitation to this free virtual awards ceremony.

Nominating Categories Include:*

- ♥ Youth Care Worker of the Year: Working with Youth Aged 6 to 12
- ♥ Youth Care Worker of the Year: Working with Youth Aged 13 to 18+
- ♥ Youth Work Supervisor of the Year
- ♥ Youth Work Newcomer of the Year (must be in first 2 years of youth work)
- ♥ Dedication Award
- ♥ Youth Work Volunteer of the Year
- ♥ Program/Agency of the Year

All nominations must be done online at www.wacycp.org
ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5 pm FRIDAY APRIL 21th
If you have questions, please email the WACYCP office at: wacycp1@sbcglobal.net

Only one nomination per agency per category is allowed. The maximum number of nominations per agency is 7 (one per category).

* From all the nominations a group of candidates will be nominated for the
“WACYCP Youth Care Worker of the Year: State of Wisconsin”

To see a list of previous winners, go [HERE](#)
Show Your CYC Colleagues Some Love Today!

Special Feature!

THEY'RE TURNING WISCONSIN DOWN-SIDE UP!



By Rachel Reit

The Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin's (DSAW) mission is to provide support to Wisconsin families and individuals with Down syndrome and related disabilities through awareness, education, information, programs, services, and the exchange of ideas and experiences.

DSAW offers services for individuals across their lifespan, from the moments following a diagnosis through old age. We also support the families and networks of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

Parent's First Call for New and Expectant Parents

DSAW provides baskets to new and expectant parents filled with books, community resources, and fun goodies for our new families.

Support Parents & Support Groups

DSAW matches new and expectant parents with Support Parents - other parents of children with Down syndrome who have walked in their shoes, and can provide friendship and support. DSAW also offers Support Groups for parents, grandparents, siblings, and more.

Education

DSAW offers full resource libraries online for parents and caregivers. We also have a digital webinar library. We provide trainings to schools, employers, and the community. We educate medical professionals on how to deliver a diagnosis of Down syndrome and how to work with patients with disabilities.

Fraternal Support

DSAW puts on fun, family events across Wisconsin to foster fraternal support and community.

Awareness

DSAW works to raise awareness of Down syndrome and other disabilities in the community. We host eight Awareness Walks across the state of Wisconsin, in addition to awareness media campaigns.

Home & Community-Based Services

DSAW offers Home & Community-Based Services (HCBS) to children and adults with IDD. We provide one-on-one services and skills training, group programs, and classes. Our DSAW Connects virtual education series is for children ages 10+. These virtual classes focus on topics ranging from social skills to cooking to sports. DSAW staff also provide one-on-one daily living skills training at home and/or in the community. We can work with children and adults on skills such as learning to count money, easy meal prep/kitchen skills, safety, social skills, self-care, potty training, and more.

Employment Services

DSAW offers Employment Services including career discovery, work readiness, and work-based learning to people with disabilities in Wisconsin. We also provide employer training and education.

Aging Services

DSAW works to serve aging individuals with Down syndrome and their families. We have support opportunities for loved ones and caregivers, educational opportunities, resources, and more.

The Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin is committed to empowering families and individuals with Down syndrome and related disabilities to exceed expectations. To learn more about our work, please visit

www.dsaw.org.

Rachel Reit (she/her)

Director of Marketing & Development

Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin

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West Allis, WI 53227

Phone: (414) 327-3729 ext 104

rreit@dsaw.org | dsaw.org

Please note my new email address rreit@dsaw.org

BREAKING BULLETIN: Disability Advocates: Possible Long Term Care Participant Changes
[Go HERE](#)

[AND GO HERE](#)

It's a Guy Thing

FREE CLASS MAY 17: PRIORITIZE YOURSELF IN A NONSTOP WORLD



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the Nonprofit Leadership Center and was first posted April 11, 2023.]

Nonprofit professionals face a high risk of burning out. To effectively care for others, we must first care for ourselves, but that's easier than it sounds.

Register now for a FREE, one-hour virtual class on May 17 to learn how to prioritize yourself in a nonstop world. You'll learn how to design a personal roadmap for self-care that can be modeled at all levels of your organization, develop strategies to shift organizational culture to one that prioritizes learning over performance, and identify ways funders can support your team's mental health and well-being.

[GO HERE TO REGISTER](#)

BONUS FEATURES

12 Unmistakable Signs You're A Sigma Male

Traditional Ideas of Masculinity Trap a Lot of Men. It's Time to Escape

If You Have To Choose One, Should You Sleep Or Exercise?

