

Directory of Services  
in Livingston County  
for Children  
(birth to age 6)



Livingston County Special Services Unit  
920 Custer Avenue, Suite A  
Pontiac, IL 61764  
Phone: 815/844-7115  
Fax: 815/842-3170  
Website: [www.lcssu.org](http://www.lcssu.org)  
Julia Cotter, Program Supervisor  
Kim Cox, Preschool Screening  
Coordinator



## Recipe For a Happy Child

- ☺ Measure words carefully.
- ☺ Add a heaping cup of understanding.
- ☺ Mix generous amounts of time and patience.
- ☺ Add a dash of humor and a pinch of warm personality.
- ☺ Season with love and affection.
- ☺ Shape into individual molds.



# TRANSITION

Livingston County Special Services Unit in partnership with local School Districts, Child & Family Connections, Birth to Three service providers and/or other agencies work together to assure an easy transition should a child be in need of specialized services to support success in the school environment.

When a child turns 30 months, with parent permission, the Child and Family Connections Service Coordinator calls a Transition Planning Meeting. The Parent, Coordinator, and Local School District Representative come together to discuss possible options for the child once they turn 3 years of age.

Between 2.6 years and 2.11 years the Early Learning Team (ELT) from a child's home district (see page 8) comes together to discuss the child's needs. Members of this Early Learning Team must include the Parent, School District Representative, and Assessment team member (s). It may also include Service Coordinator from Early Intervention, Program Supervisor, Therapists, Child Care provider, Pre-K and/or Early Childhood Special Education Teachers, and any other person necessary. After reviewing all gathered information, the ELT members may decide:

1. No services are needed at this time.
2. Information from the early intervention providers is adequate to make educational decisions.
3. Further evaluation is required to make decisions for the child's educational needs.

When evaluations (if needed) are completed and all relevant information is gathered, a decision for needed services is achieved by mutual respect and open communication between parents and professionals.

Options for instruction may include:

1. Local district Pre-K (at-risk) program
2. Speech/Language Therapy
3. Occupational/Physical Therapy as a related service
4. Early Childhood Special Education
5. Dual enrollment in Pre-K, Early Childhood Special Education, Kindergarten, Head Start and/or Even Start

Services are provided in the least restrictive environment in the student's home school whenever possible. However, some students require very specialized and intensive instruction and, therefore, may attend programs in neighboring school districts or specialized schools.

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**CHILD CARE RESOURCE & REFERRAL NETWORK**  
**(CCRRN)**

207 W. Jefferson, Suite 301  
Bloomington, IL 61701

**Pam Womack, Executive Director, 800/437-8256**

**CCRRN** provides referrals to child care options in McLean, Dewitt, Ford, and Livingston Counties. Parents are counseled on how to select quality childcare that best meets the needs of their child. CCRRN provides training and education to child care providers and oversees a car seat loan program. Financial assistance is available to low-income families to assist in paying for child care. The Quality Counts van delivers resources and educational materials to child care providers. A Nurse Consultant is available for health related questions and training for child care programs.

**CHILD & FAMILY CONNECTIONS**  
**(CFC)**

309 N. Logan

Danville, Illinois 61832

217/442-8097 or 1/800-877-1152 (referrals)

**Becci Cline, Program Manager, 309/212-4078**

**Beth Hinthorn, Service Coordinator for Liv. Co.,  
309/212-4084; 217/442-8153 (fax for referrals)**

**CFC** is the central point through which families enter the Illinois Early Intervention Services System. This program is for children birth to three years of age who have developmental delays or a medical diagnosis. Referrals can be made by parents, nurses, grandparents, social workers, doctors, teachers, friends or any concerned individual. If a child is eligible for services, an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) meeting is held to develop a program to meet the child's needs.

Services may include one or more of the following: developmental therapy, physical therapy, audiology, occupational therapy, assistive technology, transportation, speech/language therapy, nutrition services, medical diagnostic services, nursing services, service coordination, social work services and special instructions.



