



T.E.A.C.H. TALK

January-March 2019

Voices from North Carolina

“Voices from North Carolina” features 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.

“Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family.” Kofi Annan

When I was young, it was a kindergarten teacher who told me I was poor. I remember to this day because I had never heard the term, and I had to ask my mother what she meant. My mother explained that some people were confused about what makes a person awesome. She explained that as I was her daughter, and knew Jesus, those things alone made me awesome and very rich. To this day, in difficult times, I fall back on what that moment of empowerment did for my life. Bear with me. This is going somewhere, I promise.

I grew up without a car in a small town in Pennsylvania, which meant I often had to walk places late at night and alone. I would walk past the more affluent homes and see the lights on, in houses with a lot of windows and beautiful front entrances, and I’d imagine that the people inside must be so warm and happy. To get to my home, which was in the “projects,” I had to pass the foam factory, the mushroom factory, and two junk yards. [My neighborhood was] on the edge of town, out of sight. I was always scared because it was very dark, and I never knew if I would have to deal with stray dogs. But, as I drew closer to home, I would begin to feel the comfort of knowing that my mom and sisters would be there, and that my mom would have cooked something to eat and would be expecting me. We use to call our meals bare cupboard meals, and to this day I teach people how to set up a pantry in spite of having very little money. What does this have to do with T.E.A.C.H.? Everything!

One of the goals for creating T.E.A.C.H. was to create a cohort of educated, equipped, professional, reflective leaders that could affect the field of not just early education, but education through advocacy and leadership worldwide. The T.E.A.C.H. scholarship allows for a diversity of leaders to make grassroots societal changes by providing funding for those who otherwise may not have been able to acquire an advanced education. T.E.A.C.H. also hopes to create diversity in the influence of early education policy through its outreach into all areas of society.

Leaders have to understand that just because the journey may be fraught with challenges, and it looks like no one can see your cause, the destination of getting home, or to your purpose, means connecting with those organizations that have the expertise, the money, and the vision, that support you getting to the place called “there.” In other words, I have a vision that requires that I connect with the people who understand how advocating for early education works. I also need to get the weight of academia to understand the needs of practice, so that regulation supports the reality of practice and the changing landscape of early childhood development as well as the ever changing cultural landscape. But I did not know how to get from my vision to my destination. T.E.A.C.H. gave me the opportunity to knock on the doors of influence, instead of walking past the veiled windows, wishing I knew what they were doing. T.E.A.C.H. also allowed me to connect with people who were committed to empowering me through training and education so I could become a person of influence to positively impact the early education field.

--Rochelle Sanders, Durham County



What’s New

- T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NC has revamped a few components of our scholarship models.
 - Travel stipend amount increased to \$85.00.
 - Release time reimbursements increased to \$10.00/hr.
 - Bonuses have increased by \$25.00 (excludes recipients on the Admin Credentials, Masters, LITL and Knowledge Universe models).
 - Recipient and sponsor percentages have decreased. If you would like to know the exact percentage, please refer to your renewal contract or contact a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship counselor for your specific percentage.
- All scholarship recipients MUST submit a Tuition and Book Reimbursement Form (Form B) and corresponding receipts every semester of enrollment regardless of who paid. Failure to comply with this new requirement may result in suspension of scholarship.
- Mt. Olive University has been added as a participating school for the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NC Bachelor Degree, Birth-Kindergarten Licensure, Practicum Only, Working Scholars and the Early Care and Education Community Specialist Scholarship Programs.

Facility Spotlight



Providence Preparatory School (PPS) started offering the T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship program in Summer 2016 as part of our professional development collaborative benefit. We are a five-star facility in Mecklenburg County. We recognized the overall value the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship would offer to many of our employees. We have had more than 15 teachers and one assistant director apply for and receive T.E.A.C.H. scholarships for the credential, associates, bachelors, masters and Level III Admin. Offering T.E.A.C.H. scholarships is just one way PPS supports our teachers' passion for improving their ability to provide high quality early education while also enhancing their own professional development.

--Andrew Weathersbee, Owner



Semester Reminders

- Submit grade reports at the end of each semester. If you have graduated a copy of your degree or final transcript will be needed.
- 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 the Spring 2019 semester.
- 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 the 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 up to 8 to 12 weeks to be mailed out.
- Make sure that 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 employment changes.
- Encourage recipient(s) to return all phone calls/emails from their T.E.A.C.H. scholarship counselor.

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

A HUGE "thank you" goes out to all the community colleges and universities that participated in the 2018-2019 profile update. Every year program staff with T.E.A.C.H. provides an update to our searchable directory located on Child Care Services website. The directory contains various pieces of information to assist early care and education professionals in their efforts of finding the right school for them as they pursue higher education.

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

Recipient Spotlight

My name is Savinia Dudley and I am from Mecklenburg County. I would like to say thank you to the T.E.A.C.H. Program for giving me the honor to share my experience as a recipient of the T.E.A.C.H. Program.

Thanks to this opportunity I have new goals and dreams for my life and where it's headed. T.E.A.C.H. is truly a second chance for me to become the successful teacher and educator that I would like to be. Your funds allow me to fulfill my hopes and long-term career goals and dreams. Thank you T.E.A.C.H. for allowing me to improve my career.



