



Stranger Together

LORAIN COUNTY

Care Connection

Respite Program

Provider Informational Session Thursday, August 20 5:00 pm

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Welcome

Thank you for your interest in becoming a respite provider.

Today's Agenda



Program basics

What respite is and why Care Connection exists.



Who we serve

Lorain County youth and families with multi-system needs.



Provider role

What providers do and where respite may happen.



Requirements and training

Application, background checks, home safety, and support



Family choice & next steps

How families choose providers and how to become a provider



Questions

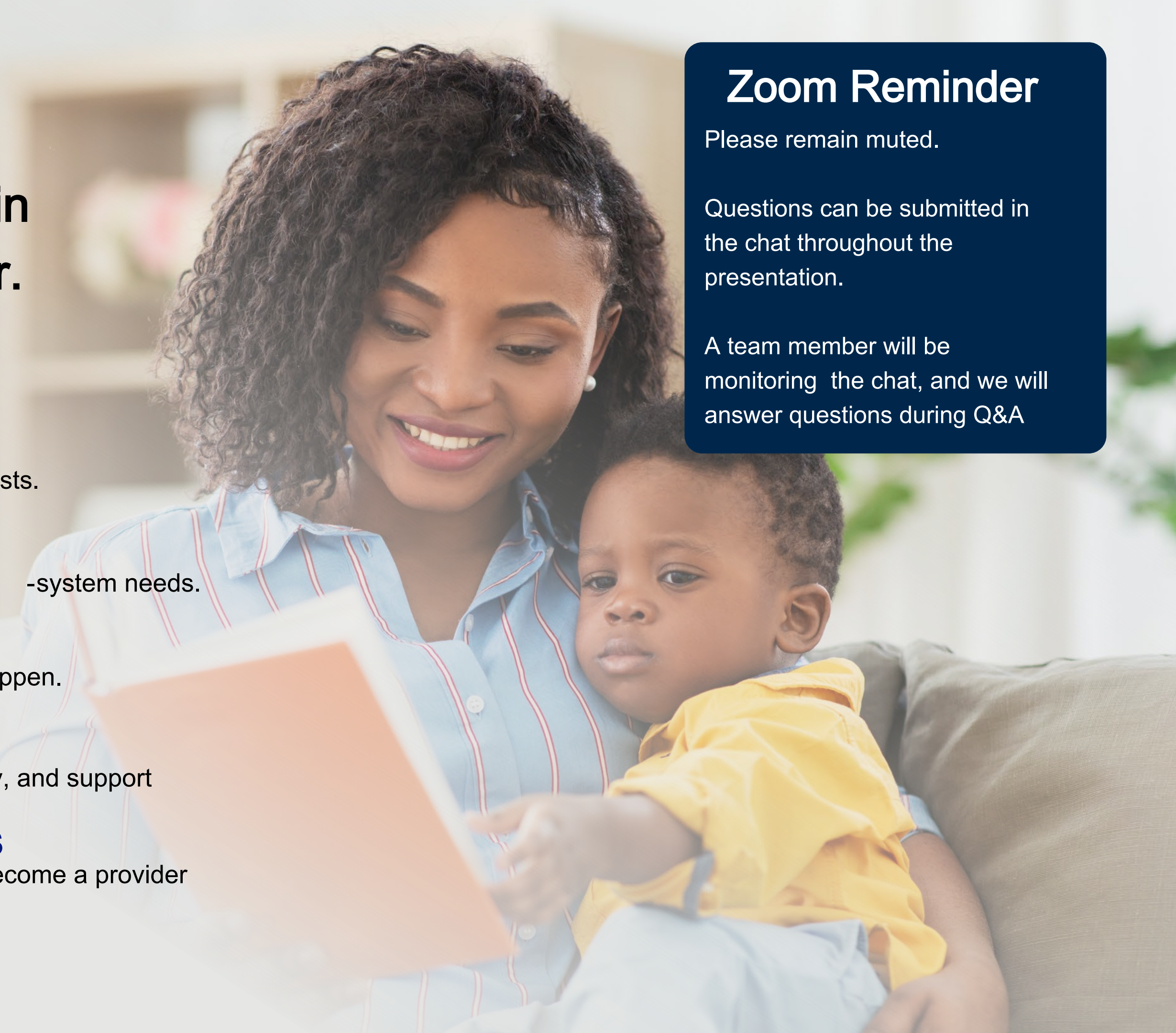
Please submit questions in the Zoom chat

Zoom Reminder

Please remain muted.

Questions can be submitted in the chat throughout the presentation.

A team member will be monitoring the chat, and we will answer questions during Q&A





What is Care Connection Respite?

A short -term support to help families stabilize before stress becomes a crisis.

