mdaeyc The Tide

January 2010

Maryland Association for the Education of Young Children
www.mdaeyc.org

A Letter from the Presidents:

We at Maryland AEYC hope that 2010 is off to a productive start for each of you. For us, 2009 was full of reflection and subsequent change. As a result, we are anticipating a 2010 that will see the dawning of a refocused MDAEYC with new direction and intentionality.

As evidence of our success we have seen our membership grow by 57% over the last year. Consequently, we are also seeing a surge in individuals who are interested in getting more involved with Maryland AEYC, either the Governing Board or one of our committees, as we forge a new vision for children, families, and caregivers around the state. If you are interested in joining the MDAEYC movement, please contact us at marylandaeyc@gmail.com to explore the many opportunities to get involved.

Best wishes for 2010 and beyond!

Greg Stevens and Carolyn Carter
Co-Presidents

REGIONAL AEYC PANEL, RECEPTION AT CONFERENCE A POPULAR SUCCESS!

The 2009 NAEYC Conference in Washington, DC has come and gone, but one of the strongest memories for many of us who attended is the very successful panel presentation and following reception that MDAEYC co-sponsored with the Washington, DC and Virginia AEYC's.

The panel presentation, ***"Pre-K Along the Potomac: Implementing Developmentally Appropriate Pre-K in and around Washington, DC,"*** featured Maryland's Rolf Grafwallner, Assistant State Superintendent of Schools for the Early Childhood Division and principal author of the recently issued "Maryland's Preschool for All Business Plan" (now available at http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child_care/pubs. Maurice Sykes, Executive Direcctor of the Early Childhood Leadership Institute of UDC, and Rob Krupicka, a member of the Virginia Board of Education represented the two other jurisdictions. The session was moderated by Danielle Ewing of the Center for Law and Social Policy, a member of NAEYC's Governing Board. The capacity audience heard and participated in a lively exchange relating to the many issues surrounding the approach to universally available public pre-kindergarten in the three jurisdictions. Handouts from this session, as well as many others of the more than 800 sessions presented there, are available for downloading from NAEYC's website, www.naeyc.org.

The reception that followed, also in a room filled to capacity and with a rapidly consumed abundance of food and drink, was brimming with excitement and shoptalk, as new friends and old greeted and schmoozed.

MDAEYC RESTRUCTURING UPDATE

As a result of the discussion and input at the MDAEYC Board Retreat in August regarding how MDAEYC can better position itself to be coordinated and positioned to advocate for our children, families and the workforce, many of the local affiliate

members felt the need to have discussions with their local boards to determine whether to continue as an affiliate of NAEYC or become local chapters of MDAEYC. Following these discussions, most affiliates have completed the process of dissolution of their affiliate status. Central Maryland AEYC is keeping their affiliate status with NAEYC and will continue to be a full part of MDAEYC.

MDAEYC is now working on the next steps to provide a State system that will incorporate more efficiencies to enhance programs and services at both the State and local levels, particularly in these areas:

- Stronger representation for the early childhood community at State & local levels;
- A Unified voice to represent the early childhood community on public policy issues;
- More opportunities for high quality professional development opportunities;
- More involvement in local communities; and
- More frequent and timely communications

In the coming months, MDAEYC Board members will be making plans to determine the best restructuring organization and examining the vision for MDAEYC.

We have added NAEYC Radio to our Website, www.mdaeyc.org .

You are invited to

COME TO ANNAPOLIS!

An Evening for Children's Advocacy

Monday evening, February 8

For a Child Care dinner, briefing, and tour.

Professional Activity Units will be given.
Co-sponsored by MDAEYC
For details, see
www.mdchildcare.org/publicpolicy

REGIONAL AEYC COLLABORATIVE FROM DC, MARYLAND, & VIRGINIA PLAN FURTHER JOINT ACTIVITIES

The NAEYC Affiliates in DC, MD, and VA have established a Regional AEYC Collaborative to identify shared interests and challenges, and work together across jurisdictions to promote the delivery of high quality early childhood development services. Following the Conference success reported above, the Collaborative plans to use the tools and resources developed in each participating State, as well as those developed by NAEYC, to create new learning opportunities for ALL early childhood professionals throughout the region.

