



The Provider is a publication of the
New Jersey Family Child Care Providers' Association.
Volume 12, Issue #3

"NJFCCPA, professionals at the heart of child care..."

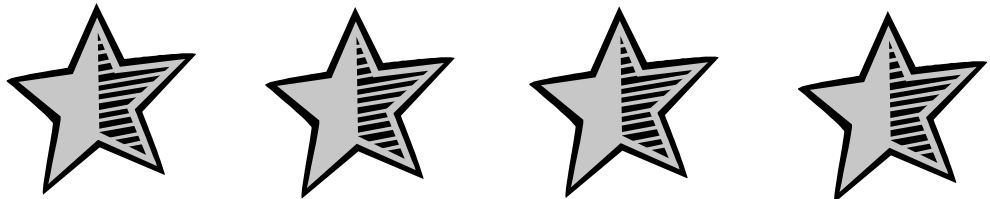
The Provider

A Message from the President-

The NJFCCPA has every reason to be proud of its Board Members. At the Provider Appreciation Day Dinner on May 5th, the first ever award by the NJ Professional Development Center for Early Care and Education, in the family child care category was presented to an NJFCCPA member, me. The runner-up, with honorable mention, was Julie Payne, our Somerset County Rep, again an NJFCCPA member. Also, nominated were Michelle Melgarejo, our Sussex County Rep and Barbara Pittman, our Membership Outreach Rep.



All our Board Members are exemplary role models for their County members. In addition, these County Reps display their leadership qualities when they contact their members and hold networking meetings to build up their chapters. Congratulations to each and every one of you. Of course, those that are more actively involved are recognized and given opportunities to advance their leadership skills. We are all Gold Stars of NJFCCPA and will shine wherever we go. So be proud of the work you do towards the title and responsibility you assume.



In addition to attending the Child Care Advisory Council and LGA meetings, the highlight is now on the Group Family Child Care Ad hoc committee. We met with officials of the Office of Licensing. At this point we are all given the task of calling on demographically similar states like Michigan, Connecticut and Virginia to find out how they went about amending their building codes to allow for group family child care in Residential homes. Next, we will set up a date for a follow up meeting where we will invite DCA officials to propose changes to our existing building codes. The whole process seems slow, but if we have to do it right, we have to follow the advice of these experts who have come forward to help us. I will keep you informed of the progress.

I was also on NJACCRA's team that organized the Family Child Care Survey of 88 questions that was circulated through your R & R's to you. One of the questions asked was, "if you were offered the opportunity to develop Expanded FCC that would allow you to care for 10 children with an assistant, would you be interested?" 73% answered Yes. 12.2% No and 10.5% Not Sure. The 73% is encouraging!!

So, you see, I am leaving no stone unturned and continue to work diligently with the Group FCC Ad hoc committee, that will hopefully make this dream a reality.

~ Tan Coelho.



Board News

NJFCCPA welcomes the following new county representatives!

Bergen County	Karen Fearon
Somerset County	Michelle Misiura
Sussex County	Michelle Melgarejo

Congratulations to NJFCCPA president Tan Coelho who has been appointed to the position of NAFCC State President's Council Delegate. Tan will have the responsibility of representing all of the state association Presidents around the nation on the NAFCC board. Her term of office starts immediately and will continue until August 1, 2006.

Congratulations!

Save the Dates for Upcoming Board Meetings!



September 10, 2005

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

December 3, 2005

BERGEN COUNTY

February 11, 2006

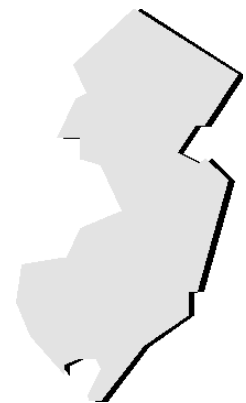
Location to be
determined

Around the Regions

In the North, Linda Cook prepares to hand over the reigns of the treasury. We thank Linda for her longstanding service to the NJFCCPA! She will continue as our Passaic Region Rep and will serve as Finance Chair.

