



The Update

Fall 2003

Association for the Education of Young Children of Missouri

November 21 - 22, 2003

The Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, Missouri

AEYC-MO is planning some exciting sessions for you at the 2003 Annual Conference.

Here are just a few...

Keynote: Amazing Musical Moments with Kathy Poelker

Faculty Institute A full day of sessions designed for college faculty including:

Using the NAEYC Standards to Support Quality Early Childhood Teacher Education with Camille Catlett

Missouri's Early Childhood Research Findings with Kathy Thornburg and Denise Mauzy, Wayne Mayfield

Bridging the Gap in ECE--It is well known that there is a significant achievement gap leaving African American children educationally deprived. This session marks the first step in an ongoing collaboration among professionals in Missouri to address this and other issues relevant to our diverse field.

Train the Trainers Training, Preventing Violence in the Lives of Children, with Nanci Bobrow

Advocacy 101—A Review of the new AEYC-MO Effective Advocacy Book with Cande Iveson and Crystal Williams

The Roots and Rhythm in Me and You, with featured speaker, Brother John Anderson

Missouri Accreditation Team Member and Leader Training, with MOA Board Members

Developing the Classroom to Support Brain Development, with Jeanette French

“Learning with a SMILE—Super Sensory Motor Activities Set to Music” and “Come Sing and Dance With Me!” with keynote, Kathy Poelker

AEYC-MO 2003 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



| | Member | Student Member | Student Non Member | Non Member |
|----------------------|--------|----------------|--------------------|------------|
| Full Conference | \$125 | \$105 | \$120 | \$183 |
| One day Fri. or Sat. | \$75 | \$60 | \$75 | \$133 |

Registration includes Saturday luncheon and keynote presentation.

Rooms at The Lodge of Four Seasons are available Thursday, Friday and Saturday, to AEYC-MO conferees at the special rate of \$80 per night. To receive the AEYC-MO Conference rate, reservations must be made no later than October 21. Please call The Lodge at 800-711-8983.

Watch for registration information on our web site at www.aeyc-mo.org and in your mail!

From the President

Eureka! We have discovered the future!

I imagine that most of you have had the joy of observing a Eureka moment in a child. You have heard the sudden intake of breath, seen the widening of the eyes, felt that palpable jolt of energy that electrifies the air. Most of us have had this extreme pleasure more than once - of being there in the moment that a child Discovers with a capital D, Understands with a capital U. We have shared that moment when she finds that she knows something new, that he has, quite by surprise, made sense of the world in a new way. For the child, it is often a bolt of lightening from the blue. For us in early education, it is the primary motivator for what we do.

The AEYC-MO board had our own Eureka moments this summer, as we developed our three-year strategic plan for reaffiliation with NAEYC. We looked at our present and made sense of our world. Then we discovered the future!

As you know, your state board and many hard-working volunteers at the local level have been working with NAEYC staff for three years, to re-invent ourselves as a high-performing and inclusive organization. We seek to better serve you, our members, with programs and services that will support the wide diversity of our profession. We conducted research and many of you filled out surveys or attended focus groups. We also gathered data from potential members. We reorganized the state for a leaner, more efficient structure, going from 13 local affiliates to four affiliate chapters that cover the whole state. And We “cleaned out” our organizational closets at the state and local levels, examining all our business and financial practices, membership services, and programs. We threw out what didn’t serve, and filled our newly organized “closets” with many new practices and policies that will improve our operations.

At our May state board retreat we reviewed all that we had learned over the past three years and identified the critical issues facing

AEYC-MO. We used those issues to identify a set of long-term and measurable outcomes to achieve over the next 10 to 15 years, and then set three-year goals for our new strategic plan. From those goals we and each of our four local affiliate chapters will set yearly objectives for annual work plans for 2004. Later, we will continue to move toward these same goals with annual work plans for 2005 and 2006. By the end of 2006 we will have a new strategic plan for 2007-2009 and will keep working toward our long-term outcomes until they are achieved.

We on the state board are very excited about the opportunities for top to bottom improvement of AEYC-MO that the requirement for reaffiliation has provided us. NAEYC has supported us well throughout the entire process with tools and technical assistance. Our volunteers have worked hard and invested many hours on your behalf. And you have responded, too, helping us gather the information we need to become an organization that can better serve you and all our colleagues.