The following four key topic areas will be the focus of the Collaborative's ongoing efforts:

- LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (Emerging leaders and Board development)
- PUBLIC POLICY AND ADVOCACY (Local, State, Regional, National)
- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (Comprehensive system of professional development)
- PROGRAM QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (Accreditation, QRIS)

The development of this Regional Collaborative was highlighted at NAEYC's Affiliate Council meeting at the NAEYC Conference as a success story and model for collaborative partnerships among AEYC Affiliates. The Affiliate Council consists of representatives from State Affiliates from across the nation.

Maryland is represented on this Collaborative by Greg Stevens. If you are interested in learning more about the Collaborative, please contact him at marylandaeyc@gmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP EXPLODES WITH LOCAL NAEYC CONFERENCE

MDAEYC's membership has grown explosively this year. Total membership in MDAEYC, which was about 1500 last Summer, now is 2309, including 480 Comprehensive members, 1467 Regular members, and 362 Student members.

We want to welcome aboard all you new members. We hope that you'll stay with us and become active in our work for the children as well as your fellow professionals. We hope that you will get familiar with your local Maryland AEYC Chapter, as well as with our website, www.mdaeyc.org. On the website you will find our calendar of events for the

year, as well as an opportunity to sign up for active service with the State AEYC or its local chapters. You also can sign up for our public policy list serve, which provides updates on Federal, State and local public policy issues relating to early childhood.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS OF INTEREST:

1st Skolnik Annual Lecture, by Harriet Meyer
February 2, JHU Baltimore
Contact: MFN, (410) 659-7701, x120

NAEYC Public Policy Forum
February 2-3, Washington, DC
Contact: (301) 469-9170

MD Child Care Evening in Annapolis:
Monday, February 8, 6-9 p.m.
Contact: 410-659-7701, x146

MD Head Start Assn. day in Annapolis:
February 22, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Contact: (302) 449-2131

Comm. College, Balt. Co., 4th Ann. Conf.:
March 13, CCBC Dundalk
Contact: 410-780-6178

P.G. Co. 13th Ann. Conf, *"Celebrate Child Care!"*
April 17, Upper Marlboro
Contact: 301-345-0874

Montg. Co. Week of Young Child Celebration
April 10, Westfield/Wheaton Plaza
April 24, Lakeforest Mall
Contact: 240-777-1331

Montg. Co. Early Childhood Celebration
April 21, Gaithersburg
Contact: 301-320-4565

Montg. Co. Early Childhood Congress
May 10, Rockville
Contact: 301-610-0147, x212

MD State Family Child Care Assn. Conference:
October 15-16, Ocean City
Contact: 301-498-1516

PUBLIC POLICY REPORT

1. *FEDERAL*:

The appropriations for early childhood programs for the current year are still on hold in the Senate, as is the authorization for the Student Loan Reform Bill that contains the Early Learning Challenge Grant Fund, whose passage is necessary for the realization of many of Maryland's hopes for improvements in our integrated early childhood support system. Appropriations for the current year that passed the House of Representatives would include flat funding for the Child Care & Development Block Grant (CCDBG), and a small increase for Head Start. Until the stimulus funds run out in September 2011 we cannot expect any significant increases in either area.

The Administration will present its proposals for the budget year starting in October (FY 2011) by February 2, but public and political concern about the size of the Federal deficit is likely to dampen enthusiasm for any significant increases. Both Senate and House versions of the health care reform Bill would support significant funding for evidence-based home visiting programs: $750 million over 5 years in the House, and $1.5 billion in the Senate.

Other legislation pending in Congress involves the reauthorization of several important pieces of legislation: The Elementary & Secondary Education Act (also known as the infamous No Child Left Behind law), the CCDBG, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, etc.

