



GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY®  
Illinois Professional Development System

# Registry News



## Spring 2023 Newsletter

*You are receiving this email newsletter because you are a Gateways to Opportunity Registry Member. The Registry News will provide up-to-date information about programs and policy changes. Additionally, we always include something you can use in your classroom. Feel free to share this newsletter by printing a copy for your program, or forwarding it to a friend.*

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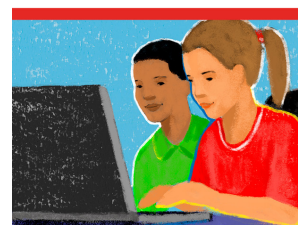


**Breastfeeding University for Child Care Providers, now available in Spanish on i-learning!** Breastfeeding University was created with child care providers in mind. Each module provides evidence-based, up-to-date information from an interdisciplinary team of physicians, nurses, lactation consultants, public health professionals, ECE professionals, and La Leche League leaders. The interactive modules will help to establish a working knowledge of how to support families to meet their breastfeeding goals. This training was developed by the Carolina Global Breastfeeding Institute, part of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and is provided in Illinois through an agreement with INCCRRA and the Illinois Public Health Institute.

[Click here to enroll!](#)

### Data Bits and Bites

Over **8,600** trainings were offered in Fiscal Year 2022 (7/1/21-6/30/22). **77%** of trainings were offered for free and in-person trainings were offered in **79 counties** across Illinois.



**Like Us  
on Facebook!**

# STRENGTHEN AND GROW

## CHILD CARE GRANTS



**SGCC Round Six applications are open and close on March 24, 2023!**

If your program has an SGCC eligible application from previous rounds, you can simply submit a budget request for round six and upload a round six attestation. If your program is applying for SGCC for the first time, please watch this [technical assistance video](#) first to prepare you to complete and successfully submit your application.

For more information, additional eligibility, or frequently asked questions, visit [www.ilgateways.com/financial-opportunities/strengthen-and-grow-child-care-grants](http://www.ilgateways.com/financial-opportunities/strengthen-and-grow-child-care-grants).

## Birth to Five Illinois Updates

Using a collective impact model, **Birth to Five Illinois** has successfully launched 39 Action Councils (594 committed community members) and 39 Family Councils (466 parents/caregivers) across the State. The Councils' first major deliverable, anticipated late Spring 2023, is an **Early Childhood Region Scan** (or needs assessment) for each of the State's 39 regions. This will identify the demographics, available Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) programs, services, slot gaps, family access barriers, and regional strengths, and make recommendations for addressing the identified needs. These Regional Scans will be living community documents designed to provide insight into the varying strengths and ECEC needs across the State. Birth to Five Illinois is eager to share the Regional Scans as soon as they are completed.



Please visit the Birth to Five Illinois website to find out more about the work being done to amplify family and community voice in your region: <https://www.birthtofiveil.com/councils>.



## Illinois Cares for Kids - Ready4K

Ready4K, a free research-based text messaging program, is available for families with children from birth through grade 5. Register for one of Ready4K's weekly informational sessions to learn more about the program and discuss implementation.

Unable to attend the webinar? Email [lkiper@inccrra.org](mailto:lkiper@inccrra.org) and a recording can be sent to you.

Visit [illinoiscaresforkids.org/ready4k](http://illinoiscaresforkids.org/ready4k) for more information.



Are you an educator (birth through grade 12) who wants to create change through practice or policy? [TeachplusIL](#) Fellowships are now open for application!

Check out <https://teachplus.org/IL> to learn more about each one!

## Upcoming Gateways Registry-Verified Conferences



### Illinois AfterSchool Network 37th Annual Spring Virtual Conference

March 29-31, 2023

Presented by: Illinois AfterSchool Network

The IAN Virtual Conference is for after school and youth development professionals representing many sectors of the field in Illinois. The three-day event will also host a Virtual Exhibitors and Awards Hall for conference participants, developing leaders in the field by offering QUALITY professional development opportunities.

[Register here!](#)



### Leadership Connections National Conference

April 26-28, 2023

Presented by: The McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership

The mission of the McCormick Center to empower leaders and advance the field to promote excellence in early childhood education is the touchstone of Leadership Connections. The conference offers opportunities to attend workshop sessions relevant to your complex role, network with professionals, and gain inspiration.

[Register here!](#)



## *The Gateways Professional Development Advisor (PDA) Program now offers assistance in Spanish!*

Do you have a career goal in Early Care and Education but need a map to help you get there?

A Professional Development Advisor (PDA) can help! PDA services can help you to reach career goals, obtain a college degree, and more!

Request a Professional Development Advisor today! <https://www.ilgateways.com/professional-development/pda>

## FREE Masks for Licensed Child Care Providers

IDHS, INCCRRA, and the CCR&R System are providing limited quantities of masks to licensed child care providers across Illinois.

Licensed centers, licensed family child care

Order masks through the webstore, now available with free shipping! The webstore will confirm that you are a licensed program by using the [DCFS Sunshine website](#). If your program is not listed on the DCFS sunshine website, you cannot order from the webstore.

Licensed centers

Order up to seven boxes of masks for free, shipping included.

Licensed family child care

Order up to two boxes of masks for free, shipping included.

Visit the webstore today at [www.shopinccrra.com](http://www.shopinccrra.com).





# ASSEMBLE A RECIPE BOOK

## HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED:

1. Get an empty three-ring binder or paper folder with fasteners.
2. Print out the example recipe book and assemble the pages in this order:
  - Cover
  - Numbered pages
  - Index
3. Use a hole punch to make holes in all pages except the cover.
4. Put the punched pages into the binder or folder, and glue the cover to the front.

Use a recipe book to get cooking with family and friends! Make sure an adult is available to help. Writing a recipe down is a great way to share your favorite foods with others, so they can make them, too!

## ADD YOUR RECIPES:

1. Print out a blank recipe page for each recipe you want to add.  
Put the name of your recipe at the top of the page, and then list the ingredients in the order you will use them. Be sure to number each step.
2. You can also include features such as:
  - Pictures
  - Captions
  - Tips
3. Add page numbers to each page, and then add the names of your recipes and the page numbers to the index.
4. Lastly, on the cover, write your name.



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Our mailing address is: INCCRRA • 1226 Towanda Ave • Bloomington, IL 61701

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