



AEYC-MO celebrates the election of Dwayne Crompton as NAEYC President-elect



Dwayne A. Crompton has dedicated his career and life to the advancement of social issues, especially for the very young. Since his graduation in 1968 from Lincoln University, Mr. Crompton has labored in and on behalf of the community in which he was nurtured. His efforts to help improve the lives of young children include time as a preschool teacher, an elementary teacher, a public school administrator and a child-care agency director. Mr. Crompton also holds a master's degree in Education from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Mr. Crompton's most significant professional accomplishments

have been at the helm of KCMC Child Development Corporation. Twenty-three years ago, when he was elevated to the position of executive director, KCMC Child Development was a fledgling not-for-profit agency striving against tremendous odds to meet childcare needs of the working poor in the community. Today, the picture is quite different.

Under Mr. Crompton's leadership, KCMC has grown to include the administration of Project Head Start in Jackson, Clay and Platte counties; the administration of the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program in 20 western Missouri counties; the operation of Early Head Start, serving 251 children; the administration of a private-public sector child-care partnership called Full Start; the construction of the Thomas Roque Building, a state-of-the-art family and child development resource center, located at 51st and Cleveland and the construction and operation of the James Threath Early Education and Care Resource Building, located at 1731 Garfield. Currently, in partnership with the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority, KCMC Child Development Corporation is constructing a 4 Million-Dollar Child and Family Development Center one of Kansas City's busiest transportation hubs, 39th and Troost Avenue.

Through the many programs of KCMC, Mr. Crompton's hands have reached out to help thousands of children and families of all racial and ethnic backgrounds in northwestern Missouri to improve the quality of their lives through better childcare.

Mr. Crompton has national recognition in the child-care profession. He serves as president of the prestigious Governing Board of the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition. He is a member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. He is a member of the National Black Child Development Institute. He is a member of the Black Community's Crusade for Children and serves on its Steering Committee. Mr. Crompton is frequently called to give testimony on child-care legislation pending before local, state and federal government bodies.

Mr. Crompton has an active track record of community service. He is past president of the Housing and Economic Development Financial Corporation of Kansas City. He is past president and past treasurer of the Board of Curators of Lincoln University, and a member of the Metropolitan Council on Child Care. Mr. Crompton is a member of the Board of Directors of the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce.

From the President

As early childhood professionals, we keep many things on our plates. Like the juggler on re-runs of the old Ed Sullivan Show, we keep many of these full plates spinning, spinning on slender sticks. Sometimes, we feel like we're spinning, ourselves...turning, turning round and round, trying to simultaneously manage our professional roles, our volunteer leadership roles, our family roles, our personal needs. Keep them all spinning, like a wheel of fortune. And what is the early education wheel of fortune, the source of our success? Do we have one?

For years, it's been called the early education "trilemma." NAEYC named it the QCA issue over a decade ago. We all spin on this wheel in our daily work and our feelings of success seem to rise and fall as it turns. The QCA trilemma wheel is divided into three sections: quality, compensation and affordability.

Quality of early learning programs has long been too low. Data from national studies in the mid-90s documented that the quality in 85% of early learning programs was insufficient to ensure children's optimal development and success in later schooling.

This deplorable situation is directly related to the compensation - wages and benefits - for early education professionals. Starting wages of \$10,000 to \$12,000 per year cannot attract teachers with a college degree in early childhood education or child development. These credentialed teachers want the \$33,500 average starting wage (full-year equivalent) - with full benefits - they can earn in public school classrooms.

This wage gap is directly related to the fact that early learning programs - whether they are called child care or preschool - must remain affordable for those who pay for them. At \$3,100 - \$5,200 per year, the lowest cost of a full-day early education program is, for most families, an expense comparable to their housing. Yet, compare this to public spending on elementary education: in 2002, the poorest district in Missouri spent over \$4,500 per pupil; the richest spent over \$13,700 per pupil.

Quality-Compensation-Affordability...around and around the edge of this circle we go, always spinning from one to the next. We experience QCA as a "trilemma" as we work first on improving quality in individual programs through professional development and accreditation, then on struggling to raise compensation for staff in those programs, then on trying to figure out how to make programs more affordable for families. Around and around and around we go....