We need you to continue to contact your Senators (Mikulski, 202-224-4654, and Sarbanes, 202-224-4524) about these matters. Senator Mikulski, in particular, is the second senior Democrat on the HELP Committee, that deals with legislation in our area, as well as a senior member of the Appropriations Committee. Your Representatives need to hear from you as well. During this month of January, please continue to call (202-456-1111) or e-mail (www.whitehouse.gov/contact) to seek more funding for early childhood.

NAEYC will be holding a national Public Policy Forum in Washington, DC, at the beginning of February, and Maryland AEYC has a strong delegation attending it. We hope to report to you on this event, and we encourage your continuing involvement in the efforts to convince the voters and the Government to give young children the public support that they deserve.

The Early Care and Education Consortium is leading an advocacy campaign to help state and federal elected officials learn more about high-quality child care programs around the country. This campaign

isn't about calls and emails, but it is about inviting Members of Congress and State legislators to visit child care programs. To this end, the Early Care and Education Consortium has developed a Site Visit Toolbox that may be useful in your advocacy work. The Toolbox is located here http://www.ececonsortium.org/site_visit_campaign.php.

2. *MARYLAND:*

The gloom is deep about State and local government finances for the coming fiscal year, which begins on July 1. Estimates of the overall deficit vary, but they all indicate that about 2 billion dollars must be cut from spending or increased in taxes. The General Assembly, which meets from January 13 through April 12 this year, must pass a balanced budget and cannot increase the Governor's recommended allocations in any area without cutting or increasing taxes elsewhere. Legislators are reluctant to increase taxes in an election year. So we really need your help in February and early March to push your State Senators and Delegates to keep the cuts in our parts of the Budget from destroying the progress that we have worked so hard to create. We will be in touch with you later, especially if you live in a key legislator's District.

Funding for both child care subsidies and the early childhood mental health consultation program for the current fiscal year were cut by the Board of Public Works in its meetings in 2009. MSDE hopes that the subsidy cuts will not create waiting lists based on the increase in provider reimbursement rates that went into effect on January 4, but next year may be a different story. We have been told that non-mandatory spending in early childhood is likely to be adversely affected in the Governor's Budget, but that efforts will be made to keep the programs in existence going at some level. Some areas, such as credentialing, where Federal funding is used will be less affected than others, where State funds are used. Although the State's hiring freeze will continue, efforts will be made to replace licensing positions that are seriously understaffed. When the Governor's proposed cuts come before the General Assembly, we will need your help to find persuasive parents and providers with convincing stories of the great importance of the financial supports that are contemplated for cuts.

Although most of the $21 million in Federal stimulus money received by Maryland has been allocated to child care subsidies at the increased reimbursement rates, some of it has been devoted to improving the CCATS computer system, updating the Infant and Toddler curriculum guidelines, etc. A Federal research grant is being used to prepare a universal student identifier for use in child care and other early childhood settings, to facilitate assessment in Kindergarten readiness contexts.

The subsidy rate increase was incorporated into a contract signed this Fall between the Governor and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), representing subsidy-receiving family child care providers and informal providers, who agreed to the contract in a vote. Union dues are deducted from the subsidy payments to union member providers, but not from others. SEIU plans to put in a Bill to put union representation of providers into law, and to permit negotiations to assess fees on non-union providers getting subsidies.

On December 1, 2009, MSDE issued *Maryland's Preschool for All Business Plan* *http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child_care/pubs*, as mandated earlier last year by the General Assembly. The Plan goes into some detail about the mechanics and sequence of expanding Maryland's existing public Pre-K program, into a system incorporating high quality private providers into the public Pre-K system. Obviously the lack of funding will delay implementation.

The Maryland Early Childhood Advisory Council has issued its 3-year Action Plan, entitled *What Success Looks Like* *http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child_care/planning*. The Council has received $895,000 in Federal stimulus money, which will be devoted mostly to systemic improvements.