In this issue, you will find a table showing you the outcomes and goals we have set for the years ahead. You will also find an application form to submit your name for leadership service in AEYC-MO. Soon, you can expect to see an annual plan from your local affiliate chapter that will help us achieve these long-term outcomes and three-year goals. We invite you to join in this exciting work - help us make our discovered future a reality!

Join us and enjoy your own Eureka moments throughout the year!

That's where the real fortune - our ultimate success - lies.

Dr. L. Carol Scott



Eureka!

NAEYC Management Seminars

Beginning in early May and continuing through mid-August, AEYC-MO offered a series of NAEYC Management Seminars, three each in Columbia, Kansas City and St. Louis. These five-hour seminars were designed by NAEYC Director of Affiliate Relations, Karen Hughes, specifically for center directors and assistant directors. Participants were able to register for one, two, or all three of the seminars. The trainings, designed to meet the needs of directors and assistants, were offered on the following topics: The Nuts and Bolts of Program Management—Staff Recruitment and Retention; Conflict Management; and The Art of Leadership. Kathy Ennis, experienced center director, college adjunct faculty member and consultant, served as trainer for the full series.

Registration scholarships for seminar participants (both AEYC-MO members and nonmembers) were donated by The United Way of Greater St. Louis and Boone Early Childhood Partners to participants in their respective areas. Breakfasts for the seminars were provided by the U. S. Toy Company / Constructive Playthings. Meeting space was made available by The United Way of Greater St. Louis, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Columbia, and The Discovery Center in Kansas City. AEYC-MO extends its thanks these groups for supporting the seminars.

If you have attended any of these seminars and would like to participate in similar future seminars, please contact Karen Hughes at khughes@naeyc.org. The seminars were an NAEYC / AEYC-MO partnership, a professional development opportunity for leaders in the field of early education. Participants gave the seminars high marks for providing this quality national training in Missouri.

Dee Ann Attaway



The Update is published by the Association for the Education of Young Children of Missouri three times a year; Fall, Winter and Spring.

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The Update accepts articles from classroom teachers, scholars, researchers, practitioners and students in early education childhood and related fields. Articles should be submitted to:

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The content of articles appearing in this publication is the responsibility of the author(s) and does not necessarily reflect the views of AEYC-MO. The Update serves as the primary communication from the State association and encourages diversity in opinions and experiences.

AEYC-MO, an organization for early childhood professionals, fosters excellence in early childhood systems and programs through advocacy, education and professional development.



Dr. Kathy R. Thornburg Leadership Fund

In recognition of Dr. Kathy R. Thornburg's outstanding leadership and service to the field of early education, AEYC-MO announces the establishment of the Kathy R. Thornburg Leadership Fund. The fund is designed to provide scholarships to AEYC-MO members to assist with conference registration costs of AEYC-MO, Midwest AEYC and NAEYC conferences.

AEYC-MO extends thanks to the Thornburg Leadership Fund Committee who spearheaded development of this scholarship program for members.

Members of the Leadership Fund Committee are Denise Mauzy, Jackie Scott, and Terri Tatum. To date, nearly \$20,000 has been donated by association members in honor of Kathy's career-long dedication to early education through this endowment. The association thanks each donor and the following organizations for their generous contributions; The United Way of Greater St. Louis *Success by 6 Initiative*®, The Kauffman Foundation and KCMC



Child Development Corporation. AEYC-MO also thanks its four local Affiliate Chapters, Central Missouri, Rivers Bend, Mid-America, and Ozarks, for contributing to the fund.

The kick-off event, a dinner and silent auction, held in Columbia on Friday evening, June 20, 2003, was attended by a hundred members and colleagues. Missouri Department of Social Services Early Childhood Department Director, Deborah Scott, emceed the event. Speakers at the event included; Dr. Brady Deaton, UMC Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Columbia legislator, Vicky Riback Wilson, AEYC-MO former president, Dahna Willis; UMC Child Development Lab instructor, Dr. Barbara Hammerli; and AEYC-MO Executive Director, Dee Ann Attaway. The committee is planning annual fundraising events in order to grow the fund so that more members each year will receive assistance with conference costs.

