



*The Provider* is a publication of the  
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*"NJFCCPA, professionals at the heart of child care..."*

## A Message from the President-

# The Provider



We've had some interesting changes in the roles of our Board members. Gloria Johnson, Member Services, has assumed responsibility as Treasurer from Linda Cook. The transition was smooth. There are not enough words to thank Linda Cook for her devotion to her duty as Treasurer for the past 6 years. She continues as Financial Chair of NJFCCPA and Passaic County Representative. Meanwhile, Gloria continues to be equally diligent in manning the accounts as she has been in maintaining the membership database. Great job, Gloria! We are so proud of you.



Next, Alycia Walton, Southern Regional Rep, is considering taking over the Member Services duties. Our three newly appointed reps, Michelle Melgarejo, Sussex County, Michelle Misiura, Somerset County and Karen Fearon, Bergen County are learning the ropes quickly. Let's give a round of applause and a big thank you to all our Board Members for their tireless and voluntary commitment to NJFCCPA.

With regard to the Expanded FCC: We tried another route, hoping to be called a Home Based Center which would allow us to care for maximum 15 children, or rather 12 paying and three of our own included. We took the time and effort to create a 14 page comparison grid forming this new category from the child care center regs and family child regs, and met on Sept 1st with Office of Licensing(OOL).

While still on Page 1, we hit rough terrain. As the conversation continued, it became more apparent that the "E" use group which is the Educational use group under which we hoped to be categorized would not work for us as that group applies to ages 2 ½ years to 6 years only, while our new category would surely need the infant category included.

(continued on page 2)



We were back to the drawing board looking into the feasibility of exploring the R use category. Eventually, OOL suggested that we give them time till mid October. They will have an internal meeting with other experts to arrive at the most suitable category under which we could pursue working on the Home Based Center. We then told them that we would like their backing and support when approaching DCA officials. OOL went one step further and suggested that they would be speaking to DCA officials themselves on many other matters and ensure that all the categories they suggest are cleared with them, and then we can compile our report with greater accuracy.

Even though the meeting did not go as we planned, there was a lot of positive energy in all the discussions that would eventually lead to positive results. Just having the assurance that we have OOL's support, was in itself a positive sign.

So you see, I am tireless in my quest to find a solution to this issue. I am not alone. We have the support of the Ad hoc Committee of the Child Care Advisory Council of which I am a member and the Legislative Government Action Committee, where I continue to represent the NJFCCPA.

Thank you, Tan Coelho



Congratulations and thank you to the following Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies who have entered into partnership agreements with the NJFCCPA, and have agreed to support NJFCCPA in achieving its' goals to support the growing needs of family child care providers!

Child & Family Resources-Morris County

Child Care Resources- Monmouth County

EIRC / SRCCRC- Gloucester County

EIRC / SRCCRC – Cape May County

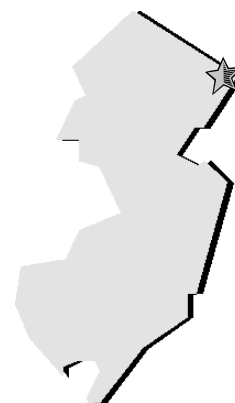
The Children's Home Society of NJ - Ocean County

Camden County Division for Children

## Save the Dates for Upcoming NJFCCPA Board Meetings!

December 3, 2005  
BERGEN COUNTY

February 11, 2006  
Location to be  
determined



# SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS OUT HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

excerpted from NAEYC Update September 29, 2005



The Senate HELP Committee voted out its bill to reauthorize the Higher Education Act. NAEYC worked closely with many members of the Committee to include early childhood educators in the teacher preparation grants and in loan forgiveness. In particular, we want to thank Senators, Dodd (D-CT), Reed (D-RI), DeWine (R-OH), Burr (R-NC) and Senator Kennedy (D-MA) for their attention to the preparation and financial assistance needs of early childhood educators.

Title II contains grants to help prepare and recruit teachers. We are very pleased that this reauthorization bill would extend for the first time the use of funds to improve the preparation of educators in early childhood education programs as well as K-12 teachers. We worked with the Committee to ensure that the definition of early childhood education programs in Title II includes Early Head Start and Head Start, state licensed or regulated child care (which would cover family child care home providers and center-based), state prekindergarten and schools serving children from birth through kindergarten. States would use their grants to improve and expand the preparation of teachers, including early childhood educators in higher education institutions. In addition, the state partnership grants for improving teacher preparation would include a focus on early childhood educators. Agencies and organizations that represent early childhood educators would be consulted in the development of the state grant application and plan.

