

Parents!

Choosing childcare that fits you and your child's special needs can be a difficult decision. Here are a few tips to help you through that process.

- ❖ Give yourself time to visit several programs to find the best fit for your child and family's needs.
- ❖ What might be the best fit for your child?
- ❖ **Family Day Care Homes**
One caregiver for no more than 6 unrelated children. Must be licensed.
- ❖ **Group Day Care Homes**
Two or more caregivers for no more than 12 children. Must be licensed.
- ❖ **Childcare Centers**
Care for 13 or more children. Must be licensed.
- ❖ **Church Sponsored Centers**
Also cares for 13 or more children. Church sponsored centers are *exempt*; they are **not required** to become licensed but may choose to be if they so desire.

Licensed centers are required by law to follow Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR) minimum standards.

Looking for Quality Childcare

There are several factors to consider in helping you decide. Listed below are some of the things you want to see.

- ✓ Visible current license, if required.
- ✓ Caregivers having positive interactions with children.
- ✓ Enough caregivers to give proper attention to all children.
- ✓ Varieties of activities to help children develop intellectually, emotionally and socially.
- ✓ Children having access to educational materials and toys.
- ✓ Child-sized and/or adapted furniture and bathrooms.
- ✓ Written policies that include payment information.
- ✓ Open-door policy.
- ✓ Nutritious meals and snacks.
- ✓ A working telephone.
- ✓ Safe outdoor play area.
- ✓ Clean, hazard free facility.
- ✓ Children, in most cases, should be placed with age appropriate peers.



Based on income, you may qualify for financial assistance. Contact your local Child Care Management Agency (CMA) for more information.

A Partnership

Is your child currently receiving Early Intervention services or, if over age three, receiving special education services from your local school system?

- ❖ Your childcare provider may take care of your child up to 8 hours a day. They are your partners in caring for your child.
- ❖ Communication is vital! Share the goals (from the IFSP or IEP) with your center director and teachers.
- ❖ Are teachers having difficulty including your child in daily activities?
 - ✓ Encourage teachers to speak to your child's therapist if they have concerns including your child in the classroom setting.
 - ✓ Teachers in the "know" can reinforce therapeutic services.

Call in your Resources!

Childcare Enhancement With A Purpose (CCEP) is a program of United Cerebral Palsy (UCP). CCEP is funded through a grant from DHR, whose mission is to train childcare providers about how to successfully include children with special needs and identify children at possible risk of developmental delay. CCEP will visit childcare classrooms to provide strategies and suggestions so **every** child is successfully included.

Call Stephanie Eger, CCEP Project Coordinator, at 256-859-4900 ext. 106 for more information.



For more information about our grant or about the training we provide, contact:

UCP of Huntsville UCP of Mobile
Huntsville, AL Mobile, AL
(256) 859-4900 (251) 479-4900

UCP of Birmingham UCP Auburn
Birmingham, AL Opelika, AL
(205) 944-3966 (334) 364-1847

East Central AL UCP of Montgomery
Anniston, AL Montgomery, AL
(256) 237-8203 (334) 271-2280

UCP of West Alabama Hand-In-Hand
Tuscaloosa, AL Gadsden, AL
(205) 345-3031 (256) 546-2799

UCP of Northwest AL
Sheffield, AL
(256) 381-4310



Our 10 Hour Course Training
Includes:

- Principles of Inclusion (QCCL)
- Developmental Milestones (QCCL)
- Communication/Language (LD)
- Literacy Development (LD)
- Social/Emotional Development (CD)
- Fine Motor/Adaptive (CD)
- Gross Motor (CD)
- Sensory Integration (CD)
- Positive Guidance (PDG)
- Cognitive Development (CD)

Other Offerings May Include:

- Universal Health Precautions (HS)
- Children with Autism (CD)
- Transition Time Activities (CD)
- Active Play Using Parachute (CD)
- Scrapbooking Approach to Literacy (LD)
- Learning to Write through Play (CD)
- Bullying (CD)
- Back to Basics (CD)
- ADHD (CD)
- Age Appropriate Activities (CD)
- Inclusion (QCCL)
- How to Write a Lesson Plan (QCCL)
- Seizures (HS)
- Sun Safety (HS)
- Using Art to Enhance Development (CD)
- Working with Families (CCPF)



United Cerebral Palsy

Understanding Disabilities
Creating Opportunities

Childcare Enhancement With A Purpose!!!



Parents!
Looking to enroll your child
in a center? Here are a few
tips to help guide you
through that process.

Provided by **United Cerebral Palsy**
of Huntsville & Tennessee Valley, Inc.
UCP Technology & Training Center
1856 Keats Drive
Huntsville, AL 35810

FUNDED BY DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN RESOURCES