Why Friendships Among Men Are So Important

Illustration: PublicDomainImages on Pixabay.com

Be Aware With Self Care!

AVERAGE BLOOD PRESSURE BY AGE: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the author and Verywell Health, and was updated October 26, 2022. To subscribe to Verywell Health, go to: <https://www.verywellhealth.com/news-4846412>]

GET YOUR FLU SHOT AND NEW COVID BOOSTER TODAY!

By Sheryl Huggins Salomon

Blood pressure (BP) measures the force pressed against the walls of your arteries as your heart pumps blood through your body.

Average blood pressure differs by sex and tends to rise with age. It's important to know how blood pressure affects your health.

This article covers how healthcare providers differentiate between "normal" blood pressure and hypertension (high blood pressure) and includes blood pressure charts by age and gender. It will also discuss the health risks involved with hypertension, how you can monitor your blood pressure, and when you should call your healthcare provider.

READ MORE

BONUS FEATURES

Do We Need A Spring COVID-19 Booster?

Sweet Tea: A Native Son Speaks Truth To Power In The Black Community

How To Stop Being Late

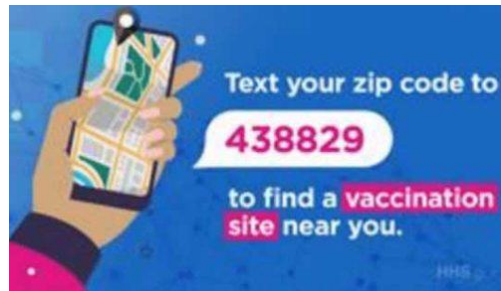
How To Be Less Judgmental

Recovering Perfectionists Discuss Importance Of Striving For Progress, Not Perfection During Women Of Power Summit

How to Relieve Tired Eyes

Illustration: gerdalt on Pixabay.com

[Editor's Note: ALSO...Everyone age 6 months and older is eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine at no cost [THIS PROGRAM EXPIRES SOON!]. Remember, if you or a loved one are unvaccinated, you're at higher risk of getting seriously ill from the virus and spreading it to others. Although this editor was vaccinated and boosted, I still contracted COVID in the hospital while undergoing an elective procedure! Be aware with self care!]



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



A virtual marketplace of professional development for Child and Youth Care Practitioners.

What our clients say:

There is an **AMAZING** range of content available at CYC Source.

Buy the packages, they save you money and make it easy for groups to access the same content. Renewing your CYC Certification? CYC Source has continuing education content you need!

[GO HERE](#)

HELP APPLYING FOR CERTIFICATION

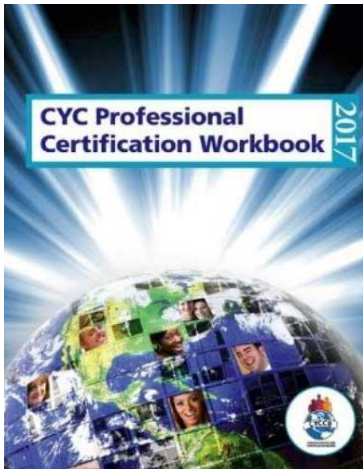


CERTIFICATION HELP WEBINARS

CYCCB offers monthly webinar-based Certification Help. If you have questions about how to get started or need help completing your certification application, references, documenting your training and experience, or finishing your portfolio, [sign up for one of our webinars](#).

If you need immediate help, call the CYC Office (979) 764-7306 or email CYCcertification@YouthWorkAcademy.org or visit the website at www.CYCCB.org

ORDER CERTIFICATION WORKBOOK



Whether you are preparing for testing, completing an application, or simply exploring how to improve your CYC knowledge and skills, this workbook is designed for you. The workbook is available for \$30 (shipping cost included).

MORE INFORMATION & ORDER WORKBOOK

“If the only tool you have in your toolkit is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail.”— Abraham Maslow

GET TESTED



CYC CERTIFICATION TESTING

Learn about the in-person and virtual testing programs

REGISTER FOR ONLINE TESTING

When you are ready to proceed with virtual testing.

From The Business Side Of CYC

\$1 MILLION FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FROM MCKENZIE

SCOTT

Scholz NONPROFIT LAW LLC

Practical Legal and Strategic Advice for Nonprofits

[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the Scholz Law Firm which has been instrumental in helping both the Global Support for Kids Initiative USA (GSKI) and, most recently, the Association for Child and Youth Care Practice (ACYCP) obtain their respective 501c(3) tax-exempt non-profit incorporation.]