The grants also could be used for teacher recruitment and retention, including scholarships and support for those who complete teacher preparation programs. It includes individuals who subsequently teach in an early childhood education program for the number of years (plus one) that they received this scholarship assistance.

On the financial assistance side (Title IV), the bill would include educators in child care and state prekindergarten programs in the mandatory-funded Perkins loan forgiveness program. Head Start teachers already are eligible for Perkins loan forgiveness, but the current rules did not cover child care and state prekindergarten teachers.

The bill also reauthorizes the Child Care Access Means Parents in School grant program that provides resources for campus-based child care while parents go to school.

For more information :

**National Association for the Education for Young Children, visit [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)  
or  
the NJ Association for the Education for Young Children @ [www.njaeyc.org](http://www.njaeyc.org)**

## Candidates Respond to Key Children's Issues

The Association for Children of New Jersey submitted questions to gubernatorial candidates Sen. Jon Corzine and Mr. Doug Forrester on key children's issues. Their responses to some of the questions follows.

**If elected governor, would you make early learning a high priority in your administration and would you create a Governor's Office of Early Learning to coordinate programs and policies?**

**Corzine:** Yes. As you can tell from my education speech, early learning will be a high priority in my new administration. I have set a goal of making full-day kindergarten available to every New Jersey child by 2009. To achieve this goal, I plan on changing the state school funding formula to pay for full-day kindergarten programs. Currently, the state only pays for half-day programs. I will eliminate the penalty for doing the right thing and create an incentive for schools to move to full-day kindergarten. More than half of New Jersey children in non-Abbott districts go without the opportunity for full-day kindergarten. The program will be voluntary for schools and parents. The state's portion of the funding will be phased in over four years.

As to creating a Governor's Office of Early Learning, I would be open to discussing this with the Association for New Jersey Children, but need to know more before stating an opinion on the subject. If I am elected, I will review the structure of both the Governor's Office and departments to ensure our state government can achieve its goals with maximum efficiency.

**Forrester:** I would enthusiastically make early learning a high priority in my administration and would be pleased to create a Governor's Office of Early Learning to coordinate programs and policies. It would be the subject of one of my first executive orders.

**What steps would you take to improve New Jersey's child care system so it offers more affordable, quality care that is accessible to all families?**

**Corzine:** As mentioned above, I support improving and expanding the state's role in providing high-quality, affordable child care. I am interested in your opinions and recommendations on this important issue. As to child care worker salaries, I am a strong supporter of a living-wage and equal pay in New Jersey and will seek to advance this agenda if elected.

**Forrester:** Numerous attempts have been made by legislators to establish public private partnerships that foster cooperative arrangements to leverage dollars available for childcare. For example, Senator (Diane) Allen has long advocated tax credits for employers and community-based agencies that provide low-cost care. I believe that it is only through the active solicitation of, and assistance for, such public private partnerships that adequate levels of affordable and quality childcare will be achieved. I would use the office of Governor to encourage such public private partnerships.

**What is your plan to ensure that all children have access to health care?**

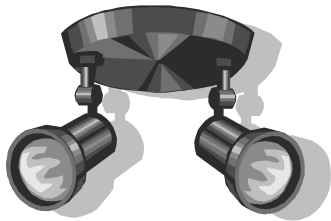
**Corzine:** In my Health Care speech, I laid out my plan to cover 766,000 uninsured New Jerseyans, including 264,000 children in New Jersey without health insurance. FamilyCare

in covering a small percentage of adults and some children in all socioeconomic categories, but has not gone far enough. If elected governor, I will work with Senator (Joseph) Vitale to improve the enrollment process and expand FamilyCare to provide universal healthcare access to all children and pregnant women in the State.

**Forrester:** It is essential that we do our best to maximize federal Medicaid funds for smart programs like Family Care. FamilyCare is largely paid for with state funds and if waivers are aggressively pursued from the federal government, there can be opportunities to have one half of FamilyCare paid for with federal Medicaid funds. I will aggressively lobby and promote FamilyCare before our President, Congress and administration officials to expand the funds available to support healthcare for more adults and their children. Family Care with maximized federal funds is not only a financially smart way to keep our children healthy and out of expensive emergency rooms, it is a humane, compassionate and sensible way to help our children be as healthy as they can be.

