



# T.E.A.C.H. TALK

April-June 2019



## Voices from North Carolina

“Voices from North Carolina” features what you and your peers are saying about topics related to the field. Each edition will contain quotes from around NC about the importance of formal education and its effect on early care and education.

The following information was taken from a participant’s interview and testimonial questionnaire. Mollie Nix from Buncombe County shared her experience:

**What is your current role in the early childhood field?** *I am an assistant teacher in a Head Start classroom.*

**What was the deciding factor on using T.E.A.C.H. to further your education?** *I am using T.E.A.C.H. because it allowed me to pursue a B-K Licensure degree.*

**How has your education affected your classroom?** *Greatly! I have been able to implement so much of what I have learned.*

**What is the one thing that has led to your success as you balance school, work, and home life?** *Online classes have been a huge help and also having paid release T.E.A.C.H. time off each week. It has given me the time to work on school work without having to miss pay or time with my family.*

**Has increased education allowed you to reach your professional development goals?** *Yes! My goals are always about learning new things. Taking classes allows me to do just that.*

**Is there anything else you would like to share with your counselor and the rest of the team?** *I appreciate T.E.A.C.H. more than I can say!*

## Recipient Spotlight

Hello, my name is Akeshia Mack, owner of Loving Arms Christian Childcare, a four-star FCCH in Catawba County.



With the help and support of the T.E.A.C.H. program, I obtained my Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education from Catawba Valley Community College in Hickory, NC. My plan is to earn a Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood Education. I am pleased that T.E.A.C.H. can help me accomplish my goal. I am glad to be part of a program that has your best educational interest in mind and will assist you financially to accomplish

your dreams! Thank you, T.E.A.C.H., for giving me the opportunity to get a higher education to become a better educator.

## What’s New?

- If you are an Early Childhood Education Associate graduate but need 9-15 credit hours to transfer to a NC four-year college/university, T.E.A.C.H. has a scholarship model for you. Complete the Associate Degree for Early Educators application if you are interested.
- Applicants and sponsoring facilities will need to complete W-9 forms during the application process to ensure our accounting department has the correct information.
- The *NC Careers Directory* is now available on CCSA’s website. Click [here](#) to see the directory.

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

We would like to thank everyone who graciously adjusted to the new Form B policy. We appreciate your efforts following the policy and we understand that the change may have been difficult, but overall it was successful. The Form B policy was created to verify that the classes and textbooks (if applicable) are, in fact, the actual classes you are enrolled in and the textbooks you received. Please remember to keep your tuition statement and textbook receipts because you will need to submit them each semester with a completed Form B.

## Facility Spotlight



Kid Connection Child Development Center is a five-star child care center in Canton, NC. KCCDC opened in 2004 and started offering T.E.A.C.H. to our staff in 2005. We love that T.E.A.C.H. scholarships give the teachers and staff of KCCDC tools to further their education at a low cost to the individual

employee. We feel that by partnering with and offering our teaching staff the tools necessary to obtain higher levels of education, the benefit goes full circle. The staff members achieve higher education and a great sense of personal accomplishment, our children receive high-quality care from

having highly qualified and educated teachers, and the center provides parents with peace of mind having an established, educated, and knowledgeable teaching staff that understands

and values the importance of early education. We are very



thankful for the T.E.A.C.H. program and the great support that we get from the T.E.A.C.H. counselors on an ongoing basis. We attribute much of our success retaining qualified teaching staff and the high education levels of our center to the T.E.A.C.H. program.

--Mary Moody, Director



## Higher Education Spotlight - UNC-G Spring 2019 Graduating Class



*Spring 2019 graduating class including the following scholarship recipients: Jamesa Biting, Elizabeth Delk, Amy Philips, Robin Sink and Brenda VanKoughnett*

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro held its spring commencement ceremony for the School of Health and Human Sciences on May 9, 2019, at the UNC-G Auditorium. The School of Health and Human Sciences is dedicated to preparing new generations of professionals, leaders,

scholars, and entrepreneurs to enhance the quality of life of individuals, families, and communities in North Carolina and the world through teaching, scholarship, community engagement and service.