The only way to stop spinning is to stand in the center of the circle. Yes, stand in the center and work on all three issues at the same time. We call it advocacy.

Work to save the Missouri Preschool Project funding that is expanding access to quality programs through accreditation. Work to expand the funding for WIN - Missouri's compensation initiative. Work to ensure adequate federal and state funding for a child care subsidy that includes more families. Stand in the center and work on all three... through advocacy.

And congratulations are due to all of you for the hard work you are doing at both the state and federal levels:

- ◆ Child Advocacy Day was a resounding success this year, with close to 800 participants - a 60% increase over previous years!
- ◆ AEYC-MO partners with many other organizations to host legislative breakfasts that may help prevent the loss of the gaming funds that support quality improvements. Hard working volunteers show up at the capitol at 7:00 AM to inform and influence the thinking of our state legislators.
- ◆ Teams of advocates visited our U.S. congressional delegation in early March and hundreds of Missouri advocates helped clog the congressional switchboard on March 19th with calls demanding more federal funding.
- ◆ NAEYC has experienced a huge increase in enrollments for its advocacy update emails - a 70% increase in Missouri over the past two months and the number is climbing.

Are you still out there, spinning on the edge of the "trilemma?" There's only one way to make the spinning and very full plate of your daily life into a wheel of fortune. Come stand in the center and work on quality, compensation and affordability all together, as one of hundreds, one of thousands of advocates.

That's where the real fortune - our ultimate success - lies.
Dr. L. Carol Scott



If you are familiar with Child Care Information Exchange, you might also appreciate knowing about "Exchange EveryDay". Because I subscribe to <http://www.childcareexchange.com>, everyday I automatically receive via email a short informational/inspirational message. A few weeks ago, as I considered the difficulties that the world's citizens face during these challenging times, the following message came across my email. Entitled "What Kids Have in Common World Wide" it reminded me once again, how much we can learn from children. What if we adults considered mostly those things we have in common, while acknowledging that some differences do exist, but that those are okay?



When researchers asked a representative sample of 2,400 kids in the USA, the UK, Germany, France, Japan and China to name their favorite activities, a lot of common interests were identified. (Work & Family Life, January 2003)

- ◆ 55% of all the children identified "being with friends" as a favorite activity;
- ◆ 90% said they watch TV at least three days a week--it was in fact the most popular activity in all the countries except Germany, where "playing outside" was more popular;
- ◆ Shopping was reported as a favorite activity of 55% of US children, 47% of Japanese children, 46% of Chinese children, and 37% of British, French and German children.

There were some differences reported too:

- ◆ 75 % of Chinese children said that "going to school" was a favorite activity, compared with only 36% of British children;
- ◆ 42% of Chinese children do homework 7 days a week compared to 1% of the children in the US, Germany and the UK.

For your parents who are asking for childrearing advice, you can provide practical support to them by subscribing to "Parenting Exchange". Every month you will receive a column by email with advice on a specific parenting challenge which you can share with all your parents. Check it out at:

<http://www.childcareexchange.com>

Dee Ann Attaway

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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 is a State Affiliate of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Its purpose is to foster excellence in early childhood education through professionalism and advocacy on behalf of Missouri's young children, families, and educators.

Announcing The AEYC-MO Annual Conference *November 21-22, 2003, The Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, MO.*

AMAZING MUSICAL MOMENTS

In Song, Movement, Music Games, Drama & Dance

Kathy Poelker, Children's Recording Artist, Composer, and ASCAP Award Winner will show you the "steps to success" for "can't fail" music making! You'll learn how to put music to work for you in the Early Childhood classroom! Come along for loads of fun - all with an educational purpose! And explore the powerful gift of music and its connections to child development. Kathy will share a variety of selections and activities from her more than 150 songs published in 10 recordings for children! Learn how to enhance little ones' readiness skills and extend language and literacy using simple, FUN activities and songs, music games and musical drama pieces - even Big Books - set to music! Give kids the right kind of start to "school success" using music! You'll be singin', movin', and groovin' in this keynote address filled with simple-to-do, FUN musical activities!