In order begin assisting our members in this first year of the fund's life, AEYC-MO will offer ten \$100 stipends to the AEYC-MO Annual Conference November 21-22, 2003. Scholarships will be designated for current AEYC-MO members who have taken an active role with AEYC-MO or with the local Affiliate Chapter of which they are a member. To apply for a scholarship, complete the form below and mail to: AEYC-MO, 1400 Rock Quarry Road, Columbia, MO 65211-3280, no later than October 15, 2003.

✂ please cut along dotted line and mail to the address shown above.

Dr. Kathy R. Thornburg Leadership Fund Scholarship Application for 2003 AEYC-MO Conference

Name: _____ NAEYC Member Number: _____

Address: _____

Work phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

List 3 AEYC-MO related activities in which you have participated:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

List 2 ways you plan to support AEYC-MO or your local AEYC Affiliate Chapter in the coming year:

1. _____
2. _____

Highest level of education completed:

E-MAIL ADVOCACY: Using Technology to Make a Difference

Keeping up-to-date on the important issues at the state and federal level can be challenging. How do you know which issues to follow, who to contact, and when? The answer: e-mail advocacy. Technology now allows busy advocates to receive the latest information via e-alert teams and to respond appropriately. AEYC-MO suggests the following e-alert teams:

Federal Alerts - NAEYC's Children's Champions

If you would like to sign up to receive important federal updates, visit NAEYC's website at www.naeyc.org. Click on the Public Policy button on the left-hand side of the screen. Then, click the prompt in the "Join Our E-mail List" and complete the requested information. It is that easy! If you signed up previously and are not receiving the alerts, you may have entered your information incorrectly and you will need to sign up again. If you have not signed up, become a Children's Champion today!

State Alerts - Citizen's for Missouri Children's Rapid Response Network

If you would like to sign up to receive important state updates, visit Citizens for Missouri's Children's website at www.mokids.org. Click on the "Legislation" and then click on the "Join an e-mail alert team" button on the left-hand side of the screen. You will then have the option of receiving alerts on the following topic areas:

- ◆ Budget and Revenue
- ◆ Child Support and Custody
- ◆ Early Care and Education
- ◆ Housing
- ◆ Juvenile Justice
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Health
- ◆ Child Welfare
- ◆ Income Security
- ◆ Youth Development

Over 280 AEYC-MO Members Are Children's Champions

Over 280 of AEYC Missouri's members are signed up to receive NAEYC's Children's Champions E-Mail Alert. Children's Champions provides regular updates and action alerts on important issues happening in Congress and the Federal Administration.

NAEYC states..."Our nation can and must do better to create opportunities that help all children and families succeed. The time for action is now."

A Renewed Call to Action

Our goal is not to simply defend the status quo. NAEYC's convictions about early childhood care and education set forth a vision of a system that is still unmet.

- ◆ That all young children deserve excellent early care and education

There are a large percentage of child care classrooms and family child care homes that of mediocre or poor quality. An alarming number of infants and toddlers are found to be in unsafe settings. We know that children in schools with fewer resources, a larger percent-

age of teachers that are new or have emergency certificates, and lacking parental involvement in their education are not receiving the excellent early education they deserve.

- ◆ That high quality early experiences make a difference in children's lifelong academic and social success

Several decades of research clearly demonstrate that high-quality, developmentally appropriate early childhood programs produce short- and long-term positive effects on children's cognitive and social development. Specifically, children who experience high-quality, stable child care engage in more complex play, demonstrate more secure attachments to adults and other children, and score higher on measures of thinking ability and language development. High-quality child care can predict academic success, adjustment to school, and reduced behavioral problems for children in first grade. Studies demonstrate that children's success or failure during the first years of school often predicts the course of later schooling. A growing body of research indicates that

more developmentally appropriate teaching in preschool and kindergarten predicts greater success in the early grades.

- ◆ That these programs must be accessible to all families

Access to child care, particularly high quality child care, remains out of reach for many families. Programs outside of K-12 public education have the greatest difficulty in meeting the criteria of good quality, equitable compensation, and affordable access. Unlike K-12 education — a publicly financed system with a relatively stable funding base — most early childhood care and education services operate in a very price-sensitive market financed primarily by fees from families and supplemented by public and private contributions. Many families cannot pay the full cost of quality care, and the ongoing commitment from public and private contributions is seldom guaranteed. For other children, there are insufficient numbers of child care providers trained in or connected to others who can help support their

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MAECHE Missouri Access to...

