

Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children

APRIL 2022, ISSUE NO. 4

# ECE Matters

## Early Childhood Advocacy Day

April 7, 2022 opened with a motivating [message](#) from Representative Lisa Blunt Rochester supporting the day's events.

Over 150 advocates joined in the sessions, which included "What Do Delawareans Think? A Conversation about Polling and Focus Groups Results," a panel discussion entitled, "Priorities in Early Education in Delaware and Nationally," and meetings with seven (7) state legislatures.

Rodel's blog post, "[Delawareans Share Their Vision for Child Care on Advocacy Day](#)," summarizes the effort: "Advocates are requesting at least \$40 million more in sustained state dollars starting in Fiscal Year 2023, which would help cover basic needs and increased costs for providers."

Early Childhood Advocacy Day takes place, officially, once a year; however, efforts like these can be made at any time. Talk about the issues, [contact your legislator](#), stay connected with [deaeyc](#), and [get involved](#). Your voice is the key to making positive changes in legislation for early child care!

### National

.....  
[NAEYC PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY](#)

[A DAY WITHOUT CHILD CARE](#)  
MAY 9, 2022

[MORNING WITHOUT CHILDCARE](#)  
[CONNECTICUT](#)

### State

.....  
[FIRST STATE PREK: GET INVOLVED](#)

[DEAEYC ADVOCACY RESOURCES](#)

# Program Highlight

Contributed by the Great New Beginnings Administrative Team

In a world full of things going wrong, we are proud to announce something amazing! Our team of professional educators were able to earn our NAEYC recertification (St. Andrews site)! Our Middletown site is awaiting our assessment results (program opened June 2019, less than a year prior to COVID), and our Newark site will open (May 2022) practicing NAEYC standards.

Earning NAEYC accreditation is a daunting task without the complications and challenges of COVID. Our NAEYC recertification, during COVID, proves that early educators are resilient and are in it to win it for the children in our care. We wanted to give an official shout out to all of those in the field that make what we do look easy every day no matter what complications or challenges that we are facing as a team or individually.

Congratulations to the St. Andrews team for their dedication and unwavering commitment to quality even in the face of the uncertainty of COVID personally and professionally. NAEYC accreditation takes a team effort, which is exactly what we have at GNB!

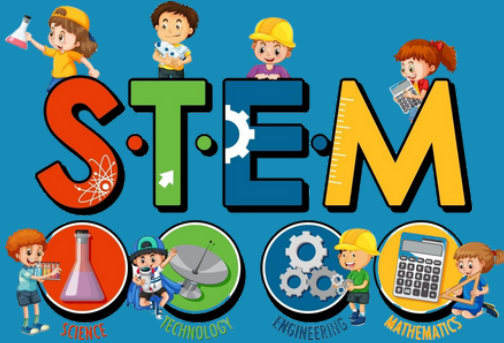
To our state leadership, please recognize all early educators for the professionals that we are and our importance to our community today, tomorrow, and years from now. We, as a profession, have stepped up selflessly over the last two years. Please do not forget that we wear capes to work every day to support our community as superheroes. Investing in early educators now is the best insurance policy that the legacy of great early education programs continues for our youngest learners for decades to come as well as contributes to a competent workforce in our state.

Yours in quality early education,  
GNB Administrative Team



# IN THE CLASSROOM

FIVE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT STEM LEARNING  
IN YOUNG CHILDREN



## from the OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING (OEL)

EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION (ECSE)

TECE TRAINING

MORE TEACHER RESOURCES

## SUPPORTING PARENTS

BRILLIANT BILINGUAL BABIES:  
RESEARCH NOTES, HELPFUL FACTS,  
SUPPORTIVE TECHNIQUES



# Educator Resources



An Announcement from  
The Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

"The Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation, Inc. is pleased to announce the continuation of the Fresh Start Scholarship.

"Our scholarship is specifically designed for women who have interrupted their education for various reasons and now seek to return to school to better their lives. We award annual scholarships based on need and offer mentoring support. Candidates must be enrolled in a two or four-year degree program at an accredited Delaware college or university.

"There are over \$100,000 in scholarship funds available to students in ALL majors. We ask that candidates be recommended by a social service/government agency, a college/university, or an employer.

The application is now available online at [www.freshstartscholarship.org](http://www.freshstartscholarship.org) Please contact candidates you might wish to recommend and/or share the attached fact sheet to solicit candidates as soon as possible.

"PLEASE NOTE: Applications for the 2022-2023 academic year must be submitted by May 15, 2022 and all applicants will be notified on or before July 31, 2022."