"Learning With A SMILE - Super Sensory Motor Activities Set to Music!"

Learn how to build a wide range of readiness skills needed as the foundation to accomplishing more complex goals. You'll be "learning to move and moving to learn" in this interesting session. So many of today's kids come to us with language, attention, and motor coordination problems. You'll learn how to give these children what they need to ensure development and academic success! Brain-based, practical, and powerful - come see for yourself!



"Come Sing & Dance With Me!"

Put on your dancing shoes and join in the movement fun of "At the Firehouse", "Astronauts' Adventure", "Come Dance With ME!", "My Pony Stop and Go", "Patschen Polka", "Buenos Dias, Amigos!", "Here We Go Looby Loo", and many MORE! Pick a partner and get ready for movement FUN that strengthens a wide range of readiness skills! Use musical FUN to reach every child and help develop better socialization skills, too! Don't miss this FUN session.

Don't miss Kathy's other workshop sessions offered at this year's conference!

Public Policy - Advocacy Day in Review

PUBLIC POLICY/ADVOCACY - Putting your membership dollars to work for you!

AEYC-MO fosters excellence in early childhood education through advocacy on behalf of Missouri's young children, families, and educators.

Public Policy Report

Submitted by Denise Mauzy and Abby Thorman, Public Policy Co-Chairs

- ◆ AEYC-MO is representing you!
- ◆ Change in Public Policy Leadership
- ◆ AEYC-MO Public-Policy Co-Chairs and Committee Focus on State and Federal Policy
- ◆ State Policy Goals and Update
- ◆ Federal Policy Goals and Update
- ◆ 21st Child Advocacy Day Report
- ◆ Sign for Federal and State Policy Alerts
- ◆ Battle over the Budget

AEYC-MO is representing your needs!

AEYC-MO puts your membership dollars to work for you as we communicate with policy makers and elected officials about the support early childhood needs from the State and Federal governments. The following is a list of groups and/or coalitions in which AEYC-MO participates:

- ◆ Department of Health and Senior Services Child Care Advisory Committee
- ◆ Heads Up! Reading Committee
- ◆ Kids Count Advisory Committee
- ◆ OPEN Initiative Executive Committee
- ◆ What About the Kids? Budget Coalition

Change in Public Policy Leadership

The Board of Directors of the Association for the Education of Young Children of Missouri would like to thank Michelle Mathews for her service to the Board as Public Policy Co-Chair (1999-2003). During her term, Michelle focused her efforts on educating members about how to be informed advocates. Through her efforts, hundreds of professionals received information, tools, and the confidence to advocate for young children and families.

In addition, the Board would like to welcome Abby Thorman, who began her term as Public Policy Co-Chair in January. Abby is the Director of the Metropolitan Council on Child Care at the Mid America Regional Council in Kansas City.

AEYC-MO Public Policy Co-Chairs and Committee Focus on State and Federal Policy

Funding for Missouri's early childhood system is the core issue for AEYC-MO, as we work to represent the needs of our membership. Without funding, we cannot create a system where professionals are highly-educated, well-compensated, and consider their work with young children as a professional career. To garner the funding necessary to create Missouri's system of early childhood education, it will require both state and federal funds. AEYC-MO can do this by:

- ◆ Supporting NAEYC's efforts to increase funding to states for early childhood
- ◆ Monitoring and advocating for the distribution of the funds at the state level
- ◆ Advocating at the state for funding dedicated to early childhood

Advocacy Day gives me a boost and lifts my morale to keep on doing what I do and believing what I believe in.

To meet this need, each public policy chair will have an emphasis area. Denise Mauzy will focus on state policy and Abby Thorman will focus on federal policy. Both chairs will communicate and engage the Public Policy Committee in their respective areas.

State Policy Goals and Update

AEYC-MO is focused on the following state-level policy issues.

- ◆ Maintain current funding levels for early childhood services and programs
- ◆ Early Childhood Development, Care, and

continued on next page

Education Fund (HB1519)

- ◆ Child care subsidy at 118% of the Federal Poverty Rate
- ◆ Educate elected officials about the need for workforce development funding for the Workforce INCentive (WIN) Project the Teacher Education and Compensation Helps (T.E.A.C.H.) Project

In addition, once the Department of Health and Senior Services releases the revised rules for child care licensing for public comment, all members need to read the revisions and respond to the Department with comments.