- Temporary relief for caregivers
- Safe, compassionate support for youth
- Prevention - focused: a stop -gap service, not long -term childcare
- Can be planned or crisis -based



Goal: strengthen families, provide relief, and prevent deeper system involvement.



Why This Program Matters



Families caring for children with complex needs may experience:

- Physical exhaustion
- Emotional stress
- Caregiver burnout
- Social Isolation
- Risk of crisis or placement disruption

A few hours of quality respite can make a tremendous difference.



Who We Serve

Primary Population

Lorain County children and youth ages 0-17 with multi-system needs. Exception may be considered on a case by case through the LC CFFC respite group/informed clinical opinion (ICO) process.

Needs may include

Behavioral health, mental health, developmental or special needs, complex family stressors, school challenges, or crisis risk.

Program Intent

Short term support to prevent escalation, placement disruption, or deeper involvement with child serving systems.

Common system connections and risk factors

Behavioral Health

Mental Health

Juvenile Court

Children Services

Education/ IEP/ 504

Developmental Disabilities

Medically Complex

Family Crisis



Types of Respite

Planned respite

Scheduled in advance to give caregivers relief, support family routines, and prevent escalation.

Crisis Respite

Short-term support requested during a period of heightened stress or instability.

Always short-term

The program is a prevention focused support, not ongoing childcare or substitute placement.

Possible settings

Family home

Care is provided in the family's home with or without family present.

All potential providers must be comfortable caring for a child/youth in their natural environment.

Community

Parks, libraries, museums, recreation programs, or other safe community locations.

Requires valid drivers license, reliable transportation, and proof of insurance.

Provider home

Care is provided in an approved provider home, when applicable.





Who We're Looking For

You may be a good fit if you:

- Live or work in Lorain County or surrounding communities
- Have relevant professional or personal caregiving experience
- Want to make a meaningful difference for children and youth
- Are dependable, patient, and able to build positive relationships
- Understand that every child and family is varying needs
- Are willing to complete required screening, training, and documentation
- Are willing to accept respite opportunities based on your availability, experience, and comfort level

Helpful experience areas

Autism

Developmental Needs

Behavioral Supports

Mental Health

Special Needs

Trauma -Informed Care

Your experience and compassion can make a difference.

We are building a pool of caring, reliable providers.



What Does a Respite Provider Do?

Supervise safely

Maintain a safe environment and follow the family's plan.

Engage positively

Offer age/ abilities appropriate activities and supportive interactions.

Support routines

Assist with basic routines and transitions as agreed.

Communicate clearly

Share concerns, document services, and report incidents.

Reduce stress

Help caregivers recharge during planned or crisis respite.

Respect uniqueness

Adapt to each child/ youth's strengths, needs, and preferences.

Every family's needs are unique; providers follow the plan approved for that family.



Provider Expectations

We ask providers to be:

Compassionate

Reliable

Professional

Patient

Flexible

Good communicators

Providers must also:

- Maintain appropriate boundaries
- Follow safety guidelines
- Report incidents promptly following the family's plan
- Complete required documentation
- Protect Confidentiality

The provider role is supportive, structured, and safety - focused.



Provider Requirements

- ✓ Be at least 21 years old
- ✓ Complete provider application
- ✓ Complete and pass a drug screen
- ✓ Pass Ohio BCI/ FBI background checks
- ✓ Provide all required documentation and supporting paperwork
- ✓ Complete all required training
- ✓ Complete informal interview with LC CFFC staff
- ✓ Provide three references
- ✓ Become a vendor for Lorain County
- ✓ Maintain all provider requirements, complete continuing paperwork, mandated education, and anything else deemed required.

All requirements are designed to protect youth, families, providers, and the program.



Training

Required trainings include:

- National Respite Care Provider Training (self paced online)
- Trauma Training - Strong Resilient Youth (self paced online)
- Safe Sleep Ambassador Training (self paced online)
- CPR & First Aid
- Mental Health & Behavioral Needs 101 + De - Escalation Basics (virtual)*

Highly Encouraged:

- Mental Health First Aid - Youth (in person)

*training can be waived with certain education/ professional license(s)



Now until January 2027, we will pay YOU to become a provider!
Once you meet all the requirements and do all mandatory trainings, we will pay you \$150! Want to learn and earn even more, complete the Mental Health First Aid - Youth training and get an additional \$100 incentive!



Transportation Requirements



If providing transportation, providers must have:

- Valid driver's license
- Current vehicle insurance
- Safe, reliable transportation
- Appropriate child safety restraints

Transportation must be approved and documented before it occurs.



How Families Connect With Providers

The Care Connection model is built around family choice and safety.

1

Provider approved

Applicants' complete requirements, training, and safety review.

2

Provider pool

Approved providers are available for potential family selection.

3

Family chooses

Families review fit, availability, complete provider interviews before selecting.