You are invited to join us for a short ZOOM Presentation to learn more about the Fresh Start Scholarship on Monday May 2nd at 11:00 am

Please RSVP by using [this link](#) and/or share the link with others who might be interested.



# Caregiver Resources

The following articles are from "Baby Talk: Resources to Support the People Who Work with Infants and Toddlers" and "Natural Resources: Free Resources for Learning About and Using Trauma-informed practices." All content is free to be shared or copied.

[Delivering on the Promise of Effective Early Childhood Education for Black Children: Eliminating Exclusionary Discipline and Concentrating on Inclusion](#)

[Safe Sleep Resources](#)

[Benefits of Sign Language for All Infants](#)

[Grand Connections: A Free, Online Workshop Series for Grandparents](#) **ESPAÑOL**

[Reading a Baby's Cues](#)

[Early Math Resources](#) **ESPAÑOL**

[How the Pandemic is Affecting Babies' Brains](#)



## MORE RESOURCES

[DO CELL PHONES DISTRACT US FROM INTERACTING WITH OUR KIDS?](#)

[BOOKS ABOUT FEELINGS FOR BABIES AND TODDLERS](#)

[LET BABIES PLAY! FREE PLAY MAY HELP INFANTS LEARN AND DEVELOP](#)

[NURTURING GRATITUDE](#)

## THINK ABOUT IT...

"Childhood is over when a puddle is viewed as an obstacle and not an opportunity."

[NOW WATCH THIS!](#)



[I am the Expert on My Child! How to Support My Child's Growth and Development](#)



# A Message from deaeyc's New Executive Director

Contributed by Lisa M. Miller

Hello!

As the newly named Executive Director for deaeyc, I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself. The cycle of my career is what makes me so passionate about early learning. The value of early education is insurmountable, and I am dedicated to advocate for and to support the advancement of the field.

I've always had a desire to improve education; after graduating with an English degree from Wesley College, I started working for an educational publisher creating literacy workbooks and manipulative materials for high school curricula. Years later, while teaching English at Delaware Technical Community College, it became apparent how essential early learning experiences are, even into adulthood, and specifically when it comes to literacy. From there, I became a certified assessor of learning development for ages pre-k to adults and the director of education for Huntington Learning Center. When I came to deaeyc four years ago, I knew that working here was where I belonged. My previous experiences are what make me so passionate about this position and the opportunities deaeyc has to make an impact for young children.

I look forward to connecting, collaborating, and supporting such a deserving workforce.

lmiller@deaeyc.org | 302-764-1500, ext. 107



## TOP INITIATIVES

BILINGUAL SERVICES

INCREASED MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

NEW & IMPROVED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAININGS

EXPANDING SERVICES TO FAMILIES



HIGH QUALITY

# Upcoming Ticket Raffle!

RAFFLE OPENS JUNE 1, 2022



# deaeyc's Annual Early Childhood Educator Conference

deaeyc is so excited about this year's annual conference!

For the FIRST TIME, deaeyc will be offering simultaneous Spanish interpretation of the Keynote address, AND one additional training delivered in Spanish.

Here's what else you can expect! Mark your calendar!

## Saturday, May 21, 2022

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Keynote Presentation: Conscious Discipline

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Special Needs for Early Education

## Monday, May 23, 2022

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Reflective Practice:

A Strategy for Supporting Change

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Social Emotional Learning for Adults

## Tuesday, May 24, 2022

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Conscious Discipline training **ESPAÑOL**

## Wednesday, May 25, 2022

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Topic: Leadership in Early Education

Additional training options may become available in the following areas: literacy/language development, mental health in early childhood, and self care for early educators.

Pricing information will be available soon, and registration will open on April 22, 2022.

## Would You Like to Contribute to this Newsletter?

We are looking for contributors for content in the following areas:

- TEACHER HIGHLIGHTS
- CENTER/PROVIDER HIGHLIGHTS
- PROGRAM EVENTS
- LOCAL ADVOCACY
- PARENTS' CORNER

Send your contributions to Lisa Miller

[lmiller@deaeyc.org](mailto:lmiller@deaeyc.org)

THANK YOU!

Enter for a chance to win: **TWO TICKETS**  
 July 23, 2022  
 8:00 p.m.

**To Kill a Mockingbird**

Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
 Academy of Music  
 Parking Included!

1 raffle ticket for \$25  
 5 raffle tickets for \$100

TKAM National T

## Become a Member!

# deaeyc

Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children

Please share any of the resources from this newsletter with your staff, colleagues, and families. If anyone is interested in receiving the newsletter, please have them contact Lisa Miller, [lmiller@deaeyc.org](mailto:lmiller@deaeyc.org) to be added to the mailing list.

