

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE / EDUCATION

Parents are their child's first & most important teacher & caregiver. Families need quality early childhood programs while parents are at school, work, or to enhance the work of a stay-at-home parent/guardian. Included in this section are programs & services which support young children & families by providing information, education, and/or direct child care.

Child Care & Education

Anoka & Washington County PARENT AWARE (763) 783-4881

Minnesota's Quality Rating & Improvement System. Parent Aware's Star Ratings help parents find programs that go above and beyond to prepare children for school and life. Our 1-4 star rating system – a free service- measures best practices identified by research that help children succeed. Providers can work with a quality coach to achieve their rating. Providers interested in becoming quality rated should call.

Bridge To Benefits www.bridgetobenefits.org

Find out if you qualify for public programs that can help stretch your family budget. Information on how & where to apply, print applications, and learn more.

Child Care Aware MN/Metro East (763) 783-4881

www.childcareawaremn.org/families/find-childcare. Child Care Aware MN provides families, child care providers, and communities with information and support for quality child care that is affordable and accessible for families in the metro area. We are a referral source for families, providing information and support to families in search of child care, provide resources for child care providers, and provide professional growth and development with educational programs, grants, training, consultation and coaching with **Parent Aware**. We reach out to businesses and communities to generate awareness and support for high quality child care. If you are searching for child care in Minnesota or a child care provider looking for services, call 1-888-291-9811.

CAPE (Child & Parent Education) Centers (763) 506-1561

Provides child care while student parents attend classes at their own schools. Transportation for child & parent is provided free for residents of Anoka-Hennepin School District 11. Students out of district may be eligible but would need to provide own transportation. Must attend school within District 11 to qualify. Serving young parents up to age 21. Programs include ECFE & parenting classes.

Early Childhood and Preschool screening.....(651) 645-2546

Sight & Hearing Association offers infants to preschool-age vision and hearing screening onsite at child care centers. Pre-K screening qualifies for vision and hearing component of district screening.

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE)

Each school district offers many different fun & educational experiences for children ages birth to 5 & their families. Many ECFE programs also have “drop-in & play” opportunities for children & parents. Sliding fees.

District 11, Anoka-Hennepin ECFE (763) 506-1275

District 12, Centennial ECFE..... (763) 792-6120

District 13, Columbia Heights ECFE (763) 528-4515

District 14, Fridley ECFE..... (763) 502-5124

District 15, St. Francis ECFE..... (763) 753-7170

District 16, Spring Lake Park ECFE (763) 600-5900

District 831, Forest Lake ECFE (651) 982-8300

Families in Safe Hands: Raising Relatives children (612) 879-5307

Offers information & emotional support through support groups, recreation, & free phone consultation.

Head Start, ACCAP (763) 783-4300

www.accap.org. A free preschool program for children ages birth to 5 of income eligible families. This program concentrates on child development & parental involvement. Individualized programs for children with special needs. Home based programs available. Serves Anoka & Washington County. Wrap around child care available at some sites. Call for application.

Help Me Grow: Early Intervention..... (763) 433-4888

www.MNParentsKnow.info. County wide referral for children birth to 3 years old with known or suspected delays in development such as walking, talking, playing, or behavior. Help with your child's development available, including screening & evaluation, home-based services from teachers, speech/language clinicians, & occupational or physical therapists, & referral to community resources.

Minnesota Communities Care for Children.....1-800-CHILDREN (1-800-244-5373)

www.pcamn.org. Mission: To prevent child abuse & neglect by promoting positive parenting, healthy families, & supportive communities where children are respected & valued. Home of Circle of Parents.

Preschool Screening..... Contact your local school district

All children are required to have a preschool screening after they are 3 years old and before entering kindergarten. Contact your local school district to find out how to have your child screened.

Professional Learning Alternatives, Inc..... (651) 464-8777

www.pla-inc.org. Nonprofit training and advocacy resource for caregivers, parents, and those interested in supporting the development and education of young children. Offers in-service seminars, conferences, phone and on-site consulting, mentoring, and referrals. Call for more information.

School Age Child Care Contact your school district

Area school districts offer programs for before & after school care. For more information check with your child's school or call Child Care Resource & Referral at (763) 783-4884.

School Readiness Programming Contact your school district

Each school district has School Readiness funds which offer opportunities for all eligible children to participate in programs that enable children to enter kindergarten with the necessary skills, behavior, & support they need. Children must be at least 3 years old & have not yet started kindergarten to be eligible for these programs. Your school district may offer transportation & free or reduced tuition based on a sliding fee scale. See EDUCATION section for Community Education phone numbers.

Small Talk..... (612) 889-0780

www.signlanguageforbaby.com. Sign language for you & your hearing baby. Babies hear & understand language before they are able to speak. Use baby sign language as a method to communicate with your baby. Using baby signs will enhance interaction with baby & help adults to understand what baby wants, as well as what baby is thinking.

Specialized Child Care Services..... Contact your school district

Some school districts offer child care services for teen parents who are attending High School. See the EDUCATION section for School District numbers.

Child Care Subsidy

Anoka County Child Care Assistance (763) 717-7711

www.accap.org. DHS Child Care Assistance Program provides low-income, working families with access to quality, affordable child care that allows them to continue working and contributes to the healthy, emotional and social development of the child. Families are required to cost-share on a sliding scale based on family size, income and number of children in care. Call for a screening to see if you are eligible for this service.

Equipment

Assisted Living Store (651) 769-1574 or 1-888-388-5862

www.assistedlivingstore.com. 199 Bridgepoint Dr S, St. Paul 55075. Medication management. Linen products, garments, & textiles. Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-4 pm.

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE)..... Contact your school district

Some ECFE's have resources & toy lending libraries available to their local residents. Call your ECFE for more information. See the Parenting/Child Development section under the EDUCATION section for phone numbers.

United Way 2-1-1 2-1-1 or (651) 291-0211 or 1-800-543-7709

www.211.org, www.thebeehive.org. Provides information & referral assistance to callers.