MSDE's working group on the creation of a Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) is continuing its work, and has reached agreement on recommendations for most of the elements of a 5-star quality rating system,

using most of the criteria now in place for credentials and tiered reimbursements.

3. *LOCAL:*

Most of the local jurisdictions in Maryland are suffering even more severe fiscal shortfalls than the State Government. Cutbacks have been made in local services, including many affecting young children. As local budgets, including school system budgets, must be approved by July 1, it is particularly important that early childhood professionals should try to influence the local budget process to minimize its damage to local supports to young children and their families.

4. *MARYLAND AEYC:*

Starting with the recent poll of the members of Maryland AEYC about what our priorities should be, the Maryland AEYC Public Policy Committee is moving to put those priorities into action.

The Committee reviews the positions we should take on pending legislative and regulatory issues, and does some of the footwork with legislators and other officials in carrying out those priorities. The Committee does most of its work by e-mail, but we hold informal meetings around a lunch table in a restaurant in Baltimore, before or after the Public Policy Committee meetings of the Maryland Family Network. Please contact Flora Gee or Tracy Jost to join us.

MDAEYC PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

MDAEYC's Board just adopted the following public policy priorities for 2010:

Professional Development

- *Highly Qualified Teachers*
- *Credentialing*

Quality in Early Childhood Development & Education

- *Quality Rating Improvement Systems*
- *Developmentally Appropriate Curriculums*
- *Importance of play*
- *Accreditation*

Child Care Provider/Teacher Compensation

- *Preserving Credentialing*
- *Emphasis on High Quality*
- *Child Care Professional Development Fund*

Pre-Kindergarten

- *Emphasis on Community Based Partnerships among Pre-K Programs*

CHILD CARE REGULATIONS CHANGING

The following Maryland child care and Nursery School regulations are in the process of change:

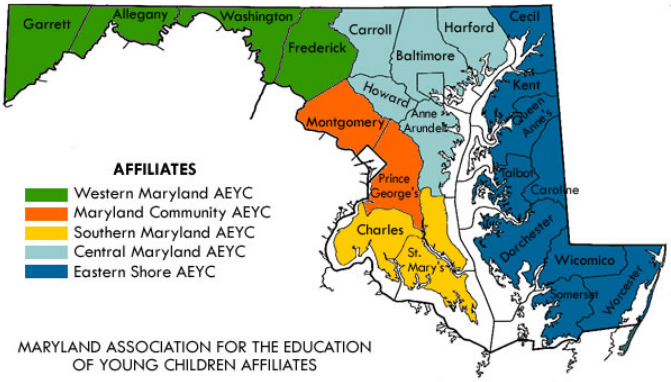
1. MSDE's online child care inspection reports have been adapted and are now available to parents and providers through http://msdecompliancereports.org/msdesearch.asp. Additional information about the reports continues to be available from the regional office or MSDE.
2. Consolidated regulations on the Child Care Subsidy Program and the tiered reimbursement rate program entered into force on January 4, 2010, along with the rate changes they authorized. "Purchase of Care" is no longer a term used in Maryland for child care subsidies.
3. A new regulation on Emergency Disaster Preparedness, to implement the law on the same topic that went into effect on October 1, 2009, will take effect on July 1, 2010. Child care providers must establish and implement plans to be prepared for disasters. Project Security Blanket, www.projectsecurityblanket.org, as well as local resource & referral agencies and community colleges, are continuing to provide on-site and online training on disaster preparedness. The plans, once adopted, need to be updated yearly and practiced every six months.
4. Effective July 1, 2010, any family child care providers in homes with 3 or 4 children under age 2, will need to take training in the care of infants and toddlers. As of the same date, new Nursery Schools will have to have teachers who have taken college courses in child development and curriculum planning.
5. Also following July 1, 2010, MSDE will process all child care subsidy invoices centrally, to ensure that payments are timely.
6. Effective July 1, 2011, all centers must have people onsite who are trained in the administration of medications, a 6 hour course.