AEYC-MO has been involved in an exciting initiative, which has been underway in Missouri for almost a year now - Missouri Access to Early Childhood Higher Education, or MAECHE. That acronym is pronounced "match," as in a tool for using friction to ignite a flame, and as in bringing two things together in harmony or partnership.

What is MAECHE all about? From the beginning of any state's early childhood professional development initiative, challenges of potential students' access to higher education, and articulation as a particular form of access, are high on the list of essential elements. Articulation is often defined as seamless progress through credit-bearing professional development, from entry-level workshops, to community college, to university, without losing credits and/or taking the same courses over again. Some states have accomplished this ideal (Connecticut and New Mexico are two well know examples) but most are struggling toward it.

Missouri established the OPEN Initiative as it's statewide career development system in the late 90's. Better articulation between two - and four-year degree programs in early childhood higher education programs has been a goal of OPEN from its inception but OPEN's early focus has been aggressive pursuit of a professional development registry, trainer registry, and compensation initiative. Access and articulation have been waiting in the wings.... In the meantime, the Head Start legislation requiring that 50% of all teachers hold at least a two-year degree, and a rapidly expanding pilot of the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarship program by the Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral Network have both increased interest in better access to higher education for the early childhood workforce. Ultimately, that increased interest resulted in the MAECHE initiative. With the new Head Start reauthorization likely to require four-year degrees for Head Start teachers, the urgency of the need to increase access, especially through articulation, will increase.

The MAECHE Vision is that quality higher education is accessible and responsive to Missouri early childhood educators. The MAECHE committee defines quality as:

- ◆ Transfer of learning which changes teachers, practices with children
- ◆ Most current content, based on valid research
- ◆ Best practices in adult education
- ◆ Innovative strategies and fresh approaches

They define accessibility and responsiveness as:

- ◆ Time of day, location, and delivery methods suitable for working early childhood professionals
- ◆ Culturally relevant

- ◆ Optimal articulation
- ◆ Literacy and developmental supports for general education skills
- ◆ Affordable and financially supported
- ◆ Appropriate advice and career counseling
- ◆ Motivation of the workforce to earn credentials and degrees

And they define early childhood educators as:

- ◆ Individuals already working in programs that serve children from birth through kindergarten entry and programs for school-age child care
- ◆ Those who want to work in all types of early education programs for this age group, including Head Start, child care centers, preschools, pre-kindergartens and family child care

So, what has MAECHE been doing these past 10 months? In late 2000, the Missouri Head Start Association funded a consultant to implement the committee's goals. Dr. L. Carol Scott of LC Associates received the contract in October 2002. Since November 1, 2002, MAECHE has produced the following products and services:

- ◆ Directory of Missouri ECE higher education credentials and degrees
- ◆ List of Infant/Toddler courses available at Missouri colleges and universities
- ◆ State of the Landscape% report on access to Missouri's early childhood higher education programs
- ◆ ListServ for communications with early childhood faculty and other interested stakeholders
- ◆ Monthly e-newsletter (issues date from May 2003)

Dr. Scott works with the MAECHE Steering Committee, chaired by Darin Preis of the Missouri State Head Start Collaboration Office, and comprised of representatives from AEYC-MO, the Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral Network, the Family and Policy Research Center at MU-Columbia, Missouri Head Start Association and several Missouri departments of state government. These stakeholders consider themselves end-users of early childhood higher education programs, in some cases because they are charged with oversight of or fund scholarships for the education of early childhood educators. In other cases, their funded programs employ and/or serve early childhood educators. Substantial state and federal pass-through funds are invested in the early childhood workforce and, therefore, Missouri state agencies are invested in their professional development.

Immediate goals for MAECHE include:

... Early Childhood Higher Education

- ◆ Dissemination of a short document summarizing the best practices in access from the State of the Landscape report.
- ◆ Continuation of the monthly e-newsletter, sent to the MAECHE ListServ.
- ◆ Keeping the database of early childhood faculty members current and making it available to other groups that communicate with and offer programs for early childhood faculty members.
- ◆ Building awareness about the need for online information on each school's transfer equivalences for coursework.
- ◆ Enabling and fostering the development of a unified consumer voice to express needs and goals to institutions of higher education at the local level.
- ◆ Addressing professional development interests and needs of faculty members.
- ◆ Developing a set of strategies designed to develop the reading, writing, and mathematical skills needed for success in higher education in teachers who work in early education programs that serve children from birth to five.
- ◆ Develop a set of best practice strategies for use by clock hour trainers, which will strengthen adult learners, literacy and numeracy.