**Livingston County Special Services Unit**

**L.C.S.S.U.**

Livingston County Special Services Unit working in partnership with local School Districts has been providing services to families and children with special needs since 1967. Included in these services are:

Evaluations of Educational Needs  
Linkages to Community Services  
Occupational Therapy Services  
Preschool Screenings  
Psychological Services  
Speech and Language Services  
Social Work Services  
Staff Development  
Technical Assistance for Programs and Teachers  
Transition Services

**LCSSU Staff**

**Director of Special Education:** Dawn Conway

**Assistant Director:** Rose Smith

**Program Supervisors:** Julia Cotter, Christina Butterbrodt, Kristin Elliott, Caryl McCoy, Thomas Proctor, Larry Brown

**Psychologists:** Melissa Kerber-Long, Brent Sylvester, Tanya Milanowski, Sue Peters, Edward Bockman, Angela Thomas

**Social Workers:** Linda Anderson, Kate Fagan-Nelson, Maureen Hopkins, Kathy Kelly, Jody Norman, Becky Spencer, Tanya Wheeler-Bell

**Speech Therapists:** Blaise DeMuth, Ellen Horton, Mary Kelso,

**Speech Therapy Assistants:** Suzanne Kidd, Kristin Black

**Occupational Therapists:** Sue Andresen, Christine Stark

**Certified Occupational Therapy Assistants (COTA):**

Cheryle Hudelson, Tammy Walker, Faye Clark

**Preschool Screening Coordinator:** Kim Cox



## Private Preschools & Child Care Centers

County	Title	Location	Phone
Iroquois	"Thawville Community Nursery School"	Thawville Cong. Church Box 81 Thawville, IL 60968	Peg Classen, Teacher 217/387-2424
LaSalle	"Holy Trinity Lutheran Preschool"	Holy Trinity Luth. Church 101 Trinity Drive Streator, IL 61364	Carol Luke, Director/Teacher 815/672-2393 (church) 815/672-6240 (classroom)
LaSalle	"St. Anthony Preschool"	410 S. Park Streator, IL 61364	Maria York, Teacher 815/672-3847
Livingston	"Just Kiddin' Around"	106 John Street Dwight, IL 60420	Tracey Evans, Director 815/584-2400
Livingston	"St. Paul's Preschool" (3 and 4 year olds)	St. Paul's Grade School 300 S. West Odell, IL 60460	Linda Hart, Teacher 815/998-2194
Livingston	Pontiac Christian Preschool	Pontiac Bible Church 1611 W. Reynolds Pontiac, IL 61764	Rhonda Steidinger (3 year olds) Denise McGee (4 year olds) 815/842-1322 (school) 815/842-3844 (church)
Livingston	"Noah's Ark Preschool"	First Lutheran Church 311 W. Grove Pontiac, IL 61764	Stephanie Kohlmeier, Director 815/842-2625
Livingston	"LAVC Preschool" (3 – 5 year olds)	Pontiac High School 1100 E. Indiana Ave. Pontiac, IL 61764	Jolene Paquette, Teacher 815/842-2557
Livingston	"Faithful Friends Christian Preschool & Daycare Center, Inc."	16 Aspen Court Fairbury, IL 61739	Judy Engelbrecht, Director 815/692-4425
McLean	"HIS Kids"	St. Paul's Lutheran 800 S. Division Chenoa, IL 61726	Kathy Traschel, Director 815/945-7244 (home) 815/945-5331 (church)
McLean	"St. Paul Lutheran Preschool"	107 E. Chatham Street Lexington, IL 61753	Ruth Ann Silver, Director 309/365-5200
McLean	"Tiny Town Nursery School"	1st United Church 406 W. 7 <sup>th</sup> Gridley, IL 61744	Sharon Hoobler, Director 309/747-2517 (home) 309/747-4390 (church)

### INFANT-TODDLER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

(ITEP)

OSF St. James John W. Albrecht Hospital

2500 W. Reynolds

Pontiac, IL 61764

Contact: Leslie Grampp, 815/844-3892

**ITEP** serves children (birth to age 3) who reside in Livingston County and who are at-risk for developmental delays. Children must meet eligibility requirements: less than a 30% delay in one area of development (speech, language, cognitive, motor, or adaptive/social skills) OR at least one psychosocial, maternal or physical risk factor. Services may include: screenings, assessments, enrichment visits, enrichment groups, family education and support and case management.

### LIVINGSTON COUNTY BIRTH to THREE PLAYGROUP

OSF St. James John W. Albrecht Hospital

2500 W. Reynolds

Pontiac, IL 61764

Contact: Melissa Pina, 815/844-3892

The **Livingston County Birth to Three Playgroup** is for any child residing in Livingston County who is birth to 3 years of age. It is co-sponsored by the Livingston County Local Inter-agency Council, Easter Seals-UCP and OSF St. James John W. Albrecht Hospital.

