

Factsheet: Childcare Providers

Business Development & Funding

1. The Department of Human Services, Iowa has collaborated with First Children's Finance to assist people in opening new centres in the state of Iowa. First Children's Finance provides training and business-development assistance to child care businesses.
<http://www.firstchildrensfinance.org>
2. The First Children's Finance also provides many tools to do money management for Child care homes, e.g. tools for Setting Financial Goals, Fixed and Flexible Expenses Worksheet and Table (to track your monthly expenses), and Cost/Benefit of Hiring Employee Worksheet (to determine actual cost of hiring an employee).
<http://www.firstchildrensfinance.org/businessresourcecenter/family-2/money-management/money-management-tools/>
3. The Child Care Aware organisation provides free online childcare business training classes for free besides of business guidelines. The classes are available 24X7, and a service provider can pace them as per their requirement.
<http://ndchildcare.org>
<http://ndchildcare.org/providers/business/essentials.html>
4. Many funding options are available for new childcare providers. The following small brochure compiled helpful information on funding sources.
http://childcareaware.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Eng_202m.pdf

Professional Guidance

1. The Heartland Family Child Care Handbook by Iowa State University Extension is an excellent guide to resources for people who want to open a child care home. This guide explains how to organize and run a childcare home.
<https://www.amazon.com/Heartland-Family-Child-Care-Handbook/dp/0970052863>
2. The following family child care forums are good place to get the opinion and advice from the childcare experts and fellow childcare providers:
<https://www.daycare.com>
<https://www.cafemom.com/group/1994>
3. A new family daycare provider can also benefited with professional mentorship under a Family Child Care Provider Mentor Project. They can directly contact experienced family daycare providers who have volunteered to mentor.
<http://www.childcarelounge.com/interact/mentor-project.php>
4. To develop a research-based curriculum, a childcare provider can learn from the guidelines and resources listed by the Early Childhood and Knowledge Centre of US Department of Human and Health Services.
<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/curriculum>
5. You can refer the following single resource guide on how to start and make your house suitable for childcare including guidance on furniture buying and arrangement.
<http://www.firstchildrensfinance.org/businessresourcecenter/wp-content/blogs.dir/2/files/2011/06/Volume-3-Equipping-and-Furnishing-Early-Childhood-Facilities.pdf>