

# The Children's Journal

News from Campus Child Care for parents, advocates and all who work to provide quality early care and education for children and their families.

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## OUR MISSION

The Office of Child Care and Family Resources promotes the academic and professional goals of the University of Wisconsin community through the administration of early education and family support programs.

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School of Education  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## Message from Cigdem



As we make plans to send campus educators to the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA) annual conference in Madison next fall, I am reminded of my first conference as a new teacher and what it meant to be recognized as a valued professional. As is the case in any career path, educators need professional development and continuing education to stay fresh and excited about their work, but also to become increasingly effective in supporting all children and to meet their full potential. Best of all, professional development and continuing education will keep us motivated, resourceful, and more positive about the rigors of early childhood education.

I am strongly committed to lifelong learning and growing as a person and a professional. I also believe it is our role to provide ongoing support and to encourage the development of our educators, which is why our office funds a variety of opportunities: a yearly professional development day; community of practice for infant, toddler, and preschool teachers; and book clubs, to name a

few. Through a mini-grant process, we also create opportunities for campus educators to attend local, state, national, and international conferences, and we fund memberships to professional organizations like the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and WECA.

Research suggests that effective professional development results in changes in teacher practices and improvements in student developmental and educational outcomes. Staying current with the latest studies, data, and best practices allows early childhood educators to implement new strategies and curricula in their classrooms and, most of all, to ensure that our youngest have the best possible learning environments.

Professional development is one of the building blocks to high-quality early childhood education programs. When teachers engage in professional development, children thrive and everybody wins. Strong, effective teaching, informed by contemporary and innovative professional development translates into high-quality early care and education for children on the UW-Madison campus.

## Business + Early Care and Education = Wisconsin Strong!

Campus child care is taking part in a nationally dedicated week to honor young children, their families, and their early care and education support network. Week of the Young Child, April 15–21, has been promoted by NAEYC in an effort to “plan how we—as citizens of a community, of a state, and of a nation—will better meet the needs of all young children and their families”

On April 17, children and their caregivers will attend a music program focusing on the joys of childhood, at the Overture Center. Next door at Madison’s Central Library, child care administrators—including our campus directors—will celebrate children as Wisconsin’s future workforce.

The Greater Dane County Early Care and Ed-

ucation Director’s Caucus, housed in the OCCFR, has organized an awareness campaign called *Wisconsin Strong!* to connect the early care and education community (ECE) with the business community. Business leaders will hear from local CEOs who are already making a difference in the lives of children and families, as they outline the benefits of creating family-friendly policies and building relationships with the ECE community.

One of the most exciting components will be the Future Dreams art display in the Central Library, which will showcase three distinct voices from the field: children, parents, and the ECE community. This event is open to the public.



## We appreciate your generous support!

### University Staff Child Care Grant

AFSCME Local 2412  
Margaret N. Harrigan  
Richard T. Ross  
Patricia A. Lasky  
Katharine C. Lyall  
Mary Czyszczak-Lyne  
Robert B. Miller  
Lynette A. Miller  
William J. Richner  
Joan S. Richner  
Sally M. Rowe  
William A. Bauer  
Peter Schneider

### New Campus Child Care Initiatives

David A. Borghesi  
Nancy T. Borghesi  
Richard C. Burnson  
Lianne R. Burnson  
David J. Castro  
Amanda M. Durik  
Community Foundation of the Lowcountry  
Keith T. Cornille  
Falicia R. Cornille  
Ecolab Foundation  
Evjue Foundation Inc.  
Dipesh Navsaria  
Rania A. Huntington  
William J. Richner  
Joan S. Richner  
John P. Stott  
Patricia R. Sanford

### Student Child Care Scholarship Grants

Gail S. Allen  
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Sichao Bai  
Jennifer A. Belisle  
Garret Belisle  
Curtis D. Bjurlin  
Alexandra Wells  
Julie N. Christoph  
Brady G. Christoph  
Julia C. Collins  
Cynthia L. Emerson  
Kathleen C. Gallagher  
Margaret N. Harrigan  
Richard T. Ross  
Nancy P. Keller  
Barbara L. Larsen  
Hsin-Mu Lin  
Shu-Yuan Lin



## Making the Grade with CCAMPIS

Pursuing a degree as a parent raising young children is a Herculean task. The support our office has provided through the CCAMPIS (Child Care Access Means Parents in School) program since 1999 has been vital in allowing student parents to balance school and family responsibilities successfully.