For all the questions and responses, visit or Join ACNJ's Make Kids Count campaign at [www.makekidscountnj.org](http://www.makekidscountnj.org) and help build a better future for all New Jersey children. For more information, call (973) 643-3876 or email [nparello@acnj.org](mailto:nparello@acnj.org)

## BERGEN COUNTY SPOTLIGHT



*Congratulations!*

*Karen Fearon  
had a baby  
girl, 6 lb 15oz.  
and named  
her  
Summer  
Fearon.*



County Reps: Karen Fearon and Sue Ellen Sallemi

Providers in Bergen held an Avon fund-raiser for the NJFCCPA which was a great success. They were able to raise \$171.75 for their chapter's use. Prizes providers could use in their daycare were awarded to the 4 top sellers. A free Avon product was awarded to the provider for the first fund-raiser order received.

Bergen providers have been meeting at the homes of providers, most recently at Nicole Clark's and Sue Ellen Sallemi's. Now Bergen is gearing up to host the NJFCCPA December Board Meeting / Holiday Party on December 3, 2005. It will be held at the Care One / Cupula Senior Residence On Ridgewood Ave in Ridgewood.

Sue was told some of the residents there have no family, so a Holiday card on their breakfast tray would really make their day. If providers are interested in having their children decorate a few holiday cards, please arrange for them to be delivered to the December Board Meeting!

Thank you to Bergen County Representatives, Karen Fearon and Sue Sallemi for a job well done!

# News from the NJ Professional Development Center for Early Care and Education

Who will be the NJ Registry's 1,000th applicant? . . . It could be you!



The NJPDC is planning a celebration for the NJ Registry's 1,000th applicant! One lucky participant will be the recipient of:

Paid Registration to any state conference (up to \$200)  
Customized Gift Basket  
Specially framed Registry Certificate

Don't delay! Join the over nine hundred early childhood practitioners and take charge of your professional development. Already a member, share the good news and tell a friend!

## **About the NJ Registry for Childhood Professionals Serving Children Birth Through Age Thirteen**

The New Jersey Registry for Childhood Professionals Serving Children Birth Through Age Thirteen is a statewide system that guides, tracks and recognizes the professional growth and development of individuals working in early care and education, out-of-school time and primary education. It keeps track of professional development achievements by maintaining confidential records for each individual who participates in the system. Participants will be approved at one of the seven levels of the NJ Registry, based on their education and experience.

The NJ Registry also issues Head Teacher, Group Teacher and School-age Program Supervisor Certificates recognized by the Department of Human Services, Office of Licensing – Youth and Family Services. This Certificate meets the requirements set forth in the NJ Manual of Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers.

### **Why register?**

The NJ Registry will help you keep track of your professional qualifications and experiences, including FCC training hours, Head Teacher and Group Teacher requirements, child care licensing annual training requirements and public school professional development. The NJ Registry keeps you connected to and supported by other professionals while providing a pathway for advancing in your career. Additionally, participants demonstrate their professional commitment since NJ Registry requirements are stronger than state licensing requirements.

The NJ Registry Application can be printed from the NJPDC website or you may call (908) 737-4224 to request a NJ Registry Packet.

# The New Jersey Family Child Care Providers' Association

## Board Members

President- Tan Coelho  
Past President - Tina Foley  
Vice-President - Lorraine Farr  
Treasurer - Linda Cook  
Membership Secretary - Barbara Pittman  
\* Member Services - Gloria Johnson  
Recording Secretary - Open  
Newsletter Editor - Tina Foley  
Servicios para Miembros - Open

### Northern Regional Representative - Open

Bergen County - Karen Fearon \* Sue Ellen Sallemi  
Essex County - Open  
Hudson County - Open  
Morris County - Danielle Syracuse  
Lisa Mani  
Passaic County - Linda Cook  
Sussex County - Michelle Melgarejo  
Warren County - Open

### Central Regional Representative - Roselle Coye

Hunterdon County - Darlene Blanchard  
Mercer County - Virginia Micai  
Middlesex County - Roselle Coye  
Cheryl Ambicki  
Monmouth County - Michele Gregorio  
Somerset County - Julie Payne \* Michelle Misiura  
Union County - Barbara Pittman

### Southern Regional Representative - Alycia Walton

Atlantic County - Gail Noble and Grace Holley  
Burlington County - Gloria Johnson and Lil Rollins  
Camden County - Open  
Cape May - Open  
Cumberland County - Open  
Gloucester County - Open  
Ocean County - Open  
Salem County - Open

For information, contact NJFCCPA \* 908-713-8682  
or visit our website: [www.njfccpa.org](http://www.njfccpa.org)



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