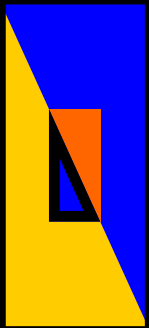
The playgroup is held at OSF St. James in the pediatric gym every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 9:30—11:00 a.m. Siblings of any age are welcome. Parents should call ahead to verify dates and sign up to attend. Dates are subject to change.

**TRANSITION PLAYGROUP**  
**OSF St. James John W. Albrecht Hospital**  
**2500 W. Reynolds, Pontiac, IL 61764**  
**Contact: Leslie Grampp, 815/844-3892**

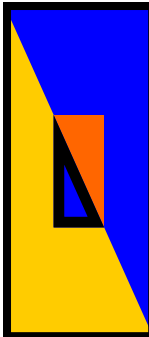
OSF offers a **Transition Playgroup** for children 2½ to 3 years of age. This free playgroup meets on Tuesday from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. and is designed to acquaint children with the structure of a school program before they enter school. Activities include group/circle time, music, snacks, arts and crafts.

**NEW HOPE EVEN START**  
**903 W. North St. Pontiac, IL 61764**  
**Coordinator, Sue Brakeville, 815/844-6013**

**New Hope Even Start** is an educational program for families with a child who is 0 to 8 years of age **and** with an adult interested in taking computer classes for job training, classes for a GED, **or** English as a second language. Preschool classes are offered in Pontiac at the Pontiac Bible church while parents attend their class of choice. Child care and lunch are provided. Transportation is available on a limited basis. This free program is for anyone living in Livingston County and northern McLean County. It is sponsored by Heartland Community College and the Regional Office of Education.

	<b>920 Custer Avenue, P.O. Box 624</b> <b>Pontiac, IL 61764</b> <b>815/842-2845 (Classroom)</b>	<b>Heartland</b>
	Head Start is a program funded by the federal government and targets children who are three and four years of age. Eligibility is based upon family income. Ten percent of the enrollment may include children with special needs.	<b>HEAD START</b>

Name	Phone	Address	Position
Mary Martin	815/842-2845	920 Custer Avenue, Box 624 Pontiac IL 61764	Teacher for class B (a.m. only)
Carolyn Carter	815/842-2845	920 Custer Avenue, Box 624 Pontiac, IL 61764	Family Resource Advisor
Ruth Draffen	815/842-2845	920 Custer Avenue, Box 624 Pontiac, IL 61764	Family Resource Advisor
Becky Stadel	815/842-2845	920 Custer Avenue, Box 624 Pontiac, IL 61764	Teacher for Class A
Teri McWethy	815/842-2845	920 Custer Avenue, Box 624 Pontiac, IL 61764	Assistant Teacher for Class B
Vanessa Griffith	815/842-2845	920 Custer Avenue, Box 624 Pontiac, IL 61764	Assistant Teacher for Class A (a.m. only)
Cathy Sprague	309/662-4880	206 Stillwell Bloomington, IL 61701	Disabilities Manager/Mental Health/Manager Pontiac
Pat Stash	309/662-4880	206 Stillwell Bloomington, IL 61701	Family Community Partner- ship Content Leader
Debra O'Connell	309/662-4880	206 Stillwell Bloomington, IL 61701	Child Health and Development Content Leader
Stephanie Potteroff	309/662-4880	206 Stillwell Bloomington, IL 61701	Health/Nutrition Manager
Lisa Solis	309/662-4880	206 Stillwell Bloomington, IL 61701	Education Specialist/CHAD
Beni Arroyo	309/662-4880	206 Stillwell Bloomington, IL 60701	Education Manager Pontiac



School district preschools are funded through a state grant that the district applies for on a yearly basis and are designed for children who are three to five years of age. Children age eligible for kindergarten cannot be enrolled in these preschool programs. Various factors determine eligibility, such as, health, slight delays in general development, speech, motor skills, family and cultural background, etc.

