



T.E.A.C.H. TALK

October-December 2018

This year we will feature a new section in TEACH Talk called "Voices from North Carolina." This section of the newsletter is aimed at sharing what you and your peers are thinking and saying about topics related to the field. Each edition will contain quotes from around the state about the importance of formal education and how it can impact the early care and education profession.

Voices from North Carolina

In October, T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® North Carolina participated in a focus group facilitated by The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and The Education Trust (EdTrust) to gain perspective from the field of early care and education. T.E.A.C.H. was asked to identify and invite people of color who may or may not have utilized a TEACH scholarship. T.E.A.C.H. was able to secure 16 participants from the Triangle and Triad regions. EdTrust facilitated the questions and participants were able to articulate some of the challenges they have observed in the field as well as opportunities that they have had. Participants elaborated on questions related to policy, facility regulatory requirements, higher education, benefits and compensation. Participants gave further feedback concerning how T.E.A.C.H. and programs like T.E.A.C.H. make it possible for them to become better teachers, supervisors, mentors, business owners all while obtaining multiple levels of degrees and certifications.

Attendees spoke highly of the compensation from T.E.A.C.H. during various contract stages, the ability to communicate with T.E.A.C.H. counselors on a personal and professional level and the advantage of having a scholarship. They also understood how T.E.A.C.H. staff holds them accountable for mis-steps while on scholarships all while being redemptive and supportive in finding a way to continue to make progress. Everyone stated that T.E.A.C.H. had been an integral part of their professional and personal development and appreciated a forum such as this to be able to advocate for like programs and opportunities.

Here is what one of your peers reported:

"Personally, I believe that it is never too late to continue your education because I feel learning NEVER stops. I was proud and honored to be able to let my voice be heard in reference to how T.E.A.C.H.

played a role in my continuing education journey. Being able to earn 3 degrees and not have to worry about the financial aspect was a huge relief. I can only hope more early educators have this same opportunity, for themselves as well as the lives of every child they will encounter. Thank you T.E.A.C.H.!"

--LaWanda McIntyre, M.ed
Wake County



Note from T.E.A.C.H. NC Staff

Fall 2018 brought about weather that has negatively impacted so many this semester. The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NC Scholarship Program team wants you to know that our thoughts are with you as you recover from Hurricane Florence and Hurricane Michael. These two storms brought historic flooding and damage to North Carolina. Many counties and communities are still trying to recover and will continue to for years to come. If you or your program have been impacted in any way, please let us know by contacting your T.E.A.C.H. counselor.

Sincerely,
T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NC Staff

Facility Spotlight



Guilford Child Development (GCD) serves more than 1,400 children ages 0-5 at 13 5-star rated child development centers in Guilford County through our Head Start/Early Head Start and NC PreK program. All of our centers are accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). We focus on ensuring that each child receives the services they need to get ready for kindergarten by providing optimal learning environments at centers that include highly trained teaching staff.

We also provide home-based services to make sure all families have access to high quality early childhood education for their children. GCD has built five additional support programs that help children and families, including English courses for immigrant/refugee adults and GED and work readiness training for adults as their children are preparing for kindergarten, an internal catering program to provide meals to all children and parents each day, a child care referral program to meet any additional child care needs for

families, and a nurse-home visiting program for first-time mothers that improves pregnancy outcomes and early child development. The combination of these family-centered programs helps GCD make a lasting impact on a family's ability to support their child's education.

The T.E.A.C.H. program has provided teachers at GCD with the opportunity to pursue professional development and obtain the skills that they need or refine the skills that they have to build a literacy-rich, inclusive environment in their classrooms that help children of all backgrounds and skill-levels achieve the developmental milestones that will help them be successful in life. The value of the T.E.A.C.H. program is demonstrated every day as our teachers utilize their new skills by making improvements to their learning environments and lesson plans. The T.E.A.C.H. program has also allowed us to develop partnerships with our local colleges and universities to provide classes at convenient times, including rigorous summer courses, for our teaching staff. Providing professional development opportunities improves our teacher retention rates, and the T.E.A.C.H. program makes that possible by reducing the financial burden on GCD and our teaching staff.

--Angela Ben-Zekry, Communications Director

Semester Reminders

- Submit grade reports at the end of each semester. If you graduated, we need a copy of your degree or final transcript.
- Update your username and/or password for your online portal with a T.E.A.C.H. counselor if it has changed.
- Contact a T.E.A.C.H. counselor if you need an adjusted/renewal contract or contract addendum for Spring 2019.
- Send in a copy of your class schedule and contract addendum to request your Spring 2019 stipend. (T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Associate Scholars model only)
- Pre-Authorization Request forms need to be submitted if you need a charge authorization sent for your tuition and/or books. (Not applicable to recipients on T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Associate Scholars model)
- Reimbursement forms for tuition and/or books must come with receipts attached need to be processed.
- Sponsoring centers, submit Release Time Claim Forms for your eligible employees.
- Remember that reimbursements, bonuses and stipends can take 8-12 weeks to be mailed out.
- Make sure T.E.A.C.H. and/or college invoices are paid in a timely manner. Past due invoices may affect future scholarship activity.
- Contact T.E.A.C.H. within 10 days of any employment changes.
- Encourage recipient(s) to return all phone calls/emails from their T.E.A.C.H. scholarship counselor.

