



# Winter 2017 Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 3

January 30th,  
2017

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## Nebraskans Speak About Early Childhood Care and Education Workforce

The Buffett Early Childhood Institute has partnered with Gallup on an unprecedented statewide survey to learn about the public's attitudes, beliefs, and knowledge concerning early care and education across Nebraska. More than 7,100 residents participated, making it the largest early childhood public opinion poll in Nebraska's history and yielding one of the highest response rates Gallup has ever encountered for a mailed survey. The main report from the survey, *Nebraskans Speak About Early Childhood Care and Education*, was released on March 29, 2016, and revealed strong public support for early childhood programs and investments. The Buffett Institute and Gallup announced the findings of the second report on October 24, 2016 at the University of Nebraska at Kearney before an audience of state and community leaders, public officials, early childhood

professionals, higher education faculty, and others. This report tells us that Nebraskans recognize and value the early childhood care and education workforce. Nebraskans also believe that postsecondary education is needed for those who want to work in the early care and education field. Lastly, Nebraskans want greater support for the early care and education workforce. To view more details about this report, please go to <http://buffettinstitute.nebraska.edu/gallup-survey>. The third and fourth reports, *Nebraskans in Rural and Urban Areas Speak About Early Care and Education* & *Nebraska Parents Speak About Early Care and Education*, will be coming soon.



Please help us spread the word about T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NEBRASKA!

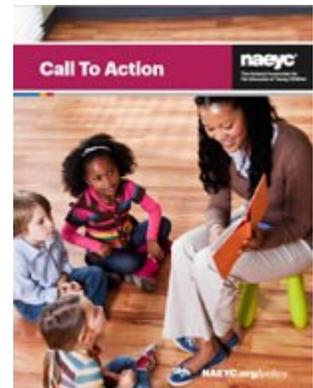
Our information can be found in the "Education" section of the Nebraska AEYC website, [www.nebraskaaeyc.org](http://www.nebraskaaeyc.org).

Thank you for your support!

## Children's Champions

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), a leading voice for high-quality early childhood education, is deeply concerned about the current federal fiscal debates. NAEYC's public policy goal is a well-financed, high-quality system of early childhood education for all children from birth to age

eight. One way you can get Involved is to sign up for Children's Champions! Keep up with the latest news concerning early childhood education to support and inform your advocacy on behalf of children, families, and educators. You will receive regular email updates and action alerts on important issues being issued by Congress



and the Administration. Go to <http://www.naeyc.org/policy> to join NAEYC's Children's Champions E-mail List!

# Week of the Young Child

Celebrate NAEYC's Week of the Young Child on April 24-28, 2017! The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration hosted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children celebrating early learning, young children, their teachers, and families. For more information, go to <http://www.naeyc.org/woyc>.

- ◇ Music Monday—April 24, 2017: Sing, dance, celebrate, and learn ~ Through music, children develop math, language, and literacy skills... All while having fun and being active!
- ◇ Tasty Tuesday—April 25, 2017: Healthy eating and fitness at home and school ~ This fun, food-themed day is about more than just cheese and crackers! Cooking together connects math with literacy skills, science, and more.
- ◇ Work Together Wednesday—April 26, 2017: Work together, build together, learn together ~ When children build together, they explore math and science concepts and develop their social and early literacy skills.
- ◇ Artsy Thursday—April 27, 2017: Think, problem solve, create ~ Children develop creativity, social skills, and fine motor skills with open-ended projects where they can make choices, use their imaginations, and create with their hands. On Artsy Thursday, celebrate the joy and learning children experience when engaged in creative art making.
- ◇ Family Friday—April 28, 2017: Sharing family stories ~ Engaging and celebrating families is at the heart of supporting our youngest learners.



## Fit and Healthy Kids

Need FREE continuing education hours or know someone that does? Don't want to travel? Pull up a comfortable chair and join Nebraska Extension on the web! Here are two Web-Based Sessions for Early Childhood Professionals:

- February 6, 2017 @ 8:00-9:00 p.m. CST—Using the Temperament Toolbox to Scaffold Children's Growing Compassion: Helping children understand their own emotions and interact well with others can benefit children, parents, and teachers alike. In this session, you will learn some basics about prosocial and empathy/compassion skills. Instructor: Katie Miller, Graduate Student, UNL
- March 6, 2017 @ 8:00-9:00 p.m. CST—Family Style Dining: You will learn low cost simple strategies using behavior principles to encourage healthier meal choices in preschool age children. Instructor: Dipti Dev, Assistant Professor and Child Health Behavior Specialist, UNL

To register, go to: <http://food.unl.edu/fit-and-healthy-kids>. Questions? Email Cami Wells at [cwells2@unl.edu](mailto:cwells2@unl.edu) or call her at (308) 385-5088.

## What Is Your ELC Partnership?

The Nebraska Early Learning Connection (ELC) works collaboratively with local partners to ensure that a broad spectrum of professional development opportunities are offered for those who work with and care for children birth through age eight. Do you know

where your Early Learning Connection Partnership is located? Do you know who is your Early Learning Connection Coordinator? Included in this newsletter are your answers!