The MAECHE committee has projected short- and long-term outcomes in the areas of communications, continuing education for faculty, quality improvement in early childhood higher education programs, systems change in early childhood higher education, and financing. For more information about the MAECHE initiative, to obtain a copy of any of its reports, or to join the MAECHE ListServ, contact Dr. Carol Scott at lcassoc@starband.net.

Dr. L. Carol Scott

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special educational or other needs to develop to their full potential.

- ◆ That early childhood professionals must have excellent preparation, ongoing professional development, and compensation commensurate with their qualifications and experience

A key component of quality programs is the quality of teacher. Recruitment and retention of child care staff is extremely difficult. The average child care teaching assistant earns roughly \$10,500 a year and the highest paid child care teachers are paid roughly \$18,000 a year. Turnover of staff averages 31 percent. In public schools, although salaries are much higher than for child care teachers, there is difficulty retaining talented teachers and recruiting more experienced teachers to troubled schools. Scholarships, financial aid, and loan forgiveness are insufficient to help many early childhood educators obtain excellent preparation and ongoing professional development.

- ◆ That effective early education must be both challenging and appropriate to young children's ages, individual needs, and culture

To guide their decisions about practice, all early childhood teachers need to understand the developmental changes that typically

occur in the years from birth through age 8 and beyond, variations in development that may occur, and how best to support children's learning and development during these years. Children's development is best understood within the sociocultural context of the family, educational setting, community, and broader society. These various contexts are interrelated, and all have an impact on the developing child.

- ◆ That everyone needs to work together to build a successful future for our youngest children

An equitable and sufficient system of financing early childhood education in the United States is still elusive. Child care is financed through a patchwork of government, parent, and private sector resources. Families contribute roughly 60 percent of the costs of child care; federal, state, and local governments combined contribute 39 percent, and business contributes one percent. Public schools are financed largely through property taxes, which has created an inequitable distribution of resources within school districts and states, despite additional resources from states and the federal government. An equitable system of financing child care and early education requires a strong partnership between government, families, and the private sector.

Child Advocates "SPEAK UP" for Children

This past legislative session was particularly difficult given the budget crises, turnover in the House and Senate due to term limits, and the political stand off between Republicans and Democrats. Although we cannot say it was the year for children, we can say that this was the year that child advocates made themselves known to members of the General Assembly!

- ◆ The 21st Annual Child Advocacy Day reports record-breaking attendance with 800 child advocates marching on the Capitol.
- ◆ There was a tremendous public outcry to save Missouri's health insurance for children.
- ◆ A compromise was reached on the distribution of the gaming funds that support the Early Childhood Development, Education and Care Fund.
- ◆ Hundreds of advocates received and responded to Citizens for Missouri's Children's Rapid Response Network alerts.

*Denise Mauzy,
Public Policy Co-Chair*

Financial & Business Administration

GOALS

10-15 year
AEYC-MO is financially solvent, stable, and resilient.

3 year
Diversify AEYC-MO's sources of revenue. Increase membership revenue. Develop and maintain a cash reserve equal to 25% of the previous years operating expenses.

Professional Development

GOALS

10-15 year
AEYC-MO members have increased knowledge and skills in child development and best practices in ECE.

3 year
Develop new and innovative approaches to professional development. Increase alignment of AEYC-MO professional development activities with the KS/MO core competencies.

GOALS

10-15 year
The quality of Missouri's early childhood programs increases.

3 year
Increase number of programs accredited by board approved accreditation systems. Increase consumer awareness of board approved accreditation systems.

Marketing/Public Relations

GOALS

10-15 year
AEYC-MO has strategic partnerships with groups within and external to the early childhood field to meet the vision of the organization.

3 year
Identify potential strategic partnerships. Increase strategic partnerships with community based organizations and businesses.

GOALS

10-15 year
ECE professionals are aware of AEYC-MO programs and services.

3 year
Increase awareness of AEYC-MO across the state. Promote available programs/services via the web site.

GOALS

10-15 year
Members are able to utilize technology to participate in AEYC-MO activities and services.

3 year
Increase AEYC-MO's capacity to offer programs and services via technology. Educate professionals about technology-based services.

