



## What is Happening at the National Child Care Association?

### August 9<sup>th</sup>-October 31<sup>st</sup>

The merger between NCCA and NECPA was completed as of August 9<sup>th</sup>. This merger established NECPA as the parent company for NCCA.

New Director, Cindy Lehnhoff was appointed on August 16<sup>th</sup> following the merger of NECPA and NCCA. Cindy has 36 years of experience in operating quality care and education centers. She is a former Board Member of the Oklahoma Child Care Association and the National Child Care Association (late 90's into the early 2000's). Additionally, she has been a member of the NECPA Board for 15+ years. This includes 5 years as President of this Board.

#### **The NCCA Website was updated with information which included:**

- Posting new mission and vision statements and core values
- Posting the first position paper on the Child Care Development Block Grant

#### **Attended Children's Budget Summary in Washington, DC. On September 10<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Attended the Karabelle Pizzigati Advocacy Institute for Children, Youth, and Families— University of Maryland College Park September 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>**

- This included opportunities to meet influential research and policy experts from DC's leading national organizations working to improve the lives of children, families, and providers of services to children and families:
  1. Zero to Three
  2. Food Research and Action Center (FRAC)
  3. CLASP—The Center for Law and Social Policy
  4. Child Care Aware
  5. Children's Defense Fund
- The Institute provided information on how to be an effective advocate
  1. Meeting with Legislators
  2. Calling a Legislator
  3. Hosting a Legislator Visit
  4. Writing Letters to the Editor of a Publication
  5. Basics of the Federal Legislative Process and Federal Appropriations Process
  6. Advocacy Storytelling



## **Attended Oklahoma Child Care Association Fall Conference in Tulsa on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**

- Participated in the opening session as a speaker to an audience of 200+ teachers, directors, and owners
- Hosted a table in the vendor hall to inform attendees of the NCCA's membership opportunities
- **Met with OCCA leadership and secured their state associations membership in NCCA**
- Led presentation on How to Be a Voice for Children, Families, and Early Learning Professionals (approximately 50 directors and owners in attendance)
- Informed audience of how to contact James Lankford, OK Senator who sits on the Senate Appropriations Committee to ask for a \$5 billion increase in CCDBG for 2020

### **Advocacy Outreach in September included:**

- Participating in calls to action and submitting letters to US Legislators from Child Care Aware and the Children's Budget Coalition asking for additional discretionary dollars to be allocated for the care and education of young children
- Made calls and emailed Senator Marco Rubio and Senator James Lankford, both members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, asking for a \$5 billion increase to be budgeted for CCDBG for 2020
- Joined the lobbying subcommittee for the Children's Budget Coalition

## **October**

### **Attended Kris Murray's Child Care Success Summit from October 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

- Networked with the 850 owners/operators of childcare centers attending the conference
- Networked with the vendors in attendance for the purpose of discovering potential affiliate members

### **Attended AZ's Child Care Association Membership meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>**

- Hosted a table set up to inform attendees of the opportunity to join NCCA
- Spoke from the podium about NCCA and our Mission and Vision and invited programs and individuals to join NCCA
- Four individuals in attendance joined NCCA at this meeting and one owner with 2 sites also joined
- Introduced myself and provided a business card to nearly every attendee



### **Attended the FLAEYC Conference in Orlando, FL on October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>**

- Hosted a vendor table to inform attendees of the opportunity to join NCCA
- Networked with the vendors in attendance for the purpose of identifying potential affiliate members
- Provided information to the attendees on the CCDBG budget and ask them to call or email FL's Senator Marco Rubio, Republican member of the Appropriations Committee, with a unified message on increasing the CCDBG in 2020 at the same level as the House Appropriations Committee did in June

**NCCA Director, Cindy Lehnhoff, was invited and accepted the invitation to be a part of a committee being established by the National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance to discuss how licensing should partner with providers to improve quality care and education**

**Starting in late October Bryant Harvin, member of the NECPA staff, has begun supporting NCCA in managing a Social Media Campaign, Conference events, and Affiliate Memberships**

#### **Next steps include:**

- Updating and enhancing the NCCA website
- Adding professional development opportunities to the website in early 2020
- Sending e-mail blast to members with US legislation updates pertaining to bills that can help or do harm to children, families, and professionals in early care and education. The email blast will include a simple way (click of a button) to inform your specific US legislators of our united stand on issues that are brought before them for consideration. The information we will be providing is in partnership with Child Care Aware of America