Yield Giving, McKenzie Scott's philanthropic organization, is now accepting applications for \$1 million grants. This funding opportunity is for "community-led, community-focused organizations whose explicit purpose is to advance the voices and opportunities of individuals and families of meager or modest means, and groups who have met with discrimination and other systemic obstacles."

Any nonprofit in the United States that has had a \$1M - \$5M operating budget for two of the last four fiscal years is eligible to apply. 250 nonprofits will be selected to receive one of the \$1 million unrestricted awards, totaling to \$250 million in grant donations from Ms. Scott. Interested nonprofits must [register](#) for the open call by May 5, 2023 and submit their full application by June 12, 2023. The 250 chosen nonprofits will be announced in 2024.

Yield Giving is partnering with Lever for Change to implement a three step review process to select awardees. The first step will check nonprofits' eligibility, while the second and third step will review and score organizations. In the second step, fellow applicants will score applications with a rubric. The [scoring rubric](#) considers a nonprofit's commitment to equity, proven record, community representation within the organization, and organizational capacity. The top 1000 applications that make it to the third step will be considered by a 158 person evaluation panel of nonprofit leaders. McKenzie Scott's team will then make final decisions about the awardees.

Scholz Nonprofits Law has many clients who would be a great fit for this open call, and we encourage

all eligible nonprofits to apply to this great opportunity.

If you have any questions, Scholz Nonprofit Law is here for you. Please let us know how we can help by emailing Melissa, Jeff, Jessica, or Sarah.

Contact our office

PHONE
(608) 268-0076

EMAIL
Melissa Scholz:
melissa@scholznonprofitlaw.com
Jessica Harrison:
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612 W. Main Street, Suite 301
Madison WI 53703

Thanks to Emily Kuttner for writing this update.

[Register for Scholz Nonprofit Law Updates or View Past Posts](#)

Note: The guidance provided by Scholz Nonprofit Law is intended as general guidance and providing such advice does not establish a lawyer-client relationship.

BONUS FEATURE

[What You Should Know About Long COVID in the Workplace](#)

[Winning With Wisconsin's Workforce](#)

Enjoy!

Attention CYC Administrators & Supervisors!

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO TRAIN YOUR NIGHT SHIFT?



Are your staff looking for Professional Development to maintain licensing & certification compliance?

ACYCP HAS YOUR BACK!

ACYCP has a wealth of archived trainings available 24/7 that allow you to pursue your professional development goals when it is most convenient. The content is **CURRENT, INTERESTING**, and provides certificates of completion so you can document the training you complete.

Bundles of trainings are being developed so that important content on **COMMUNICATION, SELF-CARE, RELATIONSHIP BUILDING**, and other topics can be purchased together. This will allow supervisors to assign new staff a bundle of relevant training that they can complete 24/7 as time allows.

ACYCP Members receive a discount on any of these trainings. Contact: Michael Mitchell at acycpmembervoicemjm@gmail.com For a discount coupon. ACYCP membership verification is required for discount. To join ACYCP, go to: www.acycp.org/membership

Trainings can be purchased in bulk by contacting [Laura Klemm](#).
For more information on [bulk purchases](#).
Contact Us Today! ◇

Getting Off The Sidelines

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO INVEST IN WACYCP



Did you know that WACYCP is an all-volunteer 501(c) (4) tax exempt organization?

Every year those associated with WACYCP **donate hundreds of hours in service to the organization**, to benefit the Wisconsin child and youth care professionals, which it serves. Many also dig down into their own pockets to cover travel expenses, accommodations and other expenditures needed to complete strategic tasks, in service to our vision and mission.

In addition, there are the scholarships and award, which WACYCP bestows annually to deserving recipients within WACYCP and across the Wisconsin profession at large. In trying to return maximum quality to our members, we try and keep agency dues as low as possible, while keeping membership value high.

We also need to contract with commercial services to help us with those technical and specialized skills, which we're unable to cover with our volunteer resources. Database management, website design and hosting, on-line publication distribution, and membership dues to allied organizations, are just a few of these many expenditures. This leaves little left over to cover daily operating costs or special projects.

That's where you can help us carry the financial load.

Please donate to WACYCP today!