Membership

GOALS

10-15 year
Early childhood professionals value membership in AEYC-MO.

3 year
Membership will increase. Current members will maintain their membership.

GOALS

10-15 year
Membership in AEYC-MO reflects and represents the diversity of the early childhood professionals across the state.

3 year
Recruit new members to reflect the diversity of the early childhood profession across the state.

Policy and Communications

GOALS

10-15 year
Legislators, dept. personnel, and other elected officials use AEYC as a resource and make early education a priority.

3 year
Increase communication with legislators, department personnel and elected officials. Build relationships with key legislators.

GOALS

10-15 year
Missouri voters support a public investment in early childhood.

3 year
Increase communication with media to increase the visibility of early childhood education. Increase communication with non-members in early childhood education and families with young children.

GOALS

10-15 year
AEYC-MO members have increased knowledge about the legislative process and are engaged in AEYC-MO public policy activities.

3 year
Increase AEYC-MO public policy offerings. Educate members about the legislative process. Increase members' knowledge about critical events about the legislature.

Governance

GOALS

10-15 year
State and affiliate chapters are operating under a clear and unified structure of governance.

3 year
Create and coordinate bylaws to support unified structure. Use technology to regularly communicate between state affiliate and chapters and among chapters.

GOALS

10-15 year
The structure of governance facilitates effective and cooperative efforts among all affiliates and community groups.

3 year
Make the Week of the Young Child a coordinated effort across the affiliate, affiliate chapters and community groups. Make Child Advocacy Day a coordinated effort across the affiliate, affiliate chapters and community groups.

Leadership

GOALS

10-15 year
Board members take responsibility for their roles as defined by their job descriptions.

3 year
Create a system of support and evaluation for all board members.

GOALS

10-15 year
Early childhood professionals are aware of and engaged in a system of leadership development.

3 year
Develop leaders within the organization. Expand capacity of existing leaders.

Affiliate Relations

GOALS

10-15 year
AEYC-MO and its local affiliate chapters have reciprocal, effective relationships.

3 year
Provide technical assistance to affiliate chapters based on their needs. Communicate effectively with affiliate chapters' leadership. Encourage and welcome affiliate chapters' leadership at AEYC-MO board meetings. Have a visible presence at affiliate chapters' sponsored events.

MO's Professional Achievement and Recognition



The Professional Achievement and Recognition System (PARS) is a database that verifies and tracks teachers, qualifications for various professional roles and recognizes educational achievement on Missouri's career lattice. It is one of the programs administered by the OPEN (Opportunities in a Professional Education Network) Initiative. Teachers and directors working with children birth through school age are encouraged to enroll in the Professional Achievement and Recognition System. Since November 2001, OPEN has been able to recruit more than 2000 early education professionals from Missouri into this database. In that time, we have already had a number of professionals make outstanding educational achievements, and we would like to recognize them for their accomplishments. For more information, please call the OPEN office (toll free number: 1-877-782-0185).

Congratulations!

Dareth Thorn of Planet Child Care in St. Louis has earned enough early childhood credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Jerre Weaver of Stella Maris Child Center in St. Louis has earned her AAS degree in Early Care and Education from St. Louis Community College.

Amanda Clark of South Side Day Nursery in St. Louis has earned enough early education credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Jessica Gulley of Planet Child Care in St. Louis has earned enough early childhood credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Adrienne Donson of YWCA Jennings Head Start in St. Louis has earned enough college credit to move to Level 3b on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Linda Jackson of YWCA Jennings Head Start in St. Louis has earned enough college credit to move to Level 3b on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Michelle Arnold of Little Neighbor,s Playschool in Columbia (Boone County) has completed enough college credits to move to Level 2b on Missouri's Career Lattice

Renee Atwood of Planet Child Care in St. Louis has earned enough early childhood credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Lisa Baum of Kinder Care Learning Center in Columbia (Boone County) has earned enough early childhood credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Sharon Blevins, a home-based early education professional in St. Louis, has earned her Certificate of Proficiency in Early Care and Education from St. Louis Community College.

Sheila Burnia of Webster Child Care Center in St. Louis has earned enough early childhood credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Mona Caldwell of Grace Hill Head Start in St. Louis has earned enough early education credit to move to Level 3b on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Lisa Cooper of ABC Teeter Toddlers in Lebanon (Laclede County) has earned her Child Development Associate (CDA) credential

Angela Criner of St. Martin,s Child Center in St. Louis has earned enough early childhood credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Linda Diaz of Pooh Corner in Savannah (Andrew County) has earned her AAS degree from Metropolitan Community Colleges.

