



New Hampshire Association for the Education of Young Children

Our Mission:

To support and advance the professional development of affiliate members in their efforts to provide quality care and education for the children of New Hampshire.

Greetings from the NHAEYC President

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you had a safe, relaxing, and fun holiday season with family and friends. Mimi, our President Elect, and I attended the NAEYC National conference in Orlando, FL in November and had the pleasure of hearing Vivian Gussin Paley speak about children and their right to play. She talked about how we used to be much more relaxed and appropriate with our kindergarten and first grade children and how we now have expectations for achievement that is difficult for young children. She asked us all to advocate as early childhood educators for the appropriate curriculum for young children in our centers and in

our schools. You can see her speech on the NAEYC website at naeyc.org.

We also heard from Stephanie Fanjul, President of the NAEYC Governing Board, who urged us all to take an active role this coming year; to vote for the governing board candidates in January and in our national elections this fall. She asked us to ask the candidates; no matter what party they are from, how they feel about children's issues. What are their views and what would they do if they were in office? We are the advocates for the children and we do have a voice. To that end, we are revamping our website and

will have a section in there for public policy and the issues that affect children.

We are looking for a new Executive Director for NHAEYC and have information on our website. The deadline is approaching so if you are interested you should act quickly!

I wish you all a happy and healthy 2012!

Best,

Lori

Lori Harris

NHAEYC President

Board Member Highlights



My name is Claudette Mallory. I have been an NHAEYC member for 14 years and have been the NHAEYC Recording Secretary since September of 2008. Prior to serving in that role, I was the Scholarship Committee Chairperson for 4 years. I have a Master's Degree in Early Care and Education from Wheelock College. My Bachelor's Degree from New Hampshire College (SNHU) is in Accounting. I also have a 12 credit certificate in Early Childhood from Manchester Community College. I have worked in the field of Early Childhood for 16 years. For 13 years, I worked at The Applewood Learning Center in Londonderry in various administrative roles. I was fortunate to be able to combine my financial experience with my early childhood education and work in a setting that offered me the opportunity to have diverse roles.

For the past 3 years, I have worked for Rockingham Community Action Child Care Services, first in Salem

and currently in Exeter. I am the Coordinator for the Resource and Referral Program and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Through these roles and in my NHAEYC board role, I have met many colleagues, both at the State level and in many early childhood programs in Rockingham County who are dedicated to promoting high quality child care in New Hampshire.

I believe that professionals in the early childhood field are performing the most important work in the world. Whether they are child care providers, early childhood faculty or workshop trainers, or providing other support services for children and families, they are helping to shape the future. It's an incredible responsibility, but with so many dedicated professionals working together, I believe we are making a difference in the quality of the services being offered to New Hampshire's children and families!

Spring Conference

We are gearing up now!!!! Brochure is in the making and wait until you see the launch of our new Registration system!!!! Be on the lookout in your email box in early January for the Early Bird Registration opening. We are so thrilled to be returning to Plymouth State University on April 14th and 15th. We are bringing you Dan Hodgins an

expert on Boys, Jeanine Fitzgerald, the relationship and behavior guru and Peter and Ellen the singing sensations. We have also selected from a large field of applications: great, new and a broad spectrum of sessions. This is a conference that you do not want to miss! See you all soon!!!!

Professional Development

The Professional Development Committee will be hosting the upcoming Leadership Conference at Manchester Community College on February 11th, with a snow date of February 25th. This day is a great opportunity for administrators and seasoned teachers to get 6 hours of training in one day! There will be 2 tracks to choose from, one of which will focus on Managing Infectious Diseases and Food Allergies while

the other track will focus on Cultural Competence. We are very excited to have presenters with a variety of knowledge and experience ranging from the Early Childhood field to the Medical and Nutrition fields. Registrations are now being accepted and you can find more detailed information by going to www.nhaeyc.org. We are looking forward to seeing many of you there!

Public Policy

The New Hampshire Child Advocacy Network (NHCAN) hosted a Children's Summit in Concord on November 15th. There were six presentations regarding what members will be focusing on in the current NH legislative cycle, referred to as 'priorities.' These members keep close track of legislative proposals and committee work. A majority of the conversation revolved around two proposed constitutional amendments regarding revenues and school funding. I attended the Summit and can provide any interested person with more details if interested, or you can go to the website listed below. The NHCAN office is located in Concord and Located in Concord and they have current priorities listed at the following website:

www.childrennh.org/web/nhcan.html

NHAEYC will be sending a five member team to the Public

Policy Forum in Washington, DC in February 2012. There will be a day of training, briefing, and networking with NAEYC and AEYC affiliate representatives from across the country. The next day, the group will be bussed to The Hill to meet with Legislators and Senators, and will present them with early childhood advocacy talking points. The public policy link on the NAEYC website is always a good resource to find out the national issues that are being advocated. Go to: www.naeyc.org then click on the 'public policy' tab.

NHAEYC President Lori Harris has been attending some of the meetings of the developing ECAC/ Early Childhood Advisory Council committee meetings and is giving voice to the issues that our organization supports. The current focus is on gathering data and systems development, which will assist in professional development and supporting quality programs.

Keeping the "Heart and Soul" in your program from Dan Hodgins

Jason, a preschooler in a program that I was volunteering in, asked, "Can I stay at the school?" His mother was there to pick him up at the end of the program. I responded, "I will be waiting for you to return the next time you come." He started to put his coat on and turned to me and said, "I like it here, it makes my heart beat faster." Many early childhood programs are looking at enhancing their quality through the accreditation process or meeting core indicators or developing goals and objectives or by establishing competencies. All of these processes are important in caring for children and families. I worry though, that components in programs that "make the heart beat faster," are being

ignored. Keeping the "Heart" and "Soul" in a program is often difficult, because the components are not always measurable. I love to visit programs that cause me to have, "goose bumps" all over my body, programs that cause me to, "catch my breath" when I walk around the environment, or when I leave, "tears run down my face." You will not find any of these behaviors on current measuring devices.... As you work to update, enhance or maintain quality this new year, make sure that the process gives priority to keeping the "heart" and "soul". It is these qualities that a child will maintain for the rest of their life.

www.danieljhodgins.com

Indicators for the "Heart" and "Soul" in a Program:

- *Children singing songs spontaneously*
- *Children taking things apart*
- *Children choosing not to come to "gathering time"*
- *Children eating when they are hungry*
- *Children choosing to play by themselves*
- *Children deciding when they are finished*
- *Children moving objects to different locations in the environment*
- *Children deciding when they are tired*
- *Children doing most of the talking*
- *Children laughing and crying*
- *Children running and climbing*
- *Children saying, "This is mine."*