Current Status:

- ◆ The Early Childhood Development, Care, and Education Fund is in jeopardy! Currently, two bills (Representative Jackson's HB444 and Senator Yeckel's SCS SB416) are progressing in their respective chambers. These bills would reduce the amount of funding in the Early Childhood Development, Care, and Education Fund by redirecting at least \$5.5 million annually from children's services to the Veteran's Commission Capital Improvement Trust Fund (\$4 million) and the Missouri College Guarantee Fund (\$1.5 million).
- ◆ Child Care Subsidy is holding at 118% of poverty.
- ◆ Due to the state budget crises, WIN and T.E.A.C.H. do not have a bill filed for expansion of the programs statewide. However, adding \$.50 to the gaming entrance fee could support the statewide expansion of both programs.
- ◆ For information about the WIN Project,

- contact Lisa Jones, Program Coordinator, at 877-782-0185.
- ◆ For more information about the T.E.A.C.H. Project, contact Beth Ann Lang, at 1-800-200-9017 ext 4.

Federal Policy Goals

AEYC-MO Provides Leadership as EIGHT HUNDRED Early Childhood Advocates March on the Capitol for 21st Annual Child Advocacy Day!

As a partner in the Missouri Alliance for Children, Youth and Families, AEYC-MO chaired the 21st Annual Child Advocacy Day. AEYC-MO worked with organizations from around the state to make this year's event a huge success with ~ 800 early childhood professionals participating. The level of intensity was high as participants recognized the impact of the state budget cuts on Missouri's youngest children and families.

Highlights included:

- ◆ Participants signed up for NAEYC's Children's Champions List for federal policy alerts and Citizen's for Missouri Children's Action Alert List for state policy alerts.
- ◆ Mr. Steve Renne, Acting Director of the Department of Social Services, spoke about his vision for the Department's Office of Early Childhood.
- ◆ Mr. Dwayne Crompton, NAEYC President-Elect was presented with the Alliance's Child Advocate Award.
- ◆ Former Representative Kate Hollingsworth was presented with the Alliance's Child Advocate Award.
- ◆ Participants attended a variety of training sessions that included grassroots advocacy, budget issues, early childhood funding, and using data to advocate.

The energy of the rally motivates me to do more in my county.

- ◆ A "March" on the Capitol - Eight hundred early childhood professionals convened in front of the Truman Building carrying signs



and banners. The level of excitement was tangible. Our chant went out...

***We care about kids... Yes, we do...
We care about kids... They need you!***

The Capitol police closed the street as the group marched to the Capitol. Governor Holden met our group on the steps to share his thoughts on the budget cuts and the impact on children and families. The Governor issued a challenge to our group asking that we stay involved and share our thoughts and opinions with our elected officials. He stated that we cannot balance the budget on the backs of our children.

The group responded to the challenge by heading back into the Capitol to talk with their elected officials spreading the message that children are our smartest investment. Participants were pulling legislators out of committee hearings, stopping them in the hallways... it was a remarkable sight.

Did you miss Child Advocacy Day and don't want to miss the fun next year?

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, January 27, 2004. More information about the event will be featured in later editions of the Update.

Sign Up for Federal and State Policy Alerts

To sign up for NAEYC's Children's Champions go to www.naeyc.org. (Click on the public policy button.)

To sign up for Citizens for Missouri's Children's Rapid Response Network go to www.mokids.org

Battle Over the Budget

AEYC-MO leadership has been following the budget debate between the House of Representative's Republican Leadership and the Governor. The legislative session began with the Governor's proposal of the "My Fair Share Budget Plan." The House of Representatives Republicans, who are the majority party, have rejected that plan stating that the Governor sent them an unbalanced budget dependent on tax increases that would have to be approved by the voters. The House Republicans then passed a recycled 2001 budget plan that does not indicate specific amounts for programs and services. Instead, the proposed budget outlines total sum figures for the Departments and allows the Department personnel to make decisions about programs and services.