You can give today or include WACYCP in your estate planning. You can make a donation on behalf of yourself, in honor of someone else, or on someone else's behalf (gift?)- your choice! Make your

donation online (below) or send your check or money order to:

WACYCP, Inc.
PO Box 510423
Milwaukee, WI 53203
Phone: (414) 519-3130

Please feel free to share this information with other WACYCP and CYC colleagues.◇

Ready Resources

TEEN STORYSTARTER WORKSHOP



Theme: Spill The Tea

Date: Wednesday, May 3rd
Time: 4:15-5:30 pm
Location: Newline Cafe
Doors Open: 4:00 pm
Price: FREE

Own your story! There is only one you, and your story is unique. Discover, shape, and share your stories with confidence.

No preparation needed! In this workshop, experienced storytelling coaches will guide you through an interactive activities covering the need-to-know details of the craft. Working in small groups, you'll learn effective storytelling skills, connect with other storytellers, and prepare for the upcoming Teen StorySlam on May 24th. Workshop will be led by Alea and JJ.

Theme

Tea is the best kind of gossip, typically shared between friends. It is a bonding tool for people of all ages. It is a true, personal story that is filled with details that appeal to the senses, told in a very authentic first-person voice.

This workshop gives you...

- A step-by-step guide to crafting a story
- The confidence to someday tell your story on our stage
- Simple storytelling framework you can use everyday
- The tools to become a superb storyteller or public speaker

*This workshop is only open to teens.

WHAT WE DO

Our vision is a radically inclusive community that honors the dignity of all people, so we leverage personal stories to help community members grow, connect, and heal. Today, programs include a season of public StorySlams and workshops, collaborations with businesses and nonprofits, and media partnerships that extend the reach of stories told onstage. In the past 12 seasons, Ex Fabula has engaged over 36,000 individuals and brought over 1,500 stories to the stage in the Greater Milwaukee region. Our innovative community building efforts have been recognized with a MANDI award from LISC for our Deaf Storytelling programming and a Unity Award from Milwaukee Magazine.

GO HERE FOR MORE

AND...

Enjoy!

From Classroom to Career

TEACHER SHARES TRAUMA-INFORMED STRATEGIES



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted from Resilient Wisconsin and Education Week and posted March 9, 2023.]

By Hayley Hardison

Getting students engaged with academic content begins with relationships and ensuring their basic needs are met.

That's according to Carey Arensberg, a 4th grade teacher in Alabama who leverages her social media platform to share trauma-informed teaching tips and practices with other educators.

Arensberg's emphasis on positive student-teacher relationships aligns with a body of research. Education Week reporter Madeline Will recently wrote in a new special report on the topic of student motivation and engagement that when students have an adult they can trust in their school building, they see "increased attendance, better grades, higher test scores, a sense of belonging and connectedness at school, and belief in one's self as a learner."

READ MORE

BONUS FEATURES

[Student Efforts Put a Spotlight on Mental Health Strategies, Reduce Stigma](#)

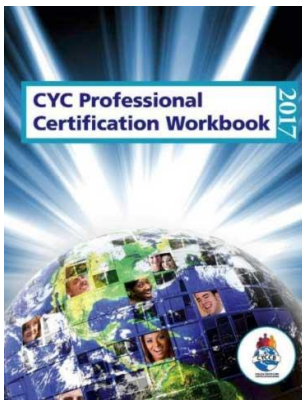
[Screening For Trauma Responsive Schools Implementation \[Video\]](#)

[2023 Plasticity of Well-being Summer Workshop \[UW-Madison\]](#)

Enjoy! ◇

Illustration: Gerd Altman on Pixabay.com

CYC PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION WORKBOOK : GET IT NOW AND COMPLETE THAT CERTIFICATION TODAY!



CYCCB is pleased to announce that the long awaited ***CYC Professional Certification Workbook*** is now available. The workbook is designed to help child and youth work practitioners prepare and apply for professional certification (CYC-P) offered by the Child & Youth Care Certification Board.

It provides a wealth of information in an easy-to-use format. It includes information on the history of the CYC certification effort, characteristics of certified practitioners, the testing and application process, forms, costs, and sources for a wide variety of articles, publications, and professional development supports useful to CYC practitioners working in any setting. The sections on test preparation and the professional portfolio offer sample exam questions and portfolio responses. Information about the Entry, Associate, and Professional level certifications is included.

The workbook is in response to the need for a one-stop source of information that addresses applicant questions and needs. Whether you are preparing for testing, completing an application, or simply exploring how to improve your CYC knowledge and skills, this workbook is designed for you. The workbook is constructed with tabbed sections to make it easy to find answers for whatever certification related questions you might have.

The workbook is available from CYCCB for \$30 (which includes shipping costs).