AAP/HEALTHY CHILD CARE AMERICA

Go to www.healthychildhcare.org for newsletters, advice, and a library, or email to childcare@aap.org, or call (888) 227-5409.

WELCOME TO THE CHILD CARE PROGRAMS NAEYC ACCREDITED or REACCREDITED IN 2009!

AIP Child Care Ctr., College Park
Andrews Air Force Base Child Dev. Ctr. II
Andrews Air Force Base Judith P. Hoyer Child Dev. Ctr., AAFB
Andrews Air Force Base Child Dev. Ctr. I
Catonsville Presbyterian Church Family Ch. Care Ctr., Baltimore
Edgemoor Children's Ctr., Bethesda
Ft. Meade Child Dev. Ctr. III, Ft. Meade
IRS Child Dev. Ctr., Lanham
Kidstop Child Dev. Ctr., Rockville
Kindercare Learn. Ctr., Germantown
Kindercare Learn. Ctr., Columbia
Kindercare Learn. Ctr., Waldorf
Kindercare Learn. Ctr., Severna Park
Knowledge Beginnings @ Water Babies, Laurel
Mont. Coll. Child Care Ctr., Takoma Pk.
Play & Learn Station, Frederick
Sunny Days Early Learn. Ctr., Riverdale
Walter Reed Army Med. Ctr. Child Dev. Ctr., Silver Spring
Westmoreland Child. Ctr., Bethesda
Woodbrook Early Ed. Ctr., Baltimore



LOCAL AEYC ACTIVITIES

EASTERN SHORE CHAPTER PLANS MULTIPLE ACTIVITES

The Eastern Shore Chapter of the Maryland Association for the Education of Young Children is planning a meeting on February 10, UMES, 7:00 Bailey Thomas Room, Richard Henson Center and will serve milk and cookies along with a few stories about national politics that affect early childhood issues since information from the NAEYC Public Policy forum that will be held in Washington D.C. on February 2 and 3 will be available. We are beginning to plan for the Early Childhood Fair at the Centre in Salisbury, which will hopefully be held on March 27th, so if you know of non-profit organizations that serve young children, that want a table, please let us know! Save the date! Saturday, April 10, The Lower Shore Child Care Resource Center will be offering a professional day: Songs of Resilience. We hope everyone can attend! For more information, please contact Donna Satterlee: djsatterlee@umes.edu.

CENTRAL MARYLAND AEYC REPORT

CMAEYC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Our Board continues to meet regularly under the capable leadership of our co-presidents, Mary Ann (Me-Anne) Sabares-Klemm and Rivalee Gitomer. Janis Dorr is our vice president, Vickie Kaneko is our treasurer, and Karla Parise is our secretary. The Board has established a positive rapport and is firmly united to make CMAEYC an organization that will be a resource for those who care about children, their families, and their education.

We welcome the following people who have volunteered to serve as chairpersons on our governing board:
Marcia Sneed, Accreditation Chair
Margo Sipes, Program Chair
Crystal Shipley, Newsletter Chair
Noel Tsakalas and Marina Maier, Week of the Young Child Co-Chairs
Sharron Bell and Crystal Shipley, Student Representatives

Executive Board meetings will be held on these dates:
Saturday, January 16, 2010:

- Find out the latest news!
- CCBC Owings Mills, 110 Painters Mill Road, Owings Mills, MD, 21117
- 1:00 – 3:00 P.M.
- All CMAEYC members welcome!

Sunday, March 14, 3:00 P.M.,
CCBC Owings Mills
Saturday, May 15,
1:00 P.M., CCBC Owings Mills

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION
As of December 5, 2009 our membership was 953 members. The CMAEYC affiliate includes 34 NAEYC Accredited centers.

FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, October 2009;
The first half of CMAEYC's Fall Membership Meeting on October 24, 2009 featured Carole Williamson and Carolyn Carter from MDAEYC to explain MDAEYC's restructuring and CMAEYC's decision to remain as an affiliate, not a chapter. The following information is from the minutes of that meeting:

"The restructuring of MdAEYC began in the spring of 2009 at the MdAEYC Spring Retreat. Before the mid-1980's, Maryland's NAEYC members were placed into one of six affiliate groups (Anne Arundel/Bowie, Central Maryland, Eastern Shore, Maryland Community, Southern Maryland, and Western Maryland) which were begun before the state affiliate was established in the mid-1980's. Members began to be drawn to the state organization, which had more resources and more funding.

"All local affiliates have been responsible for the same paperwork and tax accountability as the state affiliate. Due to fewer resources and less manpower, it has become increasingly difficult for most of the local affiliates to meet these requirements. All affiliates were asked the question: 'Can you go on as an affiliate?' Central Maryland has remained strong, while the other four (Anne Arundel/Bowie was absorbed by Central Maryland in February of 2005) voted to continue as "chapters," which will not have the same governance as an affiliate. These chapters will be hybrids in that the state will oversee their operations; however, chapters will continue to operate as geographic regions. Their dues will be sent to MdAEYC, and MdAEYC will distribute funds to each chapter. (MdAEYC is still constructing the exact structure and responsibilities of a chapter.)

"As an affiliate, Central Maryland's dues will continue to be sent to Central Maryland. However, it must maintain an intact executive board, file reports, and keep its non-profit tax status. CMAEYC is required to meet its mission, goals, roles, and functions. MdAEYC plans to hire a paid administrative assistant to meet all of MdAEYC's responsibilities as a state affiliate. If CMAEYC wishes to use this person's services, it must contribute to his or her salary."

The second half of the meeting was a brainstorming session to discuss the future of CMAEYC. The following information is from the minutes of that meeting:

"Central Maryland has nearly 900 members of the 2200 state members… It was emphasized that Central Maryland needs to motivate the participation of more of its members. What drew so much participation in the 1980's and 1990's? Can we recapture this? Student leadership activities need to be encouraged – young people have energy and passion, as well as fewer life responsibilities. Our members also have online access to "Tide" newsletter (each chapter/affiliate has its own webpage on the website), and in the future there will be access to MdAEYC's administrative assistant."

Many suggestions/concerns were heard and noted on a wide variety of subjects. A number of other concerns were raised at focus groups held by CMAEYC on September 26, 2009. For more information, consult CMAEYC's web page at www.mdaeyc.org.

Betsy Diamant-Cohen of Port Discovery suggested collaboration between CMAEYC and Port Discovery for the Week of the Young Child. Margo Sipes of Downtown Baltimore Child Care volunteered to research a grant for this purpose.

MCAEYC BECOMES DCM-MDAEYC

What used to be Maryland Community AEYC had a Board meeting on January 11, and we decided to change its name to the DC Metro Chapter of Maryland AEYC. We also decided that,

instead of officers, we would rotate most duties and meeting locations to spread the burdens and joys of office among us. Lindsey Allard, now the Director of a large firm called School Readiness Consulting, will continue to be our point of contact with you and the public, following her years of devoted service as our President. Most of our business will be done by e-mail, by consensus. We now have 881 members, which is almost double our membership of a year ago.

The decisions reported above were the result of our corporate dissolution last fall. We won't have to do reports (except to the MDAEYC Board and the Tide), minutes, accounts, etc., so now we can focus on our work rather than forms. We agreed to welcome all members in our region to our meetings and activities. Shannon Dungan will revise our www.mdaeyc.org page, Rory Pollak will set up a yahoogroups.com account for our members and invite them to join, John Surr will send her the current list of members, Bonnie Mackintosh will host our next meeting on March 8, 2010, at UMCP at 6 p.m., starting with supper joined by our UMCP student members, Lindsey will continue to provide simple dinners for our evening meetings. John will continue to represent us on the Montgomery County Early Childhood Congress Steering Committee and the LWV's Network for Children, and he will continue to testify on our behalf (after consultation) to local government authorities in Montgomery County. Flora Gee will do the same in Prince Georges County.

