



WDS, Inc.  
Child Care Resource & Referral

# Lit' ONEders

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## All Children Deserve Quality Inclusive Care

### What is an inclusive child care environment?

An inclusive environment is one where children with and without disabilities have the opportunity to play and learn together. The needs and interests of every child is addressed. All children are included in age-appropriate activities with their peers.

### What are the benefits of an inclusive child care environment?

Children are encouraged to have friendships with other children and are encouraged to accept others. Children also have an understanding of similarities and differences.

Families of children with and without disabilities have access to quality care. These families are encouraged to share common experiences in child rearing with each other.

Providers have access to free specialized trainings about caring for children with special needs through their local Child Care Resource & Referral agency. In a quality child care environment, caregivers respond positively to differences in children's abilities, interests, and experiences.

### What is IPICC and what does it mean for my family?

Indiana Partnership for Inclusive Child Care (IPICC) improves access, quality, and availability of inclusive environments for families of children with and without special needs. IPICC services help families and child care professionals by offering on-site technical assistance, training opportunities, and providing links to resources in local communities.

Local Child Care Resource & Referral agencies offer Enhanced Referrals to families of children with special needs. This enhanced process includes vacancy checks by the Referral Specialist and ongoing assistance from the Inclusion Specialist on staff.

This assistance consists of informing parents of their family's rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act and working with parents and providers to support the child's development. Also, the Inclusion Specialist helps the parents gain access to local agencies in their area that provides financial, mental, and social services to families of children with special needs. **For more information on inclusion services contact us at (866) 582-2229.**



## Staff Directory

**Emily Alim** ~ 219-882-0033 x 313  
CCRR Program Director

**Nicole Brown** ~ 219-883-0033 x 310  
Infant/Toddler Specialist

**Melissa Chabot** ~ 219-882-0033 x 308  
Hispanic Outreach Specialist/Referral Specialist

**Jennifer Engign** ~ 219-882-0033 x 319  
Paths to QUALITY Mentor

**Kimberly Hendricks** ~ 219-882-0033 x 321  
Education Coordinator

**Tammy Howard** ~ 219-882-0033 x 321  
Inclusion Specialist

**Joni Jefferson** ~ 219-882-0033 x 306  
Paths to QUALITY Mentor

**Lorrell Kilpatrick** ~ 219-882-0033 x 322  
Referral/Data Coordinator

**Carol Malone** ~ 219-882-0033 x 307  
Paths to QUALITY Mentor

**Clarissa Regula** ~ 219-882-0033 x 324  
Paths to QUALITY Specialist

**WDS, Inc CCRR**  
P. O. Box 59  
Gary IN 46402-0059  
Phone: 866-582-2229  
www.wdsccrr.org

## Get Connected With New Parent Trainings!

We now offer trainings especially for parents to aid in the educational development of children at home as well as in the child care setting. Improvements in school achievement, self-confidence, and home and school behavior happens when parents reinforce education in the home.

### Get Connected with Infant Toddler Literacy

Monday, April 5 • 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
Portage Public Library  
2665 Irving St., Portage, IN

Thursday, May 6 • 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
East Chicago Public Library  
1008 W. Chicago Ave., East Chicago, IN

Thursday, June 10 • 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
Imagination Station  
1200 E. Coolspring Ave.  
Michigan City, IN

### Get Connected with Block Play

Monday, April 5 • 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
Lowell Public Library  
1505 E. Commercial Ave., Lowell, IN

Tuesday, May 18 • 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
Michigan City Public Library  
100 E. 4th St., Michigan City, IN

Wednesday, June 30 • 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
Hilltop Neighborhood House  
460 College Ave, Valparaiso, IN

### Get Connected with the ADA

Thursday, April 15 • 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
Michigan City Public Library  
100 E. 4th St., Michigan City, IN

Wednesday, May 19 • 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
Portage Public Library  
2665 Irving St., Portage, IN

Wednesday, June 30 • 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
Workforce Development Services, Inc.  
840 Broadway, Gary, IN