

We are an experienced team of professionals, here to help you!

Services that are provided to you are coordinated through a team of staff with experience in various early childhood settings, including family child care, center-based care, preschool and Head Start programs.

Resources

A variety of resources are available to support high-quality early learning experiences for young children in your care. Take advantage of Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas' Lending Libraries, full of teacher resource books, activity totes, and dramatic play prop boxes. A die cut machine and laminator are also available for your use.



Classes

We offer professional development opportunities for new and experienced early learning professionals throughout our service delivery area. These interactive classes adhere to the Kansas Core Competencies standards and provide useful, up-to-date information. Class descriptions and locations are listed on our website at east.ks.childcareaware.org and in our bi-monthly Child Care Aware® newsletter.

ERC Resource & Referral, Inc., d/b/a



Topeka Office

1100 SW Wanamaker Road, Suite 101
Topeka, KS 66604
785-357-5171 phone • 877-678-2548 toll free
785-357-1813 fax

Lawrence Office

2706 Iowa, Suite C
Lawrence, KS 66046
785-865-0669 phone • 877-678-2548 toll free
785-856-2590 fax

Pittsburg Office

105 West 3rd Street
Pittsburg, KS 66762
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The agency is supported through a variety of sources including the Kansas Department for Children & Families through Child Care Aware® of Kansas, the Kansas Children's Cabinet, the Topeka Community Foundation, the Kansas Health Foundation, the United Way (Topeka and Lawrence), the Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce, individual donors, grants and special projects. The Designers' Showhouse, a grassroots fundraiser in Topeka where area designers and craftsmen transform a selected home each year for public tours, also provides critical support for our agency.

Will your program stack up?

Child Care Provider Programs & Services



Helping child care providers build high-quality programs.



Our Mission...

ERC Resource & Referral, Inc., doing business as Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas, supports the development and learning of young children by offering programs and services that improve the quality and accessibility of child care for working families.



How we can help you...

Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas provides a vital link between regulated child care and families needing child care. We supply parents with information about choosing high-quality child care programs and referrals to child care providers that match the criteria they supply. Providers who list their child care programs with our agency are contacted on a quarterly basis to update vacancy information, assuring that referral lists are accurate for families. We can also offer invaluable support to you through consultation services, classes and resources to support high-quality early learning programs.



Technical Assistance & Consultation



By Telephone

Get ideas and suggestions for problem solving about current issues or concerns surrounding your child care program. Our normal office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 785-357-5171 in Topeka or 877-678-2548 toll free to speak with a member of our Provider Services Team that can assist all of the child care providers in our agency's service delivery area.



In Person

You can request assistance at your facility and a member of the Provider Services Team will visit you at your child care program. An on-site consultation might include:

- Ideas on activities and setting up a schedule.
- Resources and help for developmental transitions, like teaching toilet learning.
- Ideas for setting up your learning environment.
- Suggestions on how to respond to challenging behaviors, like biting.
- Strategies for partnering with families and parents.
- Business practices, such as writing contracts and policies.
- Special support caring for children with diverse needs and abilities.
- Other topics that you may suggest.

Longer Term Help



Enroll in one of our quality improvement programs to receive personalized coaching and goal setting. We have a variety of programs that target early childhood topics, such as building stronger families in your community, improving early childhood literacy and school readiness, and promoting early childhood wellness.

Benefits to participating include free classes, improved marketability, and access to mini grants and other classroom materials. Family child care providers, center directors and center-based staff are all welcome to participate.

You may also benefit from:

- Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas' bi-monthly newsletter and training calendar listing in-service opportunities that are also available on our website.
- Mobile Lending Library services. Call for an appointment time and we'll deliver teacher resource books, children's activity totes, music CDs, big books, etc., to your door.
- Director and provider support group meetings. Contact us to find times and locations in your area.
- Playground safety inspections.
- Tip sheets and resources for you and your families on childhood topics, such as separation anxiety, introducing solid foods, car seat safety, transitioning to kindergarten, etc.
- Leadership development, career coaching and peer mentoring opportunities.



Call us today!