Bonnie will recruit and organize some UMCP student volunteers to staff our table at the Wheaton Plaza Week of the Young Child (WOYC) Celebration on April 10, from 9:45-2, with funding from us for lunch. Rory will invite members to volunteer for the April 24 event at Lakeforest Mall. We will continue to contribute to the cost of the Montgomery (April 21) and Prince Georges County (April 17) Child Care Celebrations/Conferences.

The accreditation facilitation project that was our main priority for several years has been completed. Our new focus of efforts, a possible series of Webinars, will begin with a Webinar on play. Lindsey will convene a committee to organize the project, beginning with a conference call on February 15 at 7 p.m. Our recent survey of our members was received with enthusiasm. Of the 113 surveys returned, preferences were expressed for a one-hour length for a Webinar, and play was the topic of greatest interest. A great majority said their participation in the Webinar would be very likely or likely. We will plan the Webinars to receive MSDE approval for core of knowledge training, as well as Professional Activity Units for child care credentials.. Many survey respondents expressed interest in helping with future Webinars, but we didn't capture the names of those who did, so those who would like to participate more actively are urged to contact Lindsey at flavajaro@aol.com.

SMAEYC BUSY WITH FACEBOOK, WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

Southern Maryland AEYC continues our motto to Connect Communities So Young Can Thrive. We are exploring ways to publish a newsletter to keep all three county activities and accomplishments of our members current and up to date. We are thankful for the continued support of the Calvert and Charles County Family Day Care Associations. These collaborations have benefited everyone in our community.

We invite you to be our "Friend" on Facebook. Simply, search for Southern Maryland AEYC. Although we are just getting started, we are happy to have 61 friends that share our dedication to the young children in our community.

We are hard at work, getting ready for the Week of the Young Child Events in both Calvert and Charles Counties. Calvert County will have its Fun Fest on Saturday, April 17th at Barstow Elementary School in Prince Frederick. Keeping with the national theme Early Years Are Learning Years, Calvert will host Fun Fest 2010, Let the Reading Begin! Many activities and special guests are planned including an appearance by a local Ravens Cheerleader. Charles County will have its 2nd Annual Early Childhood Day on Saturday, May 1st at Regency Furniture Stadium. There will be plenty of special appearances, giveaways

and activities for young children at this exciting event. If you would like to get involved or need further information, please contact Karin Koch, our new President, at kkoch@dbalearning.com.

NAEYC'S FUTURE CONFERENCE PLANS:

NAEYC has announced its plans for forthcoming Annual Conferences, in November of each year, as follows:

The **2010 Annual Conference** will be in ***Anaheim***, California, from November 3-6, 2010. Registration and hotel reservations will be open in July. The following National Conferences are going to be held in ***Orlando (2011), Atlanta (2012) and DC in 2013***.

EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTATION PROJECT

Even though its budget has been cut by 15 percent, Maryland's Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Project can help you to help the children and families in your care thrive, without cost to you or them. The project, which is aimed primarily to prevent expulsions from child care settings, provides expert professional advice to providers and parents on how to help challenged and challenging children develop the social and emotional skills and attitudes they need in order to harmonize with others in their settings. If the advice isn't enough, the mental health consultants can refer the child and family to more intensive mental health services.

The Project, which began with local pilot projects in 2002, has been shown to reduce child care expulsions dramatically. This result prevents wasted lifetimes by changing children from outcasts and early failures to kids who are thriving, productive, and eager-to-learn. Providers wishing to begin these consultations can reach the consultants generally through the local resource & referral agency or regional OCC office. Providers who have used the Project's services can earn Professional Activity Units by participating in an evaluation study, initiated by calling Sarah James at 1-877-413-0002.