CCAMPIS is a federally-funded grant which supports the participation of low-income parents in post-secondary education through the provision of high-quality, campus-based child care services. In order to qualify for funding at UW-Madison, students must be enrolled full-time and be eligible or receiving a Pell Grant (undergraduates) or considered a low-income graduate student.

All five campus child care centers have utilized the grant, totaling \$719,216.79 for high-quality early care and education since 2013. Of the 80 student parents who were grant recipients between 2013-2017, 21 are first-generation college students and 47 have graduated.

The average GPA of CCAMPIS recipients is 3.42 and *all* of the persisting students (graduated or enrolled) either maintained or increased their GPA while receiving grant funding. 93% of CCAMPIS recipients are persisting students. These results speak loudly to the power of supporting student parents with this grant.

“CCAMPIS funding is so important to my family because it allows my son to attend high-quality child care that is not otherwise possible on a graduate stipend,” says one PhD student, a CCAMPIS recipient since 2014. “I take solace in the fact that my son’s growth and development does not have to suffer as a result of my choice to pursue a graduate degree, thanks to CCAMPIS funding. I am extremely grateful for the support and peace of mind that comes from being a part of a program that invests so heavily in the future of our family.”

*Candice Wagener*



## NECPA Accreditation: Taking it to the Next Level

At Eagle’s Wing, the happy din of children talking and teachers reflecting and encouraging, all in a variety of languages, is a familiar sound. At the Preschool Lab, children and teachers are out exploring nature whether it’s windy, rainy, steamy, or snowy. And at Little Chicks, the classrooms are decorated to feel like home, with family photos peppering the walls, reminding children of loved ones who they will see again soon. Each of these three campus child care centers has their own personality and a certain feel when you walk in the door, but what brings them all together is their recently earned National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA) designation.

Since 1991, NECPA’s focus has been to ensure that each child is supported and encouraged in every aspect of their environment. Their standards encompass the whole child by assessing child-teacher relationships, program-family relationships, and program-community relationships. NECPA standards have been developed to

represent the current, best practices in the field of early care and education, as well as the results of the past 30 years of research in the field.

While all of our campus child care centers have maintained annual accreditation by the City of Madison’s Child Care Unit over the years, this is the first time our centers have garnered NECPA status, national recognition as an exceptional site for children. Applying for national accreditation status is no small feat; more than a year-long process of surveys, classroom and playground updates, policy review, and site visits were all part of earning the designation.

We would like to congratulate the center staff and families, as well as University Housing and the School of Human Ecology, on this incredible accomplishment. NECPA is the next generation in accreditation, and we are excited to see our campus centers continue to grow in excellence from the additional resources this partnership provides.

*Candice Wagener*



Help us celebrate campus child care and early education.  
Join us at **Jazzin’** on **May 24th!**



## In Support of Student Parents: Haley's Story

The dual role of full-time student and parent makes my heart feel like it is torn in so many directions, from wanting to secure a financial future for my family to being a fully present mother. Between funding from the Child Care Tuition Assistance Program (CCTAP) and a Student Child Care Scholarship grant, I am able to have peace of mind knowing that my infant daughter will be taken care of while I finish out the last big hurdle to earning my degree and teaching license.

For the past three years, I have been helping to raise my stepdaughter while working three jobs and being enrolled full-time at UW–Madison. A semester before I was scheduled to graduate and do my student teaching, we found out that our family would be expanding. Of course, our hearts were so full that we would be having a baby. But then reality set in. How would we afford full-time child care for our baby while I completed my student teaching, living on my husband's teaching salary? I worked as many jobs as I could during my pregnancy while a full-time student, in hopes of saving for child care, but my pregnancy took a big toll on my health.

After our baby was born in September, I went to the director of my Teaching Education program to request completing my student teaching in the spring of 2018. I didn't know if it would be possible to balance being a mom, working, and student teaching. The director didn't mince words, explaining that I wouldn't pass student teaching while working a part-time job and raising two daughters. That's when he told me about CCTAP and the donor-funded Student Child Care Scholarship Grant. I applied for a grant and was awarded \$1,000 to help with the cost of care for baby Ava. Receiving this funding was a saving grace for our family's future, and will now allow me to successfully complete my student teaching and graduate with a degree.