What kind of decisions are our elected officials asking state employees (who were not elected to office) to make?

- ◆ Since the 2001 budget is significantly smaller than the Governor's projections for 2004, elected officials are asking state employees to make cuts to programs.

What kinds of programs will likely be cut?

- ◆ State aid to public schools
- ◆ Programs for children

The enthusiasm of the speakers was most uplifting. There was a special feeling in the Capitol Rotunda that day.

What happens next?

- ◆ It is now the Senate's turn to review the budget plan and make changes.

How can you keep up-to-date on what is happening with the budget and other critical issues?

- ◆ You can join Citizen's for Missouri's Children's (CMC) Rapid Response Network.

Visit CMC's website to sign-up
(www.mokids.org).

What can you do?

Contact your legislator and tell him/her that Fiscal Year 2001 funding is not sufficient to support services to children and families. Additional revenue is needed. Please work across party lines to increase revenue in the coming fiscal year so Missouri can provide essential services to children and other vulnerable populations.



Citizens for Missouri's Children released these talking points to aid you as you talk with legislators about the budget crises.

- ◆ Missouri's budget crisis is not a spending crisis. It is a revenue crisis.
- ◆ Missouri is 42nd in per capita state revenue. (That means we bring in less revenue per person than 41 other states.) (* From Governing magazine)
- ◆ Missouri is 44th in total per capita taxes. (That means that 43 other states have higher taxes on a per person basis.)*
- ◆ Missouri ranks 47th in per capita state spending. (That means we spend less per person than 46 other states.)*
- ◆ Missouri is beyond cutting the fat in our budget. Health insurance for children and medical benefits for adults are not luxuries.
- ◆ Missouri desperately needs to increase its revenue. We expect leadership from our elected officials to act responsibly and do this.
- ◆ Let's have a bi-partisan effort to recognize the challenge before us and to take action in raising revenue.

AEYC-MO is an issue driven, bi-partisan organization. As such, AEYC-MO works with both Republicans and Democrats to ensure that children and families are considered in the legislative process.

Member Renewal

Important Message for All Members

Each year we experience a serious drop in members simply because many are not aware that their membership expired. Remember, your membership lasts for 12 months from the time your dues are processed at NAEYC national headquarters.

Check your membership card or look on the mailing label of your latest issue of *Young Children* for your approaching expiration, and watch for your renewal notice from NAEYC. Members with an email address in their member record will receive an email notice first, offering the opportunity to renew on-line. Renewing on-line helps to defray costs so more funds become available to develop additional member benefits. You do not have to wait for your renewal notice to renew on-line. You can do that at any time by accessing the Members Only section at

www.naeyc.org. All you need is your credit card (Visa or Mastercard), your Login ID and Password (your Member Number and your First Name as they appear on the mailing label of your *Young Children* journal.)

Members without email and members who have not yet renewed will receive a paper invoice two months prior to their expiration. If you do not receive your renewal invoice at least 30 days prior to your expiration, call NAEYC's Association Relations Department toll free at 800-424-2460.

Renewing on time will ensure that you don't miss valuable resources like *Young Children* and AEYC-MO information such as *The Update*. If your membership expires, you may not receive notice of upcoming conferences, workshops and other activities that support your professional development, or you may

end up paying a higher non-member registration fee.

As importantly, if you don't renew, you will no longer be counted as part of the organization that is working to improve conditions within your field. The message of NAEYC and AEYC-MO will be taken more seriously when more individuals join together and stay together to convey that message. Individuals who allow their membership to lapse seriously inhibit our organization's strength as well as their own professional advancement.

Finally, being a member-in-good-standing sends a powerful message to your schools, employers, parents, members of your community and many others. It says that you care enough about improving the quality of care and education for our most valuable resource. Help us help you by renewing on time and by encouraging others to join.

Professional Achievement and Recognition (PARS)

OPEN is Recognizing Professionals' Achievements

The Professional Achievement and Recognition System is a database that verifies and tracks teachers' qualifications for various professional roles and recognizes educational achievement on the 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 1700 early education professionals from Missouri into this database. In the past eight months, 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 1-877-782-0185.