Marion Foster of Home Learning and Day Care in St. Louis has earned her AAS degree in Early Care and Education from St. Louis Community College

Nicole Groaning from Lemay Child and Family Center in St. Louis has earned her AA degree in General Studies from St. Louis Community College.

Claudette Gurly of Little Folks Haven in St. Louis has completed enough early education credits to move to Level 3b of Missouri's Career Lattice.

Brenda Hart of Ava Head Start in Ava (Douglas County) has completed her AAS degree in Early Childhood Development from Ozarks Technical Community College.

Tanya Jackson of Strictly Pediatrics Center in St. Louis has earned enough college credits to move to Level 2b on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Cathy Jenkins of St. Martin,s Child Center in St. Louis has earned her Certificate of Proficiency in Early Care and Education from St. Louis Community College.

Lisa Ketsenburg of Hinkson Children,s Center in Columbia (Boone County) has earned enough early childhood credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Cheryl Kyles of Faith Missionary Baptist Church Daycare in St. Louis has earned enough early childhood credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Linda Light of Light,s Preschool Home Day Care in St. Louis has earned her Certificate of Proficiency in Early Care and Education from St. Louis Community College.

Norma Milan of Top Notch EEC in St. Louis has earned enough early childhood credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Debbie Milnes of Debbie,s Child Care in Moberly (Randolph County) has earned her Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.

Pamela Morff of Creative Expressions Learning Center in St. Louis has completed enough early education credits to move to Level 3b of Missouri's Career Lattice.

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Association for the Education of Young Children - Missouri

Leadership Interest Survey

AEYC-Missouri is searching for exciting and energetic leaders who will work together with other early childhood professionals to ensure that all Missouri's children are prepared for and will succeed in school. If you are interested in serving the early childhood profession within the structure of AEYC-MO, please complete the following information and submit to the name and address below:

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please list your current professional position and briefly describe your responsibilities.

Please list your professional affiliations (membership in professional organizations). Please indicate any positions of leadership you have held in the organizations listed.

Please list your community affiliations (membership in community organizations, social and faith-based). Please indicate any positions of leadership you have held in the organizations listed.

Of the following areas leadership, which interest you most? (Please select up to three only).

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Governance | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Policy and Communications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programs and Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership and Recruitment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations and Marketing |

Please mail your information to:

Julius B. Anthony, Consultant
 Milton, Anthony and Associates
 3934 Hartford Street
 St. Louis, Missouri 63116

AEYC-MO Vision:

AEYC-MO Vision: Missouri invests in early childhood education to ensure that every child is prepared for and succeeds in school.

(Teacher Education And Compensation Helps) T.E.A.C.H.

Based on the belief that Teacher Education And Compensation Helps, T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI is one of 22 states in a nationwide movement to increase quality child care and education. Working with teachers, directors, assistants, and owners of licensed early childhood facilities, T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI is a comprehensive scholarship program. In the state for three years, T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI seeks to increase scholarship, education, compensation, and retention in the field of early childhood.

Licensed through the Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral Network, the scholarship is currently active in 26 counties: Buchanan, Linn, Randolph, Marion, Clay, Jackson, Laclede, Pettis, Boone, Cole, St. Louis City, St. Louis County, St. Charles, Jasper, Lawrence, Greene, Douglas, Webster, Wright, and St. Genevieve, St. Francois, Stoddard, Dunklin, Cape Girardeau, Mississippi, & Scott. T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI also works with nine community colleges (Jefferson, Mineral Area, Moberly Area, Ozark Technical, Penn Valley, St. Charles, St. Louis, State Fair, and Three Rivers) and six colleges and universities (Central Missouri State, Lincoln, Missouri Southern, Missouri Western, Southeast Missouri State, and Southwest Missouri State).

T.E.A.C.H. is currently serving 102 recipients through eight separate funding lines throughout Missouri. We are currently working with 8 group homes, 25 family child care homes, and 38 centers. In total, T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI has served 180

recipients since 2000. The T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI scholarship rate of turnover within the project is 13.8% with 86% of all recipients staying in service to children and their families for at least two consecutive years. This means that of the 180 recipients who have gone through the scholarship, 155 have successfully completed their contractual agreement while increasing the quality of care and education to the children they serve.

