

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CPO Launches New Service to Help Families Access Child Care Subsidy and Resources

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., (2/27/26) – Families across southwest Missouri now have a new local resource to help them navigate the child care system. Community Partnership of the Ozarks (CPO), in partnership with Child Care Aware of Missouri is offering personalized support to families applying for **Child Care Subsidy** and connecting them with child care providers and essential community resources.

“Even small delays in paperwork can have a big impact on working families who rely on child care subsidy, to help with the cost of child care” said **Denise Lock, CPO Child Care Community Support Specialist**. “Our goal is to make the process easier — helping families with their subsidy applications and connecting them to other family related resources.”

The service is available to families in **Barton, Jasper, Newton, McDonald, Cedar, Dade, Lawrence, Barry, Polk, Greene, Christian, Stone, Taney, Webster, Douglas, and Ozark**, counties. Families can receive help in two convenient ways:

- **Call or Email for Assistance**
Call 417-403-1300 or email dlock@copozarks.org
- **Meet in Person**
Call or email the above to schedule an appointment

In partnership with **Child Care Aware® of Missouri** and the **Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)**, CPO’s new initiative ensures families can:

- **Avoid mistakes** and feel confident completing applications.
- **Save time** searching for child care providers.
- **Access help faster** through coordinated referrals and resources.

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***ABOUT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OF THE OZARKS:** The mission of Community Partnership of the Ozarks is to facilitate and promote the building of resilient children, healthy families, and strong neighborhoods and communities through collaboration, programming and resource development. For more information on the Partnership’s collaborative efforts and programs, visit www.cpozarks.org.*