The Following Professionals Have Recently Earned Their CDAs:

Gloria Sewell of Guardian Angel Settlement in St. Louis
Stacy Nitsch of the Jewish Community Center in St. Louis
Debra Barrett of Moberly Early Childhood Development Center in Moberly
Barret Brooks of Hand in Hand Learning Center in Columbia
Katherine Graham of Childgarden Child Development Center in St. Louis
Jenifer Grove-Milligan of Henry Jenny's Family Enrichment Center in Marshfield
Rosalie Harris of YWCA Overland Head Start in St. Louis
Cheryle Herman of End of the Rainbow Child Development Center in Columbia
Deborah Owens of St. Paul's Learning Center in Marshfield
Mitsy Roberts of The Playground in Columbia
Sheri Tate of Sheri's Daycare in Huntsville
Stephanie Simons of Hand in Hand Learning Center in Columbia

The Following Professionals Have Earned Enough College Credit to Move to Level 2a on Missouri's Career Lattice:

Norlin Brown of Top Notch EEC in St. Louis
Ruby King of King's Kidds Nursery in St. Louis
Regina Lowrance of Lebanon Head Start Center in Lebanon
Greta Amerson of Solomon's Temple Child Development Center in St. Louis
Tonya Jones of North Park YWCA Head Start in St. Louis
Jennifer Robbins of Children's World in St. Louis
Ruth Vincent of Stella Maris Child Center in St. Louis
Marenita Young of Veasley's Tender Loving Care in St. Louis
Sonya Bailey of Future Geniuses in St. Louis
Sanela Barabas of Webster Child Care Center in St. Louis
Keytra Burns of Webster Child Care Center in St. Louis
Felicia Howlett of Agape Child Development Center in St. Louis
Latausha Kee of Webster Child Care Center in St. Louis
Linda Williams of Radiant Faith Academy in St. Louis
Debra Woods of Webster Child Care Center in St. Louis
Pamela Loyet of Little House Daycare in St. Peters
Patricia Markee of Whitegate Education and Care Center in Dutzow
Saundra Monroe of Step by Step in St. Louis
Sylvia Harris of Solomon's Temple Child Development Center in St. Louis
Loretta Tisdale of Kings Day Care and Teaching Center in St. Louis

The Following Professionals Have Earned Enough College Credit to Move to Level 2b on Missouri's Career Lattice:

Anna-Marie Mann of Webster Child Care Center in St. Louis
Nancy Miller of Huggs and Kisses in St. Louis
Cindy Shoultz of Affton Lindbergh Early Childhood Education Center in St. Louis
Lenore Victorian of Suz's Spots for Tots in St. Louis
Christina Bruce of Moberly's Finest Child Development Center in Moberly
Kim Howze of Tiny Fingers Learning Center in St. Louis
Phyllis McDonald of Tutor Time Child Care Learning Center in St. Louis
Kathy Norden of Columbia
Tabatha Rush of Successful Children's Academy in St. Louis
Laura Salih of Easter Seals Child Development Center in Columbia
Amber Sincock of Academy of Fine Arts in Columbia

The Following Professionals Have Completed Enough College Credit to Move to Level 3a or Level 3b on Missouri's Career Lattice

Renate Zahn of Renate's Child Care Academy in St. Louis (3b)
Megan Buscher of Cornerstone Center for Early Learning in St. Louis (3b)
Lee Furnace of Radiant Faith Academy in St. Louis (3b)
Tracy Jones of Nursery Foundation in St. Louis (3b)
Peggy Thomas of Urban League MLK Head Start in St. Louis (3b)
Karen Gibbs of Ritenour School District in St. Louis (3a)
Rosalind Turner of Ferguson Florissant Even Start Head Start in St. Louis (3b)
Susan Banks of Curiosity Corner Preschool in St. Charles (3b)
Marcy Basden of Downtown Children's Center in St. Louis (3b)
Linda Johnson of Urban League MLK Head Start in St. Louis (3b)
Vicki Johnson of Normandy Early Childhood Center in St. Louis
Jennifer Kingery of Seymour RII Schools in Seymour (3b)
Kimberly Nold of Mitchell Woods Preschool and Child Care in St. Joseph (3b)
Andrea Postawko of Tutor Time Child Care and Learning Center in St. Louis (3b)
Janet Powell of Grace Hill Head Start in St. Louis (3b)
Debra Thomas of YWCA Head Start in St. Louis (3b)