# PRE-K

## Programs

District	Location	Title/Time	Teacher/Phone
#4, #425, #426	Flanagan Elementary 202 E. Falcon Hwy Flanagan, IL 61740	"Flanagan Preschool" AM & PM classes, M—F	Allison Malcom 796-2261 Barbara Tuftie, Assistant Kathy Bertsche, Assistant
#5	Woodland Elementary 5800 E. 3000 N. Road Streator, IL 61364	"Pre-Kindergarten" AM & PM classes, M—F	Dorothy Moynihan 672- 2909 (classroom 673-3669) Amy Orr, Assistant
#6J	Tri-Point Elementary 101 E. Main Kempton, IL 60946	"Early Impressions" AM & PM classes, M—F	Karen Wiley 253-6299 (classroom) 253-6515 Sherryl Nelson, Assistant
#6J	Piper City Elementary 519 S. Margaret Piper City, IL 60959	"Early Impressions" AM class, M—F	Shannon Hughes 686-2247 Tina Weston, Assistant
#8	Chatsworth Elementary Box 816 Chatsworth, IL 60921	"Prairie Central Preschool Program AM class, M-F (3 yrs.) PM class, M-F (4-5 yrs.)	Jodee Ritter 635-3555 Cindy Frickey, Assistant
#8	Chenoa Elementary 700 S. Division St. Chenoa, IL 61726	"Bright Beginnings" AM & PM classes, M—F	Julie McGraw 945-2971 Deana Boles, Assistant
#8	Westview Grade School 600 S. First Street Fairbury, IL 61739	"Prairie Central Preschool Program" (3 year olds) PM class, M—F	Tanya Bounds 692-2623 or 692-3789 Patsy Whately, Assistant
#8	Westview Grade School 600 S. First Street Fairbury, IL 61739	"Prairie Central Preschool Program" (4-5 year olds) AM & PM classes, M—F	Carol Randinelli 692-2623 or 692-3789 Karen Walter, Assistant
#232	Dwight Grade School 801 S. Columbia Dwight, IL 60420	"Dwight Pre-K" AM & PM classes, M—F	Leslie Grieff 584-6234 Tana Kopeman, Assistant
#429	Central School 117 W. Livingston St. Pontiac, IL 61764	"Pontiac Pre-Kindergarten" AM & PM classes, M—F	Marsha Streicher 844-3023 Anita Stang, Assistant
#429	Central School 117 W. Livingston St. Pontiac, IL 61764	"Pontiac Pre-Kindergarten" AM & PM classes, M—F	Amy Verdun 844-3023 Missy Reiners
#435	Odell G. S. 203 North East Street Odell, IL 60460	"Bright Futures" AM & PM classes, M—F	Christy Basham 998-2272 Kelly Masching, Assistant
#438	Saunemin Grade School Box 290 Saunemin, IL 61769	"Saunemin Preschool" AM class, M—F	Lisa Heiser 832-4421 Tracey Kohlmeier, Assistant

## LIVINGSTON COUNTY LOCAL INTERAGENCY COUNCIL (LCLIC)

**Coordinator: Lisa Martin 844-6677**

**1402 N. Ann St.**

**Pontiac, IL 61764**

**Chair: Julia Cotter, 815/844-7115**

**Livingston County Special Services Unit**

**920 Custer Ave, Suite A**

**Pontiac, IL 61764**

The **LCLIC** advises and assists the CFC in the coordination of local people and resources necessary to implement a comprehensive service delivery system. Members include service providers, parents, local agency and school representatives. Meetings are held on a regular basis to identify and fill gaps in services and to develop strategies for public awareness, child find, provider recruitment and transition activities. The two major community activities the LCLIC sponsors are:

The Annual Free Picnic held in early June is for children and their families who have received or are receiving Special Education services. The picnic includes an informational fair with local and state agencies participating. Each booth also sponsors an activity for the kids, with prizes given for participation! A bounce house, horse back rides, petting zoo, obstacle course, and a featured entertainer provides everyone with a busy and happy day. The picnic, held at the 4-H park, has grown into an annual event with over 350 participants.

The Going, Giving, and Getting, the Extra Mile Conference is held in October each year. This free one day conference is for anyone living with or working with children Birth-6 years who have special needs. The GEM conference provides Speakers on current topics in education, health, family issues, etc. Informational booths and door prizes make the day informative and fun! Committee members come from various backgrounds such as teaching, nursing, child care, early intervention, etc. Each year a "theme" is carried out from costumes to decorations to break-out sessions. Almost everyone goes home with inspiration, information, and a door prize!

## Early Learning Team (ELT) Leaders

Each school district within Livingston County has an Early Learning Team. These teams are comprised of a transdisciplinary group of professionals and parents who meet to determine the needs of young children through a Problem Solving procedure. Members may include parents, service providers, teachers, therapists, administrators, social workers, psychologists, etc.