[Order a manual at this LINK](#)

Around Wisconsin

UW HEALTH CONFIRMS IT HAS SEEN CASES OF EMERGING DEADLY FUNGUS, SAYS PUBLIC SHOULDN'T WORRY RIGHT NOW



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the author and to WKOW.com and was first posted on March 28, 2023..]

MADISON (WKOW) -- A newly emerging and potentially deadly fungus considered an "urgent threat" by the CDC has been spotted in UW Health facilities, an infectious disease physician confirmed to 27 News.

Candida auris is a fungus that appears to be drug resistant and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has labeled it a "serious global health threat."

Infectious Disease Physician Dr. Dave Andes said what makes the fungus particularly dangerous is its ability to resist treatments.

"It's uncommon, but it is dangerous for a number of reasons," Andes said. "One being that we don't have very many effective therapies."

[READ MORE](#)

BONUS FEATURES

[More Than 100 Children Illegally Employed In Hazardous Jobs](#)

[Courage MKE Expanding Into Transitional Housing for LGBTQ+ Young Adults](#)

[Retaliation Against Retired Priest Anti-sex Abuse Stance](#)

[Framing The Debate Over Sex Abuse](#)

[Revitalize Milwaukee Gets \\$1 million for Emergency Repair Program](#)

[Join the Public Allies National Alumni Council!](#)

Enjoy! ◇

Illustration: jtriones31 on Pixabay.com

As the Twig is Bent

**DWD LAUNCHES "WELCOME TO THE WORKFORCE"
INITIATIVE WITH WEBINAR, SPEAKERS SERIES FOR
TEENS, PARENTS, AND EMPLOYERS**



“As the twig is bent, so grows the tree.” ---Confucius

[Editor’s Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the WI Dept. of Workforce Development and was posted March 28, 2023.]

MADISON – Teens are an important part of Wisconsin's labor force – with nearly 60% of state teens aged 16-19 working. Meanwhile, April marks a significant uptick in job-seeking activities for teens, and the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development has planned a month-long "Welcome to the Workforce" outreach initiative for students, parents, and employers.

DWD kicks off Welcome to the Workforce April 4, 2023, with a virtual panel discussion from 2-3 p.m. featuring representatives from the U.S. Department of Labor, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, and Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development's Equal Rights and Youth Apprenticeship programs. Register for the panel on Eventbrite.

This effort to educate students, parents, and employers on their rights and responsibilities comes as Gov. Tony Evers declares April "Welcome to the Workforce Month" with a proclamation marking key historical achievements in regulating child labor.

Following the April 4 panel discussion, DWD will partner with community stakeholders to educate parents and students on minor worker rights, and employers on their responsibilities when employing minors. The outreach will occur through job fairs, educational forums, and other events. Requests for DWD speakers on the Welcome to the Workforce topic may be sent to erinfo@dwd.wisconsin.gov.

"Important life skills can be learned on the job and the participation of teens in the workforce helps businesses succeed while our economy thrives," said DWD Secretary-designee Amy Pechacek. "The Welcome to the Workforce webinar and speaker series will help teens, parents, and employers understand the rights, roles, and responsibilities covering those just starting out in the workforce. The sessions also will touch on ensuring safety at work and keeping school a priority when classes are in session."

[READ MORE](#)

BONUS FEATURES

[Baby Reportedly Dies From Fentanyl Poisoning Day After Checking Into Florida Rental Property](#)

[Mom Shares Warning After Son's Legs Amputated Following Strep, Influenza A Infections](#)

[22 Skills Every Kid Should Have By The Time They're 10](#)

[Flight Attendants Want To Ban 'Lap Babies' From Planes](#)

[Following Pandemic, Educators Are Not All Right But Meditation Could Ease Burden](#)

[Raising Youth HIV & AIDS Awareness](#)

Sleep Problems From Childhood to Adolescence Tied to Worse Mental Health

Enjoy!

Illustration: anslyuwudia on Pixabay.com

Did You Hear?

OFF THE BLOCK



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted in part from Madison Locally Sourced magazine in the March-April issue on their website. This editor had the pleasure of working with both Will and Becky, while we were employed with Briarpatch Youth Services, in Madison, WI. Mentoring Positive is a dream come true and a testament to what can be achieved with a strong vision and a steadfast commitment to fulfilling the needs of community youth. For more on Mentoring Positives go to: [https://www.facebook.com/mentoringpositives/.](https://www.facebook.com/mentoringpositives/)]

In 2004, Will and Becky Green started Mentoring Positives as a nonprofit organization to mentor and support at-risk youth in Dane County. "We knew from the beginning that we needed to find a way to help vulnerable youth become leaders in their community," says Will. "We developed a program to do this through group mentoring, athletics, and entrepreneurship because, as we like to say, 'the hook is the key!' We guide our youth on a positive path of learning, practicing, and mastering socio-emotional well-being and leadership skills.

