

CAAAYC COURIER

Fall 2014 - Winter 2015

Letter from the President

Dear CAAEYC Members,

What a wonderful year it has been thus far advocating and promoting quality in Early Education. We have been honored to award several scholarships to teachers who are committed to making a difference in the lives of children, as well as sponsor two innovation grants. In addition, the Week of the Young Child Walk 2014 was inspiring. Seeing our community come alive with families, early childhood professionals, and children was awesome!!

As you know, last year we refreshed and renewed the “The Night of Networking” and/or “The Progressive Dinner” to “Connect for Quality”. Three Early Education centers were chosen to host an open house and a member’s only dinner followed. We are thrilled to hold our *2nd Annual Connect for Quality Event* on November 8th. This year’s theme focuses on the environment.

“An environment is a living, changing system. It conditions how we feel, think, and behave; and it dramatically affects the quality of our lives.”

– Jim Greenman

Creating an inviting, nurturing space where both children and teachers thrive and grow is essential to overall happiness and positive mental well-being. Come join us to learn fun and authentic ways to enhance the environment at your center!!

Remember, everyone is welcome to join CAAEYC and support its mission. Your time and effort is always genuinely appreciated. Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions or ideas at jgranitz@followmechildcare.com.

Fondly,
Jennifer L. Granitz, M.Ed
CAAAYC President



National Association for the
Education of Young Children

CAAAYC Mission Statement

The purpose of the Capital Area Association for the Education of Young Children (CAAAYC) is to enhance the lives of children by providing support for adults working with or on behalf of young children. CAAAYC expresses its mission in three broad goals.

- Facilitating improvements in the professional practice of early childhood development and education.
- Increasing public understanding and support for high quality programs for young children and their families.
- Fostering collaboration and building a cohesive community of early childhood professionals.



2014 Innovation Grant Winners

Congratulations to Denise Fogelsanger from Messiah College Early Learning center. She is a 2014 Innovation Grant winner. Denise and her preschoolers will be working on the project titled:

"Documentation in the Project Approach". Ronald Troxell III from Capital Area Children center is our second Innovation Grant winner. He and his preschoolers will be working hard to create a "Dream Garden". Good Luck to both of you. We are thankful to have teachers like you who are dedicated to encouraging children to learn and grow in authentic ways.

Don't forget...
2015 Innovation Grant
Applications are
due June 15th.
\$1000 can be yours
to do an engaging
project with children.
See the CAAEYC
website for the
application & details.



Connect for Quality
Saturday, November 8, 2014

**Counts as a Keystone Stars
Professional Development Activity!!**

Registration Open Now...

CAAEYC is offering support for NAEYC Accreditation

Is your center in the midst of, or considering NAEYC accreditation? CAAEYC is offering support for early education programs beginning or continuing through the NAEYC Accreditation process. Throughout the Fall 2014, and Spring 2015, workshops will held at CAECTI involving accreditation. It is our hope that whether your program is beginning this process or near the end, we can offer support so that it does not seem like an overwhelming task. Check the CAAEYC website or email announcements for upcoming dates.

For 2014, CAAEYC has committed to reimbursing 50% of all accreditation fees and 50% of renewal fees, For more information and the grant application, go to www.caaeyc.org and click on the Accreditation link, or contact Bev Goodling, CAAEYC accreditation chair, at bgoodli2@messiah.edu.

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, March 14, 2015

CAAAYC Conference at Messiah College
Please check the CAAAYC website at
www.caaeyc.org for an electronic copy of
the brochure beginning in January, 2015.
Keynote Speaker: Jason Kotecki, author of
There's An Adult In My Soup.

"Teachers are interactive
professionals...who draw
on training, skill, a growing
body of experience, habit,
personal values, art, science,
and native wit to do their
work."
-William Ayers

Calling all Directors!



We would love some feedback! One of the fabulous programs CAAAYC is able to offer to its members is our Director Roundtable. Lately, we have noticed that there are so many opportunities for directors to gather such as L.E.A.R.N., Stars coffee talks, etc. In order to make the roundtables beneficial and valuable to your daily work, we would like to hear from you. What would you like to discuss? How often would you like to meet? What time of day works best? Is lunch preferred, morning coffee or Friday afternoon snack? Our plan typically involves a fall and spring session. However, we have held series focusing on selected topics, as well as book studies. Some directors find this helpful. Others prefer getting together and chatting about the many obstacles we face while attempting to get through our day to day responsibilities. If you are interested in getting together and/or have any ideas and feedback, please email! Amy Bennett is the chairperson for CAAAYC Roundtable. She can be reached at Brightbeginningscc@verizon.net.

Connect for Quality 2014



Open House

Come out on Saturday, November 8th, 2014, between 1pm and 4pm, to visit and tour three different child care facilities that demonstrate quality. This year's theme is "*Creating Supportive Environments for Children, Families and Teachers*". Enjoy visiting Kiddie Academy of Silver Spring, Mechanicsburg, Growing Adventures, Middletown, and Follow Me Christian Child Care Center, Harrisburg. This Open House event will count as a Keystone STARS Professional Growth and Development Activity if at least 2 out of the 3 facilities are visited. Thank you to center directors Michelle Verbecken, Pam Blazi and Jen Granitz and your staff for your gracious hospitality to make this day possible!

Members Only Banquet

Following the open house, CAAEYC will be sponsoring a "Members Only" banquet beginning at 4:30pm at the Central Penn College of Harrisburg, located at 600 Valley Road, Summerdale, PA 17093. "Mr. E" Jones will once again be our energetic host for the evening and Sue Long will lead the discussion on "*Creating Supportive Environments*". Members attending the banquet will earn 1 PQAS/DPW hour of Professional Development. In addition, dinner is on us!! If you weren't able to attend last year then you don't want to miss this year!

The registration deadline is October 31, so don't delay in signing up for this fun and inspiring event! For registration information and directions to the sites, go to www.caaeyc.org and click on "Events".