4

County authorizes

Lorain County CFFC oversees authorization, funding, and program quality.

Providers may be contacted based on family needs, availability, and fit.
Participation in the pool does not guarantee a match.



Compensation

Rate Levels

Standard Rate \$25/hour

Approved Care Connection respite services

Enhanced Rate \$30/hour

Additional needs requiring enhanced provider skills/ training

Specialized Rate \$35/hour

Higher - acuity needs requiring specialized qualifications or experience

Crisis/Circumstance Differential - Varies

May apply to qualifying urgent/ crisis respite situations

Overnight/ Extended Stay Respite - Flat Rate

Families will receive an approved respite allocation and rate level. Providers will know their approved compensation level before accepting a respite opportunity.

Rate Model Example(s)

Standard Rate

12-year-old needs supervision while Mom has a break. Youth is independent with personal care, communicates needs, has no significant safety concerns, and does not require intensive behavioral intervention. Youth does however have a well managed medical need.

Enhanced Rate

10-year-old with Autism has communication limitations, needs close supervision in the community, assistance with routines and a provider who understands sensory and behavioral needs.

Specialized Rate

15-year-old has significant behavioral health needs, history of aggression/ elopement, and a safety plan.

Crisis/ Circumstance Differential

Any rate can be increased at the discretion of the LC CFFC/ CCRP.



Example Continued



Care Connection authorizes **\$1000** in respite funding to be used over 3 months. Their youth is approved at the **ENHANCED level** with a **DIFFERENTIAL** for the family experiencing increased caregiver stress.

\$30/ hr + 15/hr = \$45/ hr

The family is looking for weekend respite for 4hrs either on Saturday or Sunday every other week.

The family wants to interview you as a potential provider.

You both accept. An agreement is created and you schedule to begin respite services. After each interaction you document and have the guardian sign off. You turn in your invoice to LC CFFC bi-weekly for payment.

The provider is not required to accept the request.

The family can return to the approved provider list and identify another potential match.



Your Path to Becoming a Provider

1. Complete Provider Application

Start online and tell us about your experience, education, and availability.

1.2. Informal Interview

Meet with Care Connection staff for a brief provider conversation and paperwork session. Schedule soon!

3. Screening & References

Complete drug screen, background checks, we'll complete the reference checks.

4. Required Training

Complete Required training and any approved document waivers. You will be told if you qualify.

4. Vendor Set Up

Complete Lorain County vendor paperwork for payment processing.

4. Final Approval

Care Connection reviews all requirements and confirms provider readiness.

4. Provider Pool

Approved provider may be available for family selection and matching starting Fall 2026.

Once approved, providers may be considered for family matches based on availability, experience, family needs, and fit.



Save the Dates & Next Steps

1 Apply

Complete the online Care Connection Provider Application
Make sure to provide us as much detail as possible. Don't forget to send your supporting documents.

2 Meet With Us

Attend one informal provider conversation and paperwork session.
Choose one available session.
Additional dates may be added based on interest.

3 Begin Requirements

After your session, eligible applicants receive instructions for screening, references, vendor paperwork, and required training.

Informal Provider Conversations & Paperwork Sessions

Aug 25 10am -6pm

Aug 29 12pm -3pm

Aug 31 12pm -4:30pm

Sept 17 12pm -3:00pm

TBD late SEPT

After tonight: watch for a follow-up email with the application link and next steps. A copy of this PowerPoint will also be provided.

SAVE THE DATE(S)

Mental Health First Aid Training (Elyria)

You can not submit for payment until after OFFICIAL approval as a provider

Sept 15th from 9am 4:30 pm

Mental Health & Behavioral Needs 101 + De-escalation Basics (Virtual)

Sept 17th 4pm-5pm, Sept 26th 1pm-2pm, October 1st 9am-10am

CPR/FIRST AID (South Amherst)

Must have CCRP approval before attending

Sept 15th 11am-2pm, Sept 16th 3pm-6pm, SEPT 18th 11am-2pm, Sept 19th 10am-1pm, Sept 22nd 11am-2pm,

Sept 24th 3pm- 6pm



Questions? We're Here to Help.

What would you like to know about becoming a Care Connection Respite Provider that we haven't shared already?

Please submit your questions in the Zoom Chat. A team member is monitoring the chat.
We will answer as many questions as possible before we close.



Ready to Become a Care Connection Respite Provider?

Step 1. Complete the Provider Application

Scan the QR Code



or visit: www.lccffc.us for a direct
link
to the application

AFTER YOU APPLY

- Watch for an email from Care Connection
- Select an informal conversation/ paperwork session
- Submit or bring in request ed documentation
- Begin screening and training requirements
- Work toward approval for the provider pool

Completing an application begins the approval process and does not guarantee acceptance into the provider pool.

Thank you for considering using your time, experience, and compassion to support Lorain County families.