"Once we had the mentoring piece in place, we found we needed a way to generate income not only for the program to be able to serve the youth, but also so that we could provide employment opportunities for them." They set up office in the heart of Madison's Darbo-Worthington neighborhood and created Off the Block Salsas and Pizzas as a platform to inspire youth through social entrepreneurship while also providing job skills training and employment to those participating in the program.

In 2008, youth enrolled in the Mentoring Positives Leader Academy and worked with Will and Becky to create recipes for both a mild and a spicy salsa. The next year, the recipe won the first of many Battle of the Salsas at Metcalfe's Market in Hilldale. Popularity continues to grow with these products, and today, the youth in this expanded program produce over 600 jars of salsa each month.

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BONUS FEATURE

Exposing The [WI] For-Profit Adoption Industry (Opinion)

Salute to CYC Agencies

ACDCF HONORS SIX HUMAN SERVICE PROFESSIONALS FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO FAMILIES



Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

MADISON – In recognition of Gov. Tony Evers declaring March as Social Work Month in Wisconsin, the Department of Children and Families (DCF) honored the efforts of six human service professionals with the 2023 Caring for Kids award.

DCF Secretary Emilie Amundson and Wendy Henderson, DCF’s Division of Safety and Permanence administrator, presented the awards today during a ceremony at the State Capitol. The six professionals were honored for their passion and dedication to serving the people of their communities and putting families first.

“These professionals are dedicated to helping families stay together and connected,” said DCF Secretary Emilie Amundson. “When families thrive, so do our communities. I am extremely proud to honor such amazing and compassionate individuals.”

Presented with awards were:

Chandra Cooper, Grateful Girls Milwaukee
Kelly Firlus, Juneau County Department of Human Services
Teresa Kovach, Portage County Department of Human Services
Jean Northway, Courage Milwaukee
Rhonda Rummel, Kewaunee County Department of Human Services
Mark Ryskoski, Trempealeau County Human Services Department

Recipients of the award were selected based on years of experience, adapting to new initiatives, leadership, and proven record of ensuring the well-being of children and families.

This press release is also available in [PDF format HERE](#)

For More Information About the DCF website [HERE](#)

Enjoy!

Ready Resources

PUTTING FAMILIES FIRST DATA DASHBOARD



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to Child Welfare Information Gateway and was first posted on March 23, 2023.]

The Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) has made the following commitments to addressing equity as part of Wisconsin's Putting Families First efforts to dramatically reduce the number of children in out-of-home care.

"We include diverse perspectives in shaping our child welfare transformation through engaging a wide range of voices and addressing barriers to inclusion."

One way that we strive for justice is by taking a hard look at data and the disproportionate impact the child welfare system has on children and families of color.

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BONUS FEATURE

[COVID-19 Well-Being Toolkit and Resources](#)

[All Families Need Equitable & Accessible CP Services](#)

[Act Fast: Register For The 2023 Opioids, Stimulants, And Trauma Summit](#)

[Free Overnight Camp Program Open To MPS Students Currently In Grades 4-8](#)

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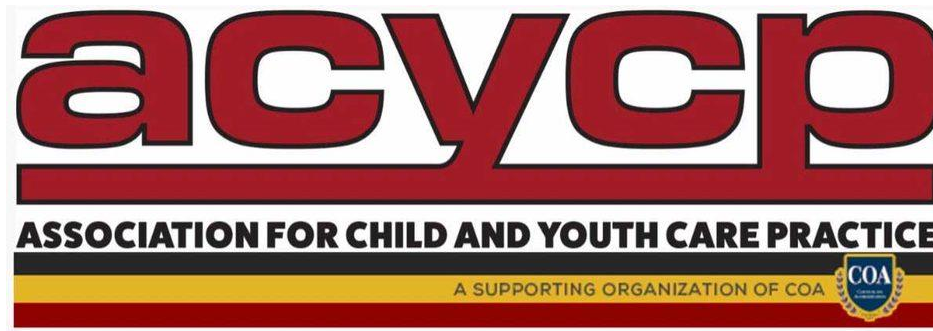
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