The Following Professionals Have Earned Degrees:

Danae Bogart of Mansfield Head Start in Mansfield earned her AA from SMSU – West Plains
Donna Brown of ABC Child Care in St. Louis completed her Certificate of Proficiency from SLCC
Leslie Johnson of Hinkson Children's Center in Columbia earned a BA in Sociology at Columbia College
Erika Sample of YWCA Head Start in St. Louis earned her AAS from St. Louis Community College
Anna Seeman of Mansfield Head Start in Mansfield earned her AA from SMSU – West Plains
Amy Vance of Children's House of Columbia earned her BA in General Studies from Columbia College
Sarah Christman of Little School & Gym in St. Louis earned her BS in Human Env. Sciences at UMC

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

NAEYC Affiliate Council Update

As part of the restructuring efforts that are taking place at all levels of the organization, NAEYC has established the NAEYC Affiliate Council. The Council, which was created during 2001, has this as its core mission:

The mission of the Affiliate Council is to support the transformation of the NAEYC affiliate structure into a high-performing inclusive organization by:

- ◆ Identifying and developing strong, inclusive membership;
- ◆ Developing a strong communication system between affiliate leaders, governing boards and membership;
- ◆ Unifying our efforts on behalf of children, families, and early childhood professionals.

Affiliate Council Membership

Each state (including DC, territories, and AYC Europe) has one representative to the Affiliate Council. The ten largest states on the basis of membership size have a second seat on the Council. The additional seats are a one-year term and are designed to provide more opportunity for diverse perspectives from states with the largest number of members. Each Affiliate Alliance, like Midwest AEC, is also invited to identify an ex-officio, nonvoting representative to the Affiliate Council. Judy Kulczycki is currently serving as the Affiliate Council Representative from Missouri.

Work of the Affiliate Council

The Affiliate Council meets twice yearly - at the NAEYC Leadership Conference and at the Annual Conference. The main areas of focus of the Council have been on goal-setting, governance issues, and putting into place a set of policies and procedures to guide its work. Effective communication within the Council to make sure members get to network and share issues and concerns with one another, as well as with the NAEYC Governing Board has also been addressed. Four Council committees: Affiliate Grant Program; Re-Affiliation Process; Nominating; and High-Performing, Inclusive Organization provide opportunities to further the Affiliate Council's work.

A ten-member Affiliate Executive Council is elected by Affiliate Council members to provide leadership. States are grouped into regions on the basis of the HHS regional structure. Missouri is part of Region VII, which also includes Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska. Judy Kulczycki was chosen to be the Executive Committee representative from Region VII.

Affiliate Liaisons to the NAEYC Governing Board

Beginning with the 2002 election, two of the 12 at-large seats on the NAEYC Governing Board have been designated as Affiliate Liaison seats. The Affiliate Council Nominating Committee actively participates in reviewing applications for the Affiliate Liaison position. It is hoped that Affiliate Liaisons will not only bring high-quality leadership, commitment and contributions to the field, but also knowledge and experience in the NAEYC Affiliate structure. Once elected, Affiliate Liaisons have the same term of office and the same rights and responsibilities as other NAEYC Board members.

While the Affiliate Council is just in its beginning stages, much has been accomplished.

The Council has the potential to be a real voice for Affiliate issues and to create a meaningful dialogue with the NAEYC Governing Board, and with Regional and State Affiliates. The work of the Council is critical to NAEYC's commitment to being a high, performing, inclusive organization.

NAEYC Accreditation

Growth of NAEYC Accreditation Shows Demand for High-Quality Preschool and Child Care...

WASHINGTON, January 24, 2003 - In a clear sign of increasing demand for high-quality early education, the number of child care, preschool and other early childhood programs accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) has grown by over 45 percent in the past five years.

The NAEYC accreditation system has expanded every year since its establishment in 1985, and today there are 8,154 accredited programs, serving nearly three-quarters of a million young children and their families. In 1997 there were 5,618 early childhood programs accredited by NAEYC, and in 1992 there were 2,340.

