A Special Message from Division Leadership

Hello! I am Edith Locke, the lead program administrator for North Carolina’s T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarship Program, at Child Care Services Association in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. I am thrilled to welcome you to the first issue of T.E.A.C.H. Talk! Creating this newsletter has been a personal goal of mine for many years and I am pleased to be a part of its launch.

This quarterly, electronic newsletter is intended to provide scholarship recipients, employing sponsors and our higher education partners with important T.E.A.C.H scholarship program reminders, noteworthy system updates and feature stories that highlight T.E.A.C.H. recipients and sponsors statewide.

More importantly, it is here where you will continue to receive helpful counseling tips intended to help all recipients and sponsors fully understand the many benefits of the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship in hopes that you will have access to a positively rewarding college experience.

It is my hope that this newsletter will trigger you to begin making “back to school” plans and preparation for yourself or your staff as the carefree days of summer start to wind down.

Your hardworking T.E.A.C.H. team is here to support you and is just an email or a phone call away. We always want to hear about your successes as well as challenges so that we can learn from each other. Together we will continue to keep North Carolina’s youngest citizens at the heart of all that we do!

Best wishes for an exciting back to school transition and thank you for being a part of the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® family!

Sincerely,
Edith Locke
Division Vice President
Professional Development Initiatives

What's New

T.E.A.C.H. Talk – North Carolina’s Newsletter for all things T.E.A.C.H. If you know someone who is interested in receiving a copy of T.E.A.C.H. Talk please forward e-mail address to teachmemos@childcareservices.org

Did you know?

Power to the Profession is a two-year collaborative movement spearheaded by NAEYC to establish the shared framework of knowledge and competencies, standards of practice, and compensation for all early childhood educators who work with children birth through age eight across a variety of early learning settings. This initiative is designed to put the profession itself front and center with multiple opportunities for engagement throughout the two-year process. To learn more about Power to the Profession please visit www.NAEYC.org/profession
Recipient Spotlight

My name is Susana Parker and I am employed with Kannapolis City Schools Head Start/McKnight Child Development Center has been my home since August 2014. I have been a teacher assistant in an NC Pre-K classroom and am currently a three-year-old year old teacher assistant.

I began taking classes with the assistance of the TEACH program at Rowan Cabarrus Community College in 2015 in order to obtain my Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education. I consider myself very fortunate to be a TEACH scholarship recipient because I know that without this scholarship, I would not be able to afford to go back to school. I have learned so much about child development in my classes and feel that they have been instrumental in helping me work with the children in my care.

Sponsor Spotlight

Spanish for fun! is a 5 star licensed full Spanish immersion program serving children from 6 weeks to 5 years old. Spanish for fun! has been in business for 16 years, and currently has 4 locations (two in Raleigh, one in Wake Forest and one in Cary). We proudly serve a community who values the importance and the benefits of learning a second language. We are very grateful for the support we have received and for helping us provide quality service to our community. By the time they graduate, our children are fully bilingual!

We currently have 12 teachers sponsored under the TEACH scholarship program and this has greatly benefited our center, our teachers and our children. Teachers are able to complete their Early Childhood Education Degree while putting to practice what they learn in those courses back in the classroom with the children.

Semester Reminders

• Promptly submit grade reports at the end of each semester.
• Graduates please send a copy of your degree
• 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 or renewal contract for the Fall 2017 semester.
• Send in a copy of your class schedule and contract addendum to request your Fall 2017 stipend. (T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Associate Scholars model Only)
• Pre-Authorization Request forms need to be submitted at least 2 business days prior to registering for class.
• Tuition and book Reimbursement Claim Forms should be submitted within 30 days after the close of each semester.
• Sponsoring centers, please submit Release Time Claim Forms for all eligible employees within 30 days after the close of each semester.
• Remember that reimbursements, bonuses and stipends can take up to 8 to 12 weeks to be mailed out.
• Please pay invoices in a timely manner. Past due balances may affect future scholarship activity.
• Contact T.E.A.C.H. counselor within 10 days of any employment changes.

Your Voice Matters

Advocacy/ ad-vo-ca-cy/ Merriam Webster defines advocacy as the act or process supporting a cause or proposal

Advocacy can play a large part in helping communities understand the importance of many programs and services that are critical to young children, their families and those who support and care for them. Advocating for programs should be done all year long so that these programs are never forgotten.

Advocacy Ideas
1. Send creative artwork from children in sponsoring programs thanking legislators for their support of early care and education efforts
2. Write thank you cards or letters expressing your own appreciation and explaining how you have benefitted from a program or service.
Congratulations & Acknowledgements

This section is dedicated to our Spring and Summer 2017 graduates. What you have accomplished is no small task. We are so proud of you. Take a Bow

**Associate Degree Graduates**
- Melanie Alexander
- Silvia Ambrocio
- Cynthia Branson
- Chenille Coston
- Shirley Couch
- Cassie Dunn
- Annie Gardin
- Doris Gardner
- Melissa Greene
- Charlene Gould
- Christina Hannah
- Lisa Joyner
- Shakendria Massey
- Ganiat Oladipo
- Alyssa Patterson
- Thea Say
- Amber Shepard
- Stella Shoffner
- Wanda Tillman
- Pamela Vargo
- Diane Whidbee

**Bachelor’s Degree Graduates**
- Adele Ashley
- Bernice Leak
- April Mitchell
- Summer Morton
- Deliliana Muldrow
- Devon Walton

**Master’s Degree Graduates**
- Kimberlee Champitto
- Virmeeche Corbett
- April Cox
- Anastacia Denaux
- Sara Ford
- Paula Gales
- Kamika Henderson
- Brittany Horne
- Cynthia Joyce
- Candis Little
- Stacy Lutz-Ovies
- Shaquana Mack
- Stacie Poulin
- Nicole Rhyne
- Rhonda Durant Rivers
- Tammie Ruffin
- Robin Stephenson
- Cymie Terry-Rawlins
- Sandra Thompson
- Swanda Warren-Hooks
- Marylee Yearick

**We acknowledge**
- CDA Certificate holders
  - Cornesha Briggs
  - Cynthia Johnson
  - Elouise Jones
- B-K License holders
  - Anita Dean
- Administration Credential holders
  - Veverly Boney
- Juanita Plymouth
- Vanessa Speight
- Krishonda Degraffenried
- Mamie Pitts

**Meet Your TEACH NC Team**
- Marsha Baldwin
  - Scholarship Counselor II
  - Amy Duffy
  - Program Manager
  - Pam McGowan
  - Scholarship Counselor III
- Mildrianne Best
  - Scholarship Counselor III
  - Delta Farrington
  - Sr. Administrative Assistant
  - Tonomica Rice-Yarborough
  - Scholarship Counselor II
- Kimberly Bynum
  - Special Projects Coordinator
  - Schquita Ferges
  - NCPreK Outreach Coordinator
  - Kathy Thornton
  - Scholarship Counselor III
- Danisha Devane
  - Administrative Assistant II
  - Monica Livingston
  - Administrative Assistant II
  - Cindy Villani
  - Scholarship Counselor II