

EDUCATION & PLAY *in Central PA*

Save the Date

November 7 th :	ECE Fellowship Meeting
November 8 th :	Connect for Quality Event
November 14 th - 16 th :	NAEYC's 2018 Annual Conference
March 9 th :	CACPennAEYC 2019 Conference



Fall/Winter 2018

CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER

pennaeyc

Pennsylvania Association for the
Education of Young Children

naeyc

National Association for the
Education of Young Children

Dear PennAEYC/NAEYC Members,

This Fall 2018 season has many special events and activities for you, the teacher or administrator, who provides care and educational support to young children and their families in your programs. As a member of PennAEYC and NAEYC, you receive regional supports and services through our local chapter, the Capital Area Chapter of PennAEYC (or CACPennAEYC for short). In addition to the many supports we offer in grants and scholarships, we have also planned some great activities for your benefit.

Please look inside this newsletter and on our website, www.cacpennaeyc.org, for full details of each of these events.

If anyone is interested in learning more about our CACPennAEYC board and various committees, I invite you to attend a fall board meeting to hear about the work we do and ways you can become a volunteer. We would love to have you participate on the board as a Member-At-Large or on a committee. We serve a number of counties in the Southcentral region and meet monthly at Follow Me Child Care Center in Harrisburg. Our upcoming Fall board meetings are scheduled for: Oct. 11th, Nov. 1st and Dec. 13th, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Feel free to contact me at kathsten2016@gmail.com if you have any questions, or use our organizational email, cacpennaeyc@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you!

Enjoy the Fall season,

Kathy Stennett, President
Capital Area Chapter of PennAEYC

Connect for Quality

"Understanding, informing and nurturing families in your program."

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2018

6:30 PM TO 8:30 PM

The Capital Area Chapter of PennAEYC (CACPennAEYC) is proud to present the "Connect for Quality" networking event that highlights quality child care in our region.

This year's event will feature 3 facilities to visit.

1. Carlisle Early Education Center, 100 East Pomfret Street, Carlisle, PA 17013
2. Dickinson College Children's Center, 28 Garland Avenue, Carlisle, PA 17013
3. Bethel Preschool & Daycare, 1412 Holly Pike, Carlisle, PA 17105

We invite you to visit the centers to see how they deliver quality care and programming to their students. While you tour the centers you will have a chance to talk with teachers, administrators, and CACPennAEYC Board Members about how each center's environment contributes to their quality rating with STARS/NAEYC.. We hope to see you there!

No need to register.

Stop by, share ideas, gain insight and "Connect for Quality"!

Steps to Approaching Advocacy

One thing that every person who works with and around children has in common is passion. This passion can be for those we serve, those we work with, the professionals we support, and making change. This passion is exhibited in many ways; sometimes openly and sometimes quietly in support of those more vocal.

When a development in the field becomes actionable (legislation, regulation changes, funding changes, etc.), we should consider the following three steps to ensure as successful an effort as possible. One of the best parts about advocating for early childhood education is that you are never alone!

Confirm accurate information: In any political climate exists the constant potential for inaccurate information and misinformation; sometimes positioned to be exactly that. When you have learned of information that feels actionable, it is important to have a full understanding of the facts. These facts may not always be readily available, but by reaching out to a variety of resources and asking well-intentioned curious questions, a sound body of information can be constructed.

Approach with an appropriate tone: Depending on the issue at hand, our tones and the desired outcomes of our advocacy will look different. Whether we are rejoicing in support of proposed change or needing to stand firm against unfavorable change, a tone of respect and demonstration of a willingness to find solution must ring clear. After all, any rule, regulation, or funding matter is one of public policy and public policy is all a matter of respectful debate and negotiation. I often refer to an approach style left on me by a mentor: "When we put the best interest of children at the center, we cannot go wrong."

Check for neighboring efforts: Never advocate alone, there's no need to! With so many people and organizations to support causes, there is never a need to proceed along. In every case there are both people and organizations likely already interested and taking action on the matter you are interested in. By scouting out what efforts are already in motion, you link up with them and become part of the action. What makes advocacy so magical is the voice of the individual. When we use our individual voices to support (and sometimes even change the direction of the larger one) success is likely on the horizon!

The Capital Area Chapter of PennAEYC is always here to support you. If ever you are in need of information, ideas, support, connections, and things of the sort, we're just an email away. If you are interested in becoming part of an advocacy effort about something you are passionate about (worthy wages for educators, defining the profession, increased access to Head Start and PreK Counts Funding, etc.) we'd love to hear from you. You can make change; both here in the Capital Area and beyond!

Curtis Gussler, M.Ed.
Vice President for Support; President-Elect

ECE Leaders Can Make A Difference!

Capital Area Chapter of PennAEYC is gearing up for round two of gathering passionate leaders to form an ECE Fellowship Cohort.