"The growth of NAEYC accreditation shows that families, employers, policymakers and others recognize the importance of high-quality early education, and the benefits that quality programs bring to young children," said Mark Ginsberg, Ph.D., Executive Director of NAEYC. "The increase in NAEYC accredited programs also demonstrates the commitment of early childhood educators, who are improving programs around the country."

NAEYC established accreditation to set professional standards for early childhood education, and to help families identify high-quality early childhood programs. The voluntary accreditation system is designed for programs for children from birth through age eight, including child care centers, preschools, Head Start programs, kindergartens and after-school programs.

Programs seeking NAEYC accreditation are measured against national standards of quality that go well beyond state health and safety licensing requirements. The accreditation criteria address all aspects of an early childhood education program, including teacher qualifications and development, child-to-teacher ratios, curriculum, and health and safety. A program begins the accreditation process with an extensive self-study to determine how well it meets these criteria. After the program makes necessary improvements, it is observed by independent, professional validators, and then reviewed by a national panel. Early childhood programs that demonstrate substantial compliance with the NAEYC standards are accredited for a three-year period.

The National Association for the Education of Young Children is the largest and most influential organization of early childhood educators and others dedicated to improving the quality of programs for children from birth through age eight. Founded in 1926, the organization now has more than 100,000 members, and a national network of nearly 450 local, state and regional affiliates. NAEYC and its affiliates work to improve professional practice and working conditions in early childhood education, and to build public support for high-quality early childhood programs.

Growth of NAEYC-accredited early childhood education programs, 1992-2002:

1992 - 2,340	1993 - 2,986	1994 - 3,670
1995 - 4,500	1996 - 5,035	1997 - 5,618
1998 - 5,952	1999 - 6,943	2000 - 7,545
2001 - 7,927	2002 - 8,154	

NAEYC-MO celebrates the election of Dwayne Crompton as NAEYC President-elect, continued from cover

In recognition of his professional accomplishments and community service, Mr. Crompton is the recipient of many awards, including the Distinguished Alumni Award (1986) of the Lincoln University Alumni Association, the Missouri Legislative Black Caucus Jordan-McNeal Award (1987) for outstanding community service and a Distinguished Alumni Citation (1988) from the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education in Washington, D.C. and the Greater Kansas City Urban League's Image Award for

Economic Development (1990).

Mr. Crompton was recipient of the Up and Comers Award (1994) and was listed among the 100 Most Influential Afro-Americans, (locally) for four consecutive years. He received the Children Defense Fund's Innovative Leadership Award (1995). Mr. Crompton is the recipient of the Charles N. Kimball Founders Award for outstanding leadership (1998). He received the Edward A. Smith Award for Excellence in nonprofit Leadership (2000). He has also published several articles on issues affecting children and families.

Mr. Crompton attributes his desire to excel and his desire to serve to his parents, the late James N. Crompton, Sr., and Mrs. Eleanor Crompton Rucker who instilled in him principles of love for God and his fellow man.

He is a member of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church where he serves on the Trustee Board as chairperson.

Mr. Crompton is married to the former Elfredia M. Witt. They are the parents of two sons, Anthony and Shannon.

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Effective **Monday, May 12, 2003**, the AEYC-MO Office will be moving to 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.

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ST. Louis

Friday, May 2

The Nuts & Bolts of Being a
Director: Staff Recruitment
and Retention

Friday, July 11

Managing Conflict in Early
Childhood Programs

Friday, August 15

The Art of Leadership: Lessons
from the Sandbox

Columbia

Saturday, May 3

The Nuts & Bolts of Being a
Director: Staff Recruitment
and Retention

Saturday, June 14

Managing Conflict in Early
Childhood Programs

Saturday, August 2

The Art of Leadership: Lessons
from the Sandbox

Kansas City

Friday, June 13

The Nuts & Bolts of Being a
Director: Staff Recruitment
and Retention

Saturday, July 12

Managing Conflict in Early
Childhood Programs

Friday, August 1

The Art of Leadership: Lessons
from the Sandbox