District	School(s)	ELT Leader	Address	Phone
#4 Flanagan #425 Graymont #426 Cornell	Flanagan, Graymont, Cornell	Allison Malcom, Pre-K/ECSE Teacher	Flanagan Elementary 202 E. Falcon Hwy Flanagan, IL 61740	796-2261
#5 Woodland	Woodland	Julie Hadden, ECSE Teacher & Dorothy Moynihan, Pre-K Teacher	Woodland Elementary 5800 E. 3000 N. Road Streator, IL 61364	672-2909
#6J Tri-Point	Piper City	Shannon Hughes Pre-K/ECSE Teacher	Piper City Elementary 519 S. Margaret Piper City, IL 60959	686-2247
#8 Prairie Central	Chenoa	Julie McGraw, Pre-K/ECSE Teacher	Chenoa Elementary 700 S. Division St. Chenoa, IL 61726	945-2971
#8 Prairie Central	Westview (Fairbury)	Cindy Hall, ECSE Teacher	Westview Grade School 600 S. First Street Fairbury, IL 61739	692-2623
#8 Prairie Central	Meadowbrook (Forrest) and Chatsworth	Kelly Jones, ECSE Teacher	Chatsworth Elementary Box 816 Chatsworth, IL 60921	635-3555
#232 Dwight	Dwight	Leslie Grieff, Pre-K Teacher & Dawn Hoerner, SI/P	Dwight Grade School 801 S. Columbia Dwight, IL 60420	584-6234
#429 Pontiac	Central, Lincoln and Washington (all of #429)	Barbara House, Special Needs Coordinator	Pontiac Jr. High School 600 Morrow St. Pontiac, IL 61764	844-5448
#435 Odell	Odell	Christy Basham, Pre-K Teacher	Odell Grade School 203 North East St. Odell, IL 60460	998-2272
#438 Saunemin	Saunemin	Lisa Heiser, Pre-K/ECSE Teacher	Saunemin Grade School P.O. Box 290 Saunemin, IL 61769	832-4421

## Early Childhood Special Education Classes

Early Childhood programs are designed to provide intensive instruction to young children, three to five years of age. A child may turn six while in the program. However, he would not be eligible if he turned six before the first day of school. Children who may be in need of services are brought before the Early Learning Team at the local school district. Their case is reviewed, and if all needed data is available, a decision may be made at that time. If more data needs to be gathered, questions are generated and assessment follows. A "Problem Solving" approach with a transdisciplinary team of professionals and parents is used to determine entitlement for services. Decisions concerning the need for intensive service are made based upon current and measurable data.

Dist.	Location	Teacher/Phone	Days
#4, #425, #426	Flanagan Elementary 202 E. Falcon Hwy Flanagan, IL 61740	Allison Malcom 796-2261 Barbara Tuftie, Assistant Kathy Bertsche, Assistant	AM & PM classes M – F (blended with Pre-K)
#5	Woodland Elementary 5800 E. 3000 N. Road Streator, IL 61364	Julie Hadden , 672.-2909 Susan Grabowski, Assistant	AM & PM classes M – F
#6J	Piper City Elementary 519 S. Margaret Piper City, IL 60959	Shannon Hughes 686-2247 Tina Weston, Assistant	PM class M - F
#8	Chatsworth Elementary Box 816 Chatsworth, IL 60921	Kelly Jones , 635-3555 Phyllis Bellot, Assistant	AM & PM classes M - F
#8	Chenoa Elementary 700 S. Division St. Chenoa, IL 61726	Julie McGraw 945-2971 Ext.343 Deana Boles, Assistant	AM & PM classes M - F (PM blended with Pre-K)
#8	Westview Grade School 600 S. First Street Fairbury, IL 61739	Cindy Hall 692-2623 or 692-3789 Joy Rathbun, Assistant	AM & PM classes M - F
#232	Dwight Grade School 801 S. Columbia Dwight, IL 60420	Melissa Kapidis 584-6234 Karen Chipman, Assistant	AM & PM classes M - F
#429	Lincoln Grade School 514 S. Main Street Pontiac, IL 61764	Laura Fiorini 844-3924 Nancy DiNardi, Assistant	AM & PM classes M - F
#429	Lincoln Grade School 514 S. Main Street Pontiac, IL 61764	Angie Pickett 844-3924 Dee Dee Tarmann, Assistant	AM & PM classes M - F
#438	Saunemin Grade School Box 290 Saunemin, IL 61769	Lisa Heiser 832-4421 Tracey Kohlmeier, Assistant	AM class M - F (blended with Pre-K)