At this time, recipients work toward Associates degrees or CDA's for college credit.

To be eligible for T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI, you need to be a teacher, director, owner, or assistant in a licensed child care center, family child care, or group home; 18 years or older; work at least 30 hours a week; work in a facility in a current pilot county; and make less than \$14.50/hr as a teacher or under \$16/hr as a director/owner.

Since coming to Missouri in 1999 and issuing first scholarships in 2000, T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI has raised over \$865,000 solely through private grants and contracts. We are thrilled to add our first state support through a grant from the Missouri Department of Social Services for \$125,000. If you would like more information about the T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI scholarship or to find out about funding in your county, please call Beth Ann Lang at 314-535-2020, ext. 4.

Bethann Lang

(continued from page 9) Professional Achievement and Recognition (PARS)

Rochelle Mullins of St. Pius Grace Hill Settlement House Head Start in St. Louis has earned her Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.

Tracy Murray of Learning Tree Intergenerational Center in St. Louis has earned her Certificate of Proficiency in Early Care and Education from St. Louis Community College.

Lakiesha Owens of St. Martin,s Child Center in St. Louis has earned her Certificate of Proficiency in Early Care and Education from St. Louis Community College.

Linda Patrick, a home-based early education professional in Columbia (Boone County), has completed enough early education credits to move to Level 3b of Missouri's Career Lattice.

Deborah Reaka of First Kids in Marshfield (Webster County) has earned enough early childhood credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Richelle Reid of Walnut Creek Day School in Columbia (Boone County) has earned her BA in History/Political Science from Columbia College.

Melissa Robinson of Hinkson Infant/Toddler Center in Columbia (Boone County) has earned her AAS degree in early childhood from Moberly Area Community College.

Robin Smith of Alphabet Soup Learning Center in St. Louis has earned enough early childhood credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Latashia Smith of Buttons and Bows Preschool in St. Louis has earned her MA in Psychology from Pepperdine University.

Jessica Smothers of Children,s World Learning Center in St. Louis has earned enough college credits to move to Level 2b on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Georgia Tomlin of Cuddles Day Care Corporation in St. Louis has earned enough early childhood credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Johnita Weaver of Lebanon Head Start Center in Lebanon (Laclede County) has earned enough early childhood credits to move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice.

Michelle Woolsey of Webster Child Care Center in St. Louis has earned her Certificate of Proficiency in Early Care and Education from St. Louis Community College.

Renate Zahn of Renate,s Child Care Academy in St. Louis has earned her AAS in early care and education from St. Louis Community College.

Congratulations and thank you to these wonderful early education professionals. Your dedication to professionalism and continuing education is an inspiration to us all!



Association for the Education of Young
Children - Missouri
1400 Rock Quarry Road
Columbia, MO 65211-3280

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Just a reminder... we've moved....

Effective **Monday, May 12, 2003**, the AEYC-MO Office moved to it's new quarters. You may now reach us at the following contact information. Please note that the toll free number remains the same, but other information has changed.

AEYC-MO Office
1400 Rock Quarry Road
Columbia, MO 65211-3280

Phone: 573 884-3374
Fax: 573 884-0598
Toll free: 877 296-2852

Calendar of upcoming AEYC events:

AEYC-MO ANNUAL CONFERENCE *November 21-22, 2003*
The Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, MO. (see front page of this issue of The Update for more information, or go to our web site at www.aeyc-mo.org after September 10th, for registration information.

NAEYC ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPO *November 5-8, 2003*
Chicago, IL For details, including hotel and registration information, visit the web site at www.naeyc.org.

MIDWEST AEYC ANNUAL CONFERENCE *April 22-24, 2004*
(April 21 Preconference), Listen to the Rhythm, Kansas City, Overland Park Convention Center in Overland Park, KS For details and a copy of the call for proposals, visit the web site at www.mwaeyc.org.

Request for donations:

Consider a Gift to the **AEYC-MO KATHY R. THORNBURG LEADERSHIP FUND**. Your gift today will make a difference in the professional development of an emerging early childhood leader! Gifts are tax deductible, checks may be sent to the AEYC-MO office at: AEYC-MO, 1400 Rock Quarry Road, Columbia, MO 65211-3280.