SOME SUGGESTIONS FROM RESEARCH TO HELP US HELP YOUNG CHILDREN GROW MORE HELPFUL:

by John Surr

1. Kindness comes naturally to most children. Don't try to force it.
2. Model the kind of behavior you'd like to see the child imitate.
3. Let the child understand through your behavior that her feelings matter to you and that her real needs will be met.
4. Observe closely and accept the child's expressions of his feelings, and help him to understand those feelings. This will help him to identify, label, and regulate his own emotions, and to react appropriately to other people's emotions. He will value your acts of empathy with him.
5. When the child's feelings are overpowering her, help her to learn to take a deep breath or otherwise refocus her attention.
6. Be reliable in your responses to the child's emotional expressions, and have a consistent approach to his interactions with other people.
7. Explain to the child how you think people are feeling, and why it matters.
8. Praise acts of kindness that you witness together, and express sadness when you both see people being unkind to each other.
9. Do some pretend role-playing, beginning with your own imitations of the child's expressions and movements. Then expand it to other people's feelings. Ask: "How do you think he feels?"
10. Demonstrate respect of yourself, the child, and others to the child, so that she can learn that everyone, including her, deserves respect and has rights.
11. Encourage the child to explore how he can help others feel better.
12. When the child has hurt another child's body or feelings, or when she has a hurt body or feelings, identify the action as unacceptable or as an accident, try to evoke your child's opinion about the effect of her actions on others, and help her to care for people who might need it.
13. Give the child lots of encouragement in resolving conflicts without resort to hurting another's body or feelings. Gradually reduce

your involvement in resolving those conflicts as he gains confidence in his own abilities.

14. Limit the use of television and other electronic media while children are present, substituting more time interacting (especially playing) together.

MDAEYC GOVERNING BOARD 2009-2010

MDAEYC CO-PRESIDENTS:
Greg Stevens
mdaeyc@gmail.com
Carolyn Carter
educationcenter@gsumc.com
VICE PRES. (AFFILIATE RELS.)
Kate Anderson Simons
klanderson525@gmail.com
VICE PRES. (LEADERSHIP)
Carole Williamson
carolerunner@aol.com
SECRETARY Heather Moser
ctb.ha.wingA@brighthorizons.com
TREASURER Annette Searfoss
asearfoss@applesforchildren.org
MEMBERS AT-LARGE
Vickie Kaneko
kanekov@dhmh.state.md.us
Tina Diaduk
tdiaduk@smccrc.org
Janis Dorr dorrje@aol.com
Barbara Garrett
bsgarrett@aacc.edu

PAST PRESIDENT
Wilhelmina Burress
wdb11@juno.com
PUBLIC POLICY CO-CHAIRS
Flora Gee
geegcc@mindspring.com
Tracy Jost
tracyjost@comcast.net
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
Barbara Garrett
NOMINATIONS CHAIR
Rivalee Gitomer
rgitomer@ccbcmd.edu
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
John Surr surr@his.com
CULTURAL DIVERSITY CHAIR
Fanny Crawford
fcrawford@applesforchildren.org
PROFESSIONAL GROWTH CHAIR Joyce Gerber
jgerberedd@peoplepc.com

CENTRAL MD AEYC CO-PRES.:
Me-Anne Sabares-Klemm
tita_anan@verizon.net
Rivalee Gitomer
DC METRO-MDAEYC PRES.:
Lindsey Allard
flavajaro@aol.com
E. SHORE AEYC PRES.
Donna Satterlee
djsatterlee@umes.ed u
SO. MD AEYC PRESIDENT
Karin Koch,
smaeycmd@dbalearning.com
W. MD AEYC CO-PRES.:
Ben Jakoby
bjakoby@headstartwashco.org
Dr. Gail Herman
gnherman@mailz.gcnet.net

The Tide, from Maryland AEYC
John Surr, Editor
8217 Lilly Stone Dr.,
Bethesda, MD 20817-4505