

TAKING STEPS TO Healthy Success

Virginia's Early Care & Education Learning Collaboratives



Dear Director/Owner:

Please consider joining your area's 2016-2017 **Childhood Obesity Prevention Learning Collaborative!**

The Learning Collaborative provides training and equipment to help early learning programs improve nutrition and physical activity routines, and learn **best practices** recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to prevent childhood obesity. A total of fifty ECE programs in the Northern Virginia region will be selected to participate in this grant-funded project.

Participating ECE programs will designate a Leadership Team to represent their program and participate in one of the two NOVA collaboratives (see below). Leadership Teams **must** include a Program Director, Assistant Director, or Owner. Leadership Teams will share materials and key health concepts with program staff, and lead development of two program Action Plans for Healthy Changes.

Leadership Teams must send representation to five training sessions. Sessions run from 9:00 – 3:00, and include lunch and free materials for use with children. Learning Collaborative trainers will schedule on-site visits with Leadership Teams to provide resources and technical assistance. Program benefits, including a **\$500** stipend are listed on the [Information Overview](#) sheet (other page).

Alexandria Collaborative

November 5
January 7
February 25
April 22
June 3

Loudon Collaborative

November 5
January 21
March 4
April 22
June 3

If you are interested in participating or have questions, you can email, call, or submit a completed Interest Form to Peggy Watkins at PeggyW@va.childcareaware.org or (804) 285-0846.

Programs selected to participate will receive a formal email invitation with more details, including the locations and first Learning Session date in November. We are excited to work together to make Virginia's children the healthiest in the nation!



Funding for this publication was made possible by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Child Care Aware of Virginia is a contractor for Virginia Early Childhood Foundation, who is a subawardee to Nemours, who is currently funded by the CDC under a five-year Cooperative Agreement (1U58DP00102) to support states in launching ECE learning collaboratives focused on obesity prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the U.S. Government.