## Early Childhood Training Center

Did you know that you have access to over 7,000 items in the Media Center, housed at the Early Childhood Training Center in Omaha (ESU#3)? If you live within the state of Nebraska and work with young children and their families, or are a parent, you are invited to borrow materials from the Media Center! Their materials include books, DVDs, CDs, journals, and newsletters that address subjects, such as early childhood care and education, child development, parents and families, children with special needs, language and literacy, guidance, child abuse and neglect, health and nutrition, safety, activities, and other diverse topics. They also have a small collection of children's books which address issues, such as

death, divorce, disabilities, and siblings. Materials can be requested by writing, telephone, fax, e-mail, or in person. When requesting, please include your name, address, phone number with area code, and your type of work (family child care provider, director, teacher, etc.). Licensed child care providers can borrow materials towards the acquisition of independent study hours. Each 50 pages read count as one hour of independent study time; DVDs and videos provide a minute-for-minute exchange. **Perhaps this could be a resource for you to use on any assignments you need to complete?** You may

borrow up to three items at a time for a period of three weeks. Materials will be sent to you at no cost. However, it is your responsibility to return the materials at your own expense.



Call the Media Center at 402-557-6885 or 800-89-CHILD to place your order!

## President's List

Congratulations to Charity from Dawson County! She was named to the President's List at Chadron State College! Charity is currently on a Bachelor Degree Scholarship. This honor requires a 4.0 grade-point average in the previous semester (Fall 2016). Students must be enrolled in 12 credit hours of coursework during the semester to qualify. Charity was one out of 288 other students at Chadron State College to earn this honor. 401

other students met the requirements for the Dean's List by earning at least a 3.5 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale. Way to go, Charity!

If you have an accomplishment that you would like to share, please let us know at T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood@ NEBRASKA!



## Your Personal Reminder



  
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**T.E.A.C.H. EARLY  
CHILDHOOD® NEBRASKA**

**T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®  
is a licensed program of Child  
Care Services Association.**

## Upcoming Events

February 4th: Grand Island Child Care Conference (T.E.A.C.H. will be there!)

February 11th: Omaha AEYC Child Care Conference (Nebraska AEYC will be there!)

February 20th: President's Day—Office Closed

February 22nd: T.E.A.C.H. Advisory Committee Meeting in Columbus

April 1st: Lincoln Spring Conference (Nebraska AEYC will be there! See flyer.)

April 6th, 7th, 10th, 14th, & 17th: Julie Out Of The Office

April 22nd: Provider's Day Out @ Mahoney State Park (Nebraska AEYC will be there!)

April 24th-28th: Week Of The Young Child

April 24th-27th: T.E.A.C.H. Conference in Chapel Hill, NC (Julie Out Of The Office)

April 28th: Arbor Day—Office Closed

**\*\*\*Please take note that Julie will be out of the office quite a few days in April. Plan accordingly!\*\*\***

## 20 Questions

I thought it would be fun to get to know the recipients I work with on a day-to-day basis! This section is something new and fun that I have added to our newsletter... 20 Questions! I hope you participate, too! I have included the questions in this newsletter. Answer them and send them back to me and I will include it in a future newsletter. I actually included 30 questions, so you can pick and choose. I thought I would get us started, so here we go!

1. First name only: Julie
2. Where were you born? Fremont, NE
3. Do you have any pets? My family has a hamster named, Liv.
4. Do you have any brothers or sisters? Yes, I'm the oldest followed by one sister and two brothers.
5. Do you have a hidden talent? I like to think that folding a fitted bedsheet perfectly is my hidden talent.
6. What is something you wish you could do? Whistle
7. Would you rather live in a place that was always hot or a place that was always cold? Always hot! I hate winter!
8. What is something you are afraid of? I'm deathly afraid of snakes! I also don't like heights.
9. Do you play, or have you played, an instrument? In high school, I played the trumpet. My oldest daughter, who is now in 5th grade, started playing it this year.
10. If you had to describe yourself in three words, what would they be? Organized, humble, and happy.
11. If I weren't a teacher, I'd be... A party planner!
12. If you were going to bury a time capsule, what are three things you would put in it? Fit Bit, Yeti, K-Cup
13. What do you like to do in your free time? Read and run
14. What is something you are proud of? Completing five half marathons in the last five years. I'm signed up for the Lincoln Half-Marathon again on May 7th, 2017!
15. What are your favorite TV shows? My number one favorite show right now is This Is Us. I also like Grey's Anatomy, Modern Family, American Housewife, Big Bang Theory, Teen Mom (OG & 2), and Fuller House.
16. What's one place you really want to travel to? My goal is to make it to all 50 states before I die, but I really want to go to San Francisco to visit the "Full House" house!
17. What is your favorite season? Summer
18. What kind of music do you like? All types! I love my Sirius XM Satellite Radio! I'm always flipping between 90's on 9, 60's on 6, some country, and today's hits.
19. What's one thing you can't live without? My planner. I need to know what's going on all the time. I'm like an air traffic controller for my family!
20. What is one of your biggest pet peeves? Listening to someone chew.