Did you know?

- T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NC has a scholarship available for child care providers whose employer is unwilling to sponsor employees on scholarship. If you are working at least 30 hours a week at a licensed child care facility in NC and are interested in this scholarship, contact a scholarship counselor at 919-967-3272.

Recipient Spotlight

Hello, my name is Wanda Brandon and I am 51 years old. I am married with three children and three grandchildren. I am employed with Caswell Community Head Start in Yanceyville, NC. It was a struggle for me to go back to school because I couldn't afford to on my own. T.E.A.C.H. helped me figure out the way to pay for school by paying for my tuition and my books. It has also helped me to remain employed at a Head Start which I've been in for over 6 years. T.E.A.C.H. has also blessed me with bonuses earned after accomplishing credit hour completion that are received during a contract. I am

now looking forward to getting my degree in Early Childhood Education at Piedmont Community College. My scholarship counselor (Tomonica Rice-Yarborough) from T.E.A.C.H. calls me to see if she can help me with anything or just to check and see how I am doing. She is a very friendly person who I can depend on to answer any questions that I may have about school or my contract. I would tell anyone to contact the T.E.A.C.H. Program if they are trying to go back to school. It is one of the best moves I ever made. I am so satisfied with the T.E.A.C.H. program.

What's New

- T.E.A.C.H. wants to hear from you about your scholarship experience and higher education! Now you can share your experience with us by giving your testimonial at the completion of your contract. These forms will arrive in your compensation packet. When you receive your questionnaire please take the time to really reflect on your experience and what it has meant to you professionally. You will also get the opportunity to provide a headshot or "selfie." These responses will be collected and used in reports and publications completed throughout the year.
- The Request for Permission to Release Information form gives us the ability to share your name, contact information and details regarding participation on the T.E.A.C.H. Program with non-funding entities. You have the option to grant or deny permission to release information but the form MUST be returned no matter the option chosen.

Congratulations and Acknowledgments

This section is dedicated to our Spring and Summer 2018 graduates that have not been recognized previously. What you have accomplished is no small task. We are so proud of you. Take a bow!

Associate Degree Graduates

Alicia Amore
Angela Barker
Shelbie-Lee Barlow
Yolanda Crews
Brooke Curington
Ethel Graham
Asgari Khanam
Doris Long
LaKesha Lowery
William Lucas
Martha Lucier
Lurdes Marure
Brenda Monroe
Robin Morgan
Josie Mundy
Melissa Pressley
Lisa Rice
Kristin Schneider
Jessica Silveri
Kimberly Sowder
Kaylee Vranish
Hydeia Washington
Kayla Whitt
Tiffany Wilhelm
August Wright-Harrington
Janet Yates
Brenda Zamudio-Pino

Bachelor's Degree Graduates

Achlee Alston
Shanika Alston
Leslie Forney
Wanda Hobson
Arintha Latimer
Cathey Mills
Kelly Pittman
Alana White
Lauren Wimmer



Birth to Kindergarten Licensure Holders

Brittany Cobb
Lakeshia Jones
Shirley Reynolds
Patricia Wilson
Frances Windsor

Master's Degree Graduates

Jasmine Bethea
Vanessa Bishop
April Bosse
Angela Burch
Dawn Curtin
La'Trece Johnson
Meagan McKinnon
Whitney Parker

T.E.A.C.H. NC Team Member Spotlight

Name: Danisha Devane

Position: Senior Administrative Assistant

Education

- Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Colorado University (2016)
- Master of Science in Management, Colorado University (2018)

Experience in the Classroom: 9 years

Years with T.E.A.C.H.: Nearly 2 years

Primary Duties

- Manage Administrative Department
- Generate Invoices and Process Payments
- Manage school, facility and recipient account receivables
- Prepare check request weekly and year-end 1099s



Meet Your T.E.A.C.H. NC Team!

Edith Locke

Division Vice President

Marsha Baldwin
Scholarship Counselor II

Schquita Battle
Outreach Coordinator

Mildrianne Best
Scholarship Counselor III

Kimberly Bynum
Scholarship Manager

Danisha Devane

Sr. Administrative Assistant

Amy Duffy
Program Manager

Shakara Hill
Administrative Assistant II

Monica Livingston
Administrative Assistant II

Pam McGowan
Scholarship Counselor III

Tomonica Rice-Yarborough
Scholarship Counselor II

Kathy Thornton
Scholarship Counselor III

Cindy Villani
Scholarship Counselor II



NORTH CAROLINA

*A Program of
Child Care Services Association*

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® North Carolina
Scholarship Program
PO Box 231 Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Phone: 919-967-3272 Fax: 919-967-7040



United Way
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