



Connecticut Educators Find Childcare Resources Through Newly Repurposed Support Hotline

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As teachers prepare to return to the classroom either virtually or in-person this Fall, the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood (OEC) is refocusing a program that helped health care workers find day care facilities. This program, now focusing on teachers and board of education employees, hopes to address some of the residual affect's teachers are facing regarding their own childcare needs.

Together with Governor Lamont's office and United Way of Connecticut's **2-1-1** Child Care, the Office of Early Childhood has launched the Child Care Referral Support for Teachers and Board of Education Employees program.

This program will allow teachers and educational staff to conduct their critical work without the added burden of unmet childcare needs. While some of the COVID-19 restrictions have been relaxed, according to Office of Early Childhood Commissioner Beth Bye, the daycare shortage remains an issue for parents and caregivers who need to return to work in Connecticut schools.



Commissioner Bye recognizes the difficulties teachers are facing while trying to secure childcare. However, she is confident that with many statewide connections, it will afford parents options that are convenient and will meet their needs. Teachers and school staff who are expected to return to the classroom in a few weeks are encouraged to call the Childcare Support Hotline.

The United Way, 2-1-1 hotline is now live and accepting calls. When you call, staff will help you identify and connect with a child-care provider and refer you to an open program, if available. You can also ask staff to contact providers on your behalf to confirm vacancies and help secure a spot for your child.

To reach the support hotline, please call 860-756-0864.

For more information about this program, visit: <https://www.ctoec.org/news/child-care-referral-support-for-teachers-and-board-of-education-employees/>