On the evening of May 9, 12 graduates were hooded earning a Master of Education in Birth through Kindergarten Interdisciplinary Studies. Of these graduates, five were T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® North Carolina scholarship recipients. This group of graduates represented the 4th cohort of spring graduates from UNC-G since the Master's Degree in Education with an Emphasis in Early Childhood Leadership and Management Scholarship inception. Since this program is completed online, students were able to form virtual relationships but many of them met face-to-face for the first time just before the commencement ceremony. During this gathering, recipients were able to meet their scholarship counselor, Kimberly Bynum. Kimberly presented each graduate with a small gift that included T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NC swag to celebrate the momentous occasion.

Congratulations class of 2019! Continue to be strong leaders in your community and champions for early care and education.

## Semester Reminders

- Submit grade reports at the end of each semester. If you 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 Summer 2019 semester.
- Submit a copy of your class schedule and contract addendum to request your Summer 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)
- Tuition and Book Documentation Form (Form B) must be accompanied by itemized tuition receipts and itemized book receipts (if applicable).
- Remember that reimbursements, bonuses, and stipends can take 8-12 weeks to be mailed.
- Sponsoring centers, submit Release Time Claim Forms for your eligible employees.
- 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 any employment changes.
- Please return all phone calls/emails from your T.E.A.C.H. scholarship counselor.

## Did you know?

On April 5, Child Care Services Association celebrated 45 years with dinner, a silent auction and the James and Carolyn Hunt Early Childhood Award. CCSA established the James and Carolyn Hunt Early Childhood Award in 1995 with former Governor Hunt as its first recipient. At the celebration, Hunt presented Robin Britt, executive director of Guilford Child Development, with the award.

## Congratulations and Acknowledgments

This section is dedicated to our 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

Brenda Monroe  
 Julieanne Page  
 Ana Ponce  
 Samantha Darling  
 Jennifer Pruden  
 Anita Geib  
 Robin Morgan  
 Josie Mundy  
 LaShonda Lewis  
 Melissa Pressley  
 Alicia Amore  
 Shelbie-Lee Barlow  
 Danielle Allen  
 Angela Barker  
 Kelly Cline  
 LaKesha Lowery  
 Tashanda Smith  
 Amberly Walton  
 Kayla Whitt  
 August Wright-Herrington  
 Brenda Zamudio-Pina  
 Brittany Farmer  
 Doris Long  
 Kimberly Lunsford  
 Kelsey Lyalls  
 Lisa Rice

### Associate Degree Graduates (cont.)

Kimberly Sowder  
 Tiffany Jones  
 Alana White

### Bachelor's Degree Graduates

Kelly Pittman  
 Megan Sorrell  
 Grace Thompson  
 Christina Gray

### B-K Licensure Graduates

Shannon Bookman  
 Brittany Cobb  
 Betsy Fox  
 Misty Honbarrier  
 Lakeshia Jones  
 Vanna Rae Townsend-Skipper

### Master's Degree Graduates

Jessica Dayoc  
 Caitlin DeMarco  
 Caitlin Johnson  
 Jennifer Lacewell  
 Rochelle Maignan  
 Jessica Norris  
 Donna White

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

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

**Name:** Monica Livingston

**Position:** Administrative Assistant II

**Education**

- Bachelor's Degree from Meredith College (2005)
- Current MBA Student with Jack Welch Management Institute

**Years with T.E.A.C.H.:** 13 years

**Primary Duties**

- Processing check requests, invoices, payments, and payment plans
- Daily correspondence and faxes
- Application entry
- File maintenance
- Filling information requests
- T.E.A.C.H. scholarship document and web content updates

**About Me:** I'm originally from Virginia and came to NC for my bachelor's degree. I decided to move here after graduation and have felt right at home ever since.



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



*(top to bottom, left to right)*

**Mildrienne Best**, Scholarship Counselor III

**Kimberly Bynum**, Program Manager

**Amy Duffy**, Program Manager

**Pam McGowan**, Scholarship Counselor III

**Edith Locke**, Division Vice President

**Schquita Battle**, Administrative Dept. Manager

**Marsha Baldwin**, Scholarship Counselor II

**Kathy Thornton**, Quality Control Systems Coordinator

**Tomonica Rice-Yarborough**, Field-Based Outreach Coordinator

**Marsha Basloe**, CCSA President

**Monica Livingston**, Administrative Assistant II

**Brittany Alston**, Administrative Assistant II

**Cindy Villani**, Scholarship Counselor II (not pictured)



United Way  
of the Greater Triangle  
Certified Community Impact Partner



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