

VIRGINIA
INFANT & TODDLER SPECIALIST
NETWORK

"Achieving Excellence in Early Care"
www.va-itsnetwork.org

CONGRATULATIONS!

VA ITSN Recognizes Infant and Toddler Providers

Each year, the VA ITSN recognizes child care providers across Virginia who have made great efforts to improve the quality of infant and toddler care. Virginia Infant and Toddler Specialists and Behavior Consultants nominate one child care center and one family day home from each of their regions. A pool of these nominations is submitted to the VA ITSN Leadership Council for review, and they select those to be recognized. In addition, the programs are provided with resources and materials to support their efforts.

Below are the names of the child care centers and family day homes selected for the 2022 - 2023 program year and pictures of some of the providers.

Congratulations to each of these programs, and thank you for continuing to promote excellence in care!

Central

Center-Creative Critters III

Peninsula

Center-Arms of the King
FDH-Lakisha Leeks

Eastern

Center-Nurturing Minds of Value Academy

Piedmont Roanoke

Center-STEP Inc., EHS Stuart
FDH-Mia Stewart

North Central

Center-Tiny City Academy

Piedmont Southside

Center-Helping Hands

Northern

Center-Winwood
FDH-Milvia Santillan

Valley

Center-Brightside Spicers Mill



Meet the
Winners

If you are interested in participating in coaching services, click
below to fill out our online request!

[Click here to request coaching services online now!](#)

Resource Spotlight



As an early childhood caregiver, you may encounter parents who are curious about how their children learn and grow at various stages. The Sparks video series is a free resource for parents that combines health, safety, sleep, and nutrition concerns with practical approaches to support healthy learning and development in children.

A diverse team of clinicians and developmental experts collaborated to make this series. Each Sparks video goes hand-in-hand with a child's check-up from birth to age five and can help caregivers know what to expect in the next stage of child development. Check out their video series by visiting the [Sparks](#) website.



ZERO TO THREE
Early connections last a lifetime

Child care is an essential building block in the foundation of our families and nation's future. Early learning means children begin kindergarten ready to learn and succeed. Increasing access helps more babies and toddlers, including those with delays and disabilities, get the developmental support they need. Click [here](#) to check out all of Zero to Three's fantastic resources.



Resources for Early Learning offers low-cost activities you can do with infants and toddlers in your child care setting. Whether you are a new or experienced child care provider, you will find many ideas to keep your infants and toddlers learning, growing, and having fun.

Additionally, their website offers virtual training on best practices in early childhood education. Click [here](#) to check out what Resources for Early Learning provides.

Upcoming PD Opportunities



Child Care Aware of Virginia offers a variety of training opportunities to support the child care workforce. You may qualify for FREE training if your program serves infants and toddlers (0-36 months) or participates in the subsidy program! Please check out their website and training calendar [here](#) to register for upcoming events.



Did you know...?

The VA ITSN website maintains a list of upcoming virtual trainings. We would love to have you participate in one of our trainings. Check out the link [here](#) and register directly from the link.

Update from VQB5

Virginia has developed the Unified Virginia Quality Birth to Five System (VQB5), which recognizes the impact of every classroom, provides feedback to every educator, and supports all publicly funded birth-to-five programs to improve.

Access available important information and resources about VQB5 [here](#).





A nonprofit agency changing the lives of babies, toddlers & their families

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