Higher Education Spotlight



Kudos to Stanly Community College on being so accommodating to their traditional and non-traditional students who are enrolled in their Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program. CCSA is very appreciative in your dedication and support to your students while they're seeking a certificate and/or degree in ECE. Stanly offers their entire ECE program online which is extremely helpful to T.E.A.C.H. recipients, especially with the recipients working and/or taking care of their families along with taking coursework. Stanly offers not only the traditional 16-week courses but also 12-week and 8-week mini-mester courses as well as 4-week Holiday

Intercession courses which allows students to start later in the semester and also gives the students an opportunity to choose an accelerated route to complete their coursework for degree attainment. Stanly offers online tutoring services for their students and they also participate the book authorizations with the T.E.A.C.H. program. The staff at Stanly Community College do an excellent job working and communicating with T.E.A.C.H. counselors and making sure that each student on T.E.A.C.H. is on the right track for a successful semester. Their promptness, flexibility and eagerness to help has been very beneficial and it all shows with the success of the T.E.A.C.H. recipients who attend Stanly Community College.

Did you know?

- The annual Advancing Skills & Knowledge (ASK) Conference is Saturday, February 23, 2019, at East Chapel Hill High School. You can register online to attend and obtain the conference brochure on Child Care Services Association's website at www.childcareservices.org. Just click the training calendar tab at the top.
- Check out the T.E.A.C.H. NC Resource guide by visiting www.childcareservices.org/teach-nc/t-e-a-c-h-whats-new/ as it provides pertinent contact information about a variety of human services that are available.

Congratulations and Acknowledgments

This section is dedicated to our Summer and Fall 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

Nichole Beaudrot
Michelle Beguin
Patricia Bray
Vanessa Carr
Tonya Cross
Ashley Curry
Andrea Edmonds
Brittany Farmer
Terra Flint
Maria Gutierrez
Julia Hall
Tyra Kennedy
Kimberly Krepps
Akeshia Mack
Arielle Maitlin
Christina McKeiver
Sarah Orbison
Jennifer Pruden
Sha Roseboro
Kate Sanford
Kaylee Sides
Tashanda Smith
Robertta Tolbert
Tinicha Whaley
Linda Wingate
Emily Young

Bachelor's Degree Graduates

Nichole Byrd
Emily Farr
Krista Hollyfield
Carina Hoover
Tammy Hubbard
Tiffany Jones
Cassie Karriker
Nancy Lehman
LaShonda McClendon
Cathey Mills
Lelonna Richardson
LaKisha Rodgers
Megan Sorrell
Rhonda Sturdivant
Karen Wall

Master's Degree Graduates

Aimee Allen
Melissa Brinkley
Whitley Dozier
Meagan McKinnon
Cynthia Owen
Jessica Redford
Bethany Schaefer
Kimberly Scott
Stephanie Watts

Please note: the recipients recognized here provided documentation showing proof of their certificate or degree before publication.

Tuesdays for Tots!

#ThinkBabiesNC



Join us every Tuesday to be a big voice for babies!

All babies in North Carolina need healthy beginnings, supported families, and access to quality early care and education in order to thrive. It's time to make the little ones our top priority. Use the ideas and resources below to make your voice heard for infants, toddlers, and their families.

- Take the Think Babies™ NC Pledge: <http://bit.ly/ThinkBabiesNCPledge>
- Contact your legislators
- Meet with your legislators at home or in Raleigh
- Invite policymakers to tour a child care center or program serving babies in your county
- Write an op-ed, letter to the editor, newsletter, or blog
- Share your story and/or collect stories from your community: <http://bit.ly/ThinkBabiesNCStories>
- Post on social media using #ThinkBabiesNC and join our weekly Twitter chats

Think Babies™ advocacy resources are available at:
www.NCEarlyEducationCoalition.org/think-babies.html



Monthly Themes and Twitter Chat Topics

Every Tuesday from 2-3pm using #ThinkBabiesNC

February: Healthy Beginnings

2/5: Accommodations for Pregnant Employees
 2/12: Social/Emotional Health
 2/19: Screenings & Early Intervention
 2/26: Closing the Coverage Gap

March: Early Care & Education

3/5: Child Care Subsidy Expansion
 3/12: Child Care Deserts
 3/19: Workforce Compensation & Education
 3/26: Child Care Quality

April: Supported Families

4/2: Expanding Home Visiting
 4/9: Think Babies™ Advocacy Day!
 4/16: Paid Family & Medical Leave
 4/23: Parenting Education Programs
 4/30: Early Literacy



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 EARLY EDUCATION COALITION**

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

Name: Amy Duffy

Position: Program Manager

Education

- Bachelor's Degree in English Education, Florida State University (1992)
- Master's Degree in Child Development and Family Studies, UNC-Greensboro (2008)

Experience in the Classroom: 4 years

Years with T.E.A.C.H.: More than 22 years

Primary Duties

- Manage the T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Program
- Supervision of Counselor Staff
- Ensure Quality Control of Scholarship Activities
- Reporting



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

Brittany Alston
Administrative Assistant II

Marsha Baldwin
Scholarship Counselor II

Schquita Battle
Outreach Coordinator

Mildrienne Best
Scholarship Counselor III

Edith Locke
Division Vice President

Kimberly Bynum
Scholarship Manager

Amy Duffy
Program Manager

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



United Way
of the Greater Triangle
Certified Community Impact Partner



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