



**Bridging Communities and Making Connections:  
Connecting Licensed Child Care (Directors & Owners) and Elementary Schools Principals**  
*~a project in support of WaKIDS Early Learning Collaboration ~*

**Overview**

- The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), Department of Early Learning (DEL) and Child Care Aware of WA (CCA of WA) are collaborating on a joint effort to develop and implement a sustainable service that meets the needs and requirements for the Early Learning Collaboration component of WaKIDS - the Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills. WaKIDS is a process for welcoming students and their families to kindergarten, assessing students' strengths and discussing the characteristics of children's development and learning that will enable them to be successful in school. ([www.del.wa.gov/development/kindergarten/pilot.aspx](http://www.del.wa.gov/development/kindergarten/pilot.aspx))
- The project, ***Bridging Communities and Making Connections: Connecting Licensed Child Care (Directors & Owners) and Elementary Schools Principals*** offers a new statewide community resource and centralized report service to Elementary Schools. The Child Care Aware of Washington Family Center will fulfill information/data requests from elementary school principals and connect schools with Child Care Aware of Washington regional offices. CCA of WA Regional offices will receive notice of school's request and provide follow-up services and resources between local child care providers and elementary schools to build collaborations.
- The reach and impact of this pilot will extend to all thirty-nine counties in the state and aims to develop working relationships between local Child Care Providers, School Districts and public Elementary Schools and to strengthen partnerships that promote a network for kids and families as they transition to Kindergarten.

**Pilot Project Statewide Leadership**

- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction: Bob Butts, Kathe Taylor
- Department of Early Learning: Nicole Rose, Amy Blondin, Heather Moss
- Child Care Aware of WA: Karen Sampson
- Child Care Aware of Washington Statewide Family Center: Deeann Puffert

**Child Care Aware of WA Regional Leadership**

- Child Care Aware of Northwest WA: Wilanne Ollila-Perry
- Child Care Aware of Olympic Peninsula: Rene Doran
- Child Care Aware of King County: Deeann Puffert
- Child Care Aware of Tacoma/Pierce County: Christine Rosenquist
- Child Care Aware of Southwest WA: Jodi Wall
- Child Care Aware of Central WA: Jan Thoenke
- Child Care Aware of Eastern WA: Lee Williams

**Process**

- Principals have a dedicated email address, form and simple process, with a standard 48-hour turn-around, for requesting a standardized report. Principals, or their designee, can initiate a report



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request by submitting a complete [request form](http://www.childcarenet.org/get-involved/principals) from the Child Care Aware of WA website at <http://www.childcarenet.org/get-involved/principals>

The form contains the following fields:

- **Principal Name**
  - **School Name**
  - **County**
  - **School Address**
  - **Desired Geodesic Search Radius Desired (*minimum 1 mile*)**
  - **Request Date**
  - **Requestor's Name**
  - **Requestor's Email**
  - **Requestor's Phone**
  - **Purpose of Request**
  - **How and when the information will be used**
- Child Care Providers have access to information and support through coaches and TA Specialists from Provider Services staff within each CCA of WA regional agencies.

**Standard Service Product**

- The standard provider report includes a summary of active and licensed (as per DEL) Child Care Providers, and Head Start and ECEAP programs within a school's catchment area (specifically, those that are within a desired geodesic search radius from the school or those who provide before/after-school transportation service to the school). It also includes an overview of licensed Child Care basics in the State of Washington and an introduction to CCA of WA regional agencies and services.
- The provider report includes the following for each active (new & current) Child Care Provider; it does not include inactive (closed & no-referral) Child Care Providers (as per DEL):
  - **Basic Contact Info** (*Name (First, Last & Business), Street Address, City, Zip, Phone, Email*)
  - **Type Of Care**
  - **Total Licensed Capacity**
  - **Total Desired Capacity**
  - **Minimum Age Range**
  - **Maximum Age Range**
  - **Early Achievers' Quality Rating**
  - **Head Start & ECEAP Programs Provider**

**Data Requests – Disclaimer & Data Use**

- The information provided is for use in accordance with the mutual agreements established between the representatives from OSPI, DEL, CCA of WA and CCA of WA Family Center.
- The data provided should not be used for referral purposes. If students are in need of child care, they should be directed to the Child Care Aware of Washington Family Center at 1-800-446-1114 or [www.wa.childcareaware.org/families](http://www.wa.childcareaware.org/families).



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- Data represents a point-in-time request and is provided for a one-time use only; it may not be duplicated in any way for future use, or resold.
- Elementary schools that request and receive this information are expected to not share with any other entities (including formal and informal partners) in any format.
- The information is based on continual updates received from the licensing agency, the Washington State Department of Early Learning and self-reported updates by Providers. No Referral status updates from DEL are processed daily.
- Most licensed providers in the state elect to be listed in the Child Care Aware of WA database and to receive referrals to their programs; some do not wish to receive referrals, mailings or additional services. Child Care Providers' information should be used to support this project only and may not be utilized, shared and/or distributed for any other purpose.
- This report constitutes a no-warranty, expressed or implied service to the requestor only, and should not be used for any other purpose.

**Child Care Aware of Washington**

- Child Care Aware of Washington is the most trusted child care resource in Washington. All CCA of WA regional agencies provide services and support to families, licensed Child Care Providers, local governments and businesses as part of a statewide community that leads the effort to educate and mobilize stakeholders around the importance of improving the quality of child care for all children.
- The Child Care Aware of Washington Family Center is a statewide centralized resource and referral service available at no cost to parents and families seeking child care information. The CCA of WA Family Center is a program of Child Care Resources – a private, not-for-profit agency in King County - that is affiliated with six other independent and regional entities through the Child Care Aware of Washington member council network.