The mission of the cohort is to bring a selected group of leaders together that have a passion for the early childhood field, and ultimately want to make a difference. The cohort will meet four times, each time navigating topics derived from the participants. Individuals will be able to gain deeper levels of understanding around early childhood initiatives, issues, and the future of the field. If you are a leader in ECE, or know a leader in ECE, we encourage you or a colleague to submit an application. If you have any questions about the cohort process, feel free to reach out!

Applications can be found at <https://www.cacpennaeyc.org/fellowship-cohort>
Email application to: cacpennaeyc@gmail.com



CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER

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Pennsylvania Association for the
Education of Young Children

The purpose of the Capital Area Chapter of PennAEYC is to enhance the lives of young children by providing support for adults working with or on behalf of young children. Our organization expresses its mission in three broad goals. We facilitate improvements in the professional practice of early childhood development and education, we increase public understanding and support for high quality programs for young children and their families, and we foster collaboration and building a cohesive community of early education professionals.

"The most powerful leadership tool you have is your own personal example."

-John Wooden



Week of the
Young Child™

Early Years Are Learning Years®



On April, 21, 2018 the Capital Area Chapter of PennAEYC sponsored a playdate in the park for NAEYC's annual week of the young child. The event was held at Possibility Place in Harrisburg and we gave away free books to the first 100 children. We had several area groups come for families and children to participate in hands-on fun while spending time together at the park. Tough Mudder had an obstacle course, Soccer Shots brought balls and a net for practicing, and Central Dauphin School District's P-3 Team had alphabet activities and gave away information about getting ready for kindergarten. Keystone Stars/Child Care Consultants (now ELRC 9 and 10), Parent to Parent, and Agora Cyber Charter School were there too. We also had the Dauphin County Library System with their new van, MARCO. They had STEM activities, free books, and bubbles! We will continue to hold events like this in the future and hope to add more local groups each year to spread the word about available services for families with children in the area. Please be on the lookout in April for 2019's week of the young child playdate in the park!

What is The Week of the Young Child?

It's a time to celebrate young children and their families with hands-on activities encouraging movement and healthy lifestyles through music, food, and art.

For more information go to www.naeyc.org

2018 Conference Highlights



2019 CACPennAEYC Conference

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, March 9, 2019

Join us for our annual early childhood conference at Messiah College. An electronic copy of the conference brochure will be posted on our website in December. Registration will open at the beginning of January 2019. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for details!

We are excited to have Geoff Akins as our 2019 Keynote speaker. Geoff has been entertaining, educating, and empowering children and adults alike worldwide for over 30 years with his gentle spirit, sense of humor, and gift of rapport. Inspired by his life-altering experiences as a teacher in Waldorf and Special Education he has created "The Bubble Wonders Show" to convey the message that "Anything is Possible!"

Scholarship & Tuition Assistance Opportunities

You may be eligible to apply for assistance to fund your continuing education! If you are a CACPennAEYC member and are employed in an early childhood education program, you may request up to \$1000/year for:

- A completed, with a passing grade, college course.
- Director Credential coursework (PA Key approved) or renewal
- CDA course instruction (for credit or non-credit)
- CDA assessment fee (if not eligible for PA Keys CDA Assessment Voucher Program)
- CDA renewal course instruction and application fee
- Education-related expense fees, such as technology fees, course fees, or books

Board Meeting Dates

- October 11, 2018
- November 1, 2018
- December 13, 2018
- January 10, 2019
- February 7, 2019
- April 4, 2019

All Board Meetings take place from 6:30pm - 8:30pm at:

Follow Me Christian Early Education Center
6003 Jonestown Road
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Did You Know?

Did you know that NAEYC revised the [Early Learning Program Accreditation Standards and Assessment items](#), effective July 1, 2018? Now is the time to begin thinking about NAEYC Accreditation, in light of this revision, geared to create a smoother process for programs. Accredited programs have met NAEYC's ten standards for high-quality early childhood education. These programs have demonstrated that they provide a safe and healthy environment for children, have teachers who are well-trained, have access to excellent teaching materials, and work with a curriculum that is appropriately challenging and developmentally sound.

As your local chapter of PennAEYC, CACPennAEYC offers financial support to centers interested in going through the NAEYC accreditation process. For 2018, CACPennAEYC is providing a grant to local programs to cover one half of all accreditation fees paid within the calendar year. For more information about accreditation and the grant application, go to cappennaeyc.org and click on the accreditation link. Questions? Contact the Accreditation Committee chair, Bev Gooding at bgood12@messiah.edu.

Support is also available from CACPennAEYC for the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) accreditation for Family Day Care Homes. Usha Ramamurthy, a family day care home provider is available at usha1834@hotmail.com to answer questions about NAFCC accreditation. This grant application is also at cappennaeyc.org.



"It takes a big heart to shape a little mind."

-Anonymous

Pediatric First Aid

If anyone is need of pediatric first aid, you are in luck. The Capital Area Chapter of PennAEYC is sponsoring pediatric first aid classes. Listed below is information for the next 3 sessions.

January 12th: 10am - 2pm

April 13th: 10am- 2pm

Crosspoint Christian Child Care
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Register today at:

<https://firstaidcappennaeyc.eventbrite.com>