In the Central Region, Julie Payne and Michelle Misiura have been busy holding regular meetings. Providers have benefited from Parent Provider Communication and Reducing Your Risk Workshops and were able to enjoy a special dinner meeting! Additionally they represented NJFCCPA at the Semi-Annual Somerville Street Fair!

In the South, NJFCCPA participated in Week of the Young Child events sponsored by BCCAP. Alycia Walton and Lill Rollins shared information to the public about family child care and the services provided by the NJFCCPA!



Benefits of a Multi-Age Setting



With children ranging from infants to 4 years old and older, are there bonuses to combining these age groups?

Yes, and they are numerous.

1. Children can stay with the same caregiver for several years. This allows for a trusting relationship to grow. The caregiver will have a deep understanding of the child's needs and strengths putting them in a better position to support the child in all areas of development.
2. Siblings can be together thus strengthening their family bond.
3. Children develop a sense of family with the other children in care. Typically, families are comprised of children varied in age. Through observation of the others in the group, children are exposed to a wide range of competencies that they may learn themselves in a natural way.
4. Caregivers do not expect all children to be in the same place at the same time developmentally.
5. Children are not labeled according to their ability. There is no fear of not moving forward to the next class. Children are given the time needed to master skills and are encouraged to try new things in an environment set up for learning.
6. Older children have the opportunity to take on leadership roles within the group, initiating a game, song or activity. They are also wonderful helpers and mentors to the younger children.
7. Because of the various ages there is generally less competition and more cooperation within the group. A mixed-age group can help teach children to understand behaviors they themselves recently had. It can also help older children appreciate their own progress.
8. Younger children can participate in activities that are set up by the older children even if they are unable to initiate the activity themselves.
9. Young children, who are nurtured, comforted and encouraged by older children will learn from them and be able to emulate them when they become the older children in the group.
10. Self-esteem, independence and confidence will rise in older children as they are helping younger children accomplish tasks they cannot do on their own.
11. Children are not moved from caregiver to caregiver or room to room, thus decreasing the amount of time it takes for a child to feel comfortable in a group child care environment. This consistency gives children time to feel safe and secure with the caregiver, and allows for more time to learn, play and grow.

excepted from the Question & Answer section of www.airmontslittleangels.com, a website owned by Wanda McCarthy, Owner, Director & Teacher of Airmont's Little Angel, Inc. Wanda is a former board member of NJFCCPA who now lives in NYstate and operates a Group Family Child Care Home. We miss Wanda in NJ and thank her for permission to reprint this information!

Statewide Family Child Care Provider Survey Highlights

Sponsored by the New Jersey Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
with support from the Child Welfare League of America

The New Jersey Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NJACCRRRA) would like to extend our sincere appreciation to all of the family child care providers who took the time to share information about their work to support children in New Jersey. More than 1000 surveys, representing 27% of all registered providers, were completed and returned! For information on your county's participation, refer to the table on the reverse side of this flyer. We also thank the network of child care resource and referral agencies and their staff whose commitment to this project helped make it a success. Look for a complete summary of survey results in future editions of NJACCRRRA's newsletter.

General Results

- * A total of 1,099 surveys were returned by family child care providers in New Jersey, representing 27% of all registered providers in the state.
- * Response rates by county varied from 15% to 80%, with an average return rate of 31%

A Profile of New Jersey's Family Child Care Providers

- * More than 58% of providers are between the ages of 31-50 years old
- * 97% of providers are women; 7 male providers responded
- * Close to 48% of providers identified themselves as Black / African American
- * Over 25% of providers identified themselves as Latino / Hispanic
- * Spanish is spoken in 27% of provider households and with 26% of the children in care

A Community of Professionals

- * The providers who responded to the survey collectively care for more than 2,900 children on a full-time basis and 1,500 children on a part-time basis
- * The average provider begins caring for children at 7:00am and does so until 5:45pm
- * Over 8% of the providers have care available for children spanning a 24-hour period.
- * Almost 75% provide breakfast, lunch and daily snacks for the children in their care
- * More than 50% take children on trips outside the home
- * 73% of providers responded that they would be interested in caring for up to ten children if regulations allowed them to do so with an assistant
- * Almost 65% of providers indicated that they would like to provide pre-school program services to children in their home if a state plan included them in doing so
- * In the last 6 months, 69% of providers participated in a child care related training