*Haley Fogarty*

## We appreciate your generous support!

Lorraine F. Meisner  
Daryl S. Moe  
Elizabeth K. Moe  
Brain P. McCall  
Lauren McCall  
Donna O. McCarthy-Becket  
Heather H. Orth  
Kevin J. Orth  
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Gina Slipka-Marinos  
Thomas R. Smith  
Rebecca A. Spithill  
Cathleen M. Trueba  
Randene Wick  
Ivy M. Williams  
Nga-Wing A. Wong

### Connie L. Wilson Child Care Center

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Barbara W. Corry  
Mary Locast  
Ronald Locast  
William J. Richner  
Joan S. Richner  
Jean M. Suchomel  
Eric C. Salisbury  
Larry W. Wold  
Donna J. Wold

### Lynn E. Edlefson Fund for Early Education Advancement

Patricia A. Anderson  
Robert D. Blank  
Susan N. Coppersmith  
Martha L. Casey  
Charles P. Casey  
Dale R. Edlefson  
Lynn E. Edlefson  
Linda C. Eisele  
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Robert J. Hartzman  
Judith W. Leavitt  
Lewis A. Leavitt  
Matthew T. Oswald  
Karen A. Oswald  
Joan E. Pulver  
William J. Richner  
Joan S. Richner

## Development News

We are beyond thankful for the outpouring of donor generosity to our year-end appeal. Philanthropy is alive and well in campus child care and your gifts enable us to be as responsive as possible to the needs of UW parents, children, and early educators. Gift income to our five UW Foundation funds increased by more than \$10,000 from 2016 to 2017. Of special note was growth in gift volume (92%) and donor participation (20%) in the **Student Child Care Scholarship Grants** fund. This fund enables our office to deliver a one-time grant that can determine whether a student parent can stay in school or the child of a student parent can remain in a quality care program. The gateway to a fulfilling professional path often begins with a college degree, and struggling student parents are at high risk to drop out of school when thin wallets fail to pay the bills. You make a measurable difference in the lives of these student parents and their expression of gratitude has been overwhelming.

On May 24, we will be hosting the 21st anniversary of Jazzin', a celebration of campus child

care and the talented early educators who make it all happen. We count on ticket sales, silent auction proceeds, and a raffle to help offset increasing operational costs at our five centers. The income from Jazzin' will touch hundreds of lives at the University of Wisconsin and ensures that our children have top-notch care and learning environments. We need our entire village to make this event a success. We are looking for sponsors for teacher tickets, silent auction and raffle donations, and table captains. Please let us know if you can lend a hand. Call me at 608-890-0436 or send me an email at [teri.stratton@wisc.edu](mailto:teri.stratton@wisc.edu).

Ongoing or one-time gifts can be made at any time during the year. Our new website has made the electronic process easier. The giving page on our website, <https://ocfr.wisc.edu/giving/>, provides descriptions and UW Foundation links to all of our five funds. As always, feel free to contact me with any questions about contributions, programs, or to discuss how you can help with major gifts.

*Teri Stratton*

## Ask the Expert



*Our office recently reached out to Professor Tim Smeeding and asked him to write a few paragraphs about the new tax reform bill and UW families. Here is what he has to say:*

The federal government recently passed the half-accurately named “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.” The tax cuts label is right, as there is precious little tax reform in the bill and most of us think it will result in hiring more robots than human workers once fully implemented. Many middle class families have already noted an increase in their after-tax pay. Where you end up depends on a myriad of factors.

Working middle class families have some good news: overall tax rates have fallen, the child tax credit is doubled for middle class families to \$2,000 per child, and the standard deduction has increased. But nothing much was

done to make health insurance or child care more affordable. More Wisconsin families will use the standard deduction because deductibility of mortgage interest, property taxes, and state income taxes is now limited to \$10,000 per year, hurting families making \$120,000 or more combined incomes. And poor families will not see the extra \$1,000 child tax credit as it is not refundable.

The tax bill and the recent budget agreement blew a hole in the federal deficit, so many see increased pressure to reduce supports for education and health care. Still the state child health insurance program (SCHIP) was renewed for children in lower middle class families where health insurance on the private market is more costly.

But by far the largest tax cuts in percentage terms and absolute dollars went to the well-to-do, where rates have fallen by more and capita income now has better treatment.

**Tim Smeeding**, *Professor of Public Policy and Economics, Lafollette School*