Challenges & Needs for Support

- * The lowest reported wages for full-time care were \$60/week for an infant and \$40/ week

- * for a toddler, with a statewide average of about \$140/week for both infants and toddlers
- * 40% of providers spend up to \$500 per year on supplies and equipment, and an additional 25% spend up to \$1000 per year
- * More than 55% of providers are without liability insurance
- * Almost 30% of providers lack basic health insurance
- * Close to 35% of providers are the only person in their house earning income
- * 40% of providers earn a pre-tax income under \$14,999
- * Just under 20% of family child care providers hold a second job

New Jersey's County Response to the Statewide Survey of Family Child Care Providers

County	Number of Registered Providers as of December '04	Spanish Surveys Returned	Total Number of Surveys Returned	Return Rate
<i>Atlantic</i>	137	0	33	24%
<i>Bergen</i>	245	9	52	21%
<i>Burlington</i>	191	0	50	26%
<i>Camden</i>	237	19	92	39%
<i>Cape May</i>	15	0	12	80%
<i>Cumberland</i>	262	0	67	26%
<i>Essex</i>	499	1	137	27%
<i>Gloucester</i>	92	0	29	32%
<i>Hudson</i>	505	29	125	25%
<i>Hunterdon</i>	54	0	19	35%
<i>Mercer</i>	193	3	44	23%
<i>Middlesex</i>	182	16	54	30%
<i>Monmouth</i>	114	0	61	54%
<i>Morris</i>	190	4	38	20%
<i>Ocean</i>	131	3	52	40%
<i>Passaic</i>	217	27	48	22%
<i>Salem</i>	82	0	12	15%
<i>Somerset</i>	86	0	17	20%
<i>Sussex</i>	69	0	26	38%
<i>Union</i>	206	13	50	24%
<i>Warren</i>	76	0	22	29%
<i>Monday Morning</i>			59	
TOTAL	3783	124	1099	29%



The NJ Professional Development Center for Early Care and Education

is pleased to present the winners of the 1st Annual NJPDC Professional Development Awards. The winners have exemplified dedication and determination in advancing their own professional development as well as supporting the professional development of others.

The Childcraft Education Corp. Professional Development Award for a family child care provider is awarded to Tanveer Coehlo, Tan's Learning Center for Kids, Cranbury, NJ
Honorable Mention, Julie Ann Payne, Our House Family Daycare, Bridgewater, NJ

The Becker's School Supplies Professional Development Award for a center director/administrator is awarded to Maureen Greiner, Tiny Town Preschool, Sparta, NJ
Honorable Mention, Susan Leggoe, Partners in Parenting, Camden Betty Mitchell, St. Joseph Child Development, Camden

The Lakeshore Learning Professional Development Award for a child care center staff member is awarded to Josephine Ahmadein, Merck & Co Employees' Center for Young Children, Rahway, NJ
Honorable Mention, Lorena Amador, Egenolf Early Childhood Center, Elizabeth, NJ.

NJPDC would like to congratulate the awardees and thank our corporate sponsors for their generous donations. For a full list of nominees, please visit our website at www.njpsc.org.

Important Reminders for NJFCCPA Liability Insurance Holders

The Association's liability program does not cover automobiles. In fact, most personal auto policies exclude transporting persons or property for a fee.

Pools and wading pools are not covered by the policy. An additional rider to cover the use of your pool can be purchased for an additional \$250.00. Please see Item #8 on the Insurance Overview.

This policy will not cover injury or damage caused by an animal owned by the insured. The policy will however, cover bodily injury or personal medical payments caused by an animal not owned by or in the care of the insured. This means neighbor's animals, strays, zoo or wild animals, which are out of your control are covered. The NJFCCPA strongly suggests separating animals from the children in your care.



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
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



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