



Jene Moore Named CEPS Director

Jene Moore is the new director of Community Education and Provider Services, the county program that issues permits to child care providers and administers the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Moore has more than 20 years experience in the field of early childhood education. She has been the Assistant Director of CEPS since August 2013 and was instrumental in the development of the Eat and Run initiative for child care providers who are a part of the CACFP.

“Jene is a great asset to the Office for Children. She brings a vast amount of knowledge, respect and understanding of child care, as well as great leadership skills to the position” said OFC Director Anne-Marie Twohie.

Prior to coming to the county, Moore worked in several positions throughout her career that prepared her for this role. She worked as director of the Inova Fair Oaks Hospital Child Care Center for 14 years. Moore also worked for three years with Play and Learn Services as a director and a program specialist working with employer-sponsored child care centers. Other work experience included a child care program serving families working in the White House and the Treasury Department, and working with SACC. Moore recalls her first job in early childhood education was working in the child care program at the university she attended.

Moore is looking forward to new opportunities in this role. She said, “Since I have been with CEPS, I have been constantly amazed at the level of dedication and commitment that our permitted providers have to providing a safe, healthy environment to the children in their care. Permitted providers truly are an important community resource, and I am looking forward to working harder to ensure that they receive excellent service and have access to the best resources and assistance from CEPS.”

March is National Nutrition Month

March is National Nutrition Month. Each March, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics encourages everyone to return to the basics of healthy eating. The theme this year, Bite into a Healthy Lifestyle, emphasizes the importance of nutrition in achieving optimal health. Individuals are encouraged to adopt a healthy lifestyle in order to achieve and maintain a healthy weight, reduce the risk of chronic disease and promote overall health.

The Office for Children’s Community Education and Provider Services program will celebrate National Nutrition Month on Thursday, March 26, at a workshop for family child care providers participating in the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program. Providers will be encouraged to promote overall health by consuming fewer calories, making informed food choices, and getting daily exercise. Providers will learn simple ways to make the right food and nutrition choices to adopt a healthy lifestyle for



themselves and children in care.

Providers also will be encouraged to participate in a yoga activity that day which they could include in their child care program. This physical activity provides health benefits for educators and the children in their care.

Head Start Partners with WIC

Fairfax County WIC and Head Start are working together to better serve families. Families who are in both programs can benefit from WIC, Early Head Start and Head Start's shared commitment to promoting optimal nutrition outcomes for pregnant women, infants, children and their families.

WIC provides supplemental foods, healthcare referrals, nutrition education, and breastfeeding promotion and support to pregnant and postpartum women with low-income. WIC also provides support to infants and children up to age five who are found to be at nutritional risk.

Head Start provides screenings and follow-up for health, development and behavior; nutrition education; and meals and snacks that conform to the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program guidelines.

These two agencies are collaborating to bring WIC services to Head Start centers. The WIC on Wheels pilot project will provide



Fairfax County WIC Program Manager
Anna Kianthra

nutrition education and WIC benefits to Head Start families while eliminating the need to visit a separate WIC site. In addition, Head Start families who are not currently enrolled in the WIC program will be able to participate in WIC on Wheels.

Together, the programs will focus on improving referral procedures, outreach efforts and shared nutrition education to the shared families.

Anna Kianthra of the WIC program explained "The WIC and Head Start programs share common goals and serve the same families. Bringing WIC services to Head Start sites is a more efficient use of time and resources for both staff and clients."

Early Head Start Receives Expansion Grant

Fairfax County has been awarded an Early Head Start Expansion and Early Child Care Partnership Grant, which will support expansion of Early Head Start services to 56 additional children ages birth to 3. The grant, from the Administration for Children and Families, provides startup costs, plus a projected annual funding level of an additional \$1 million each program year from 2015-16 through 2018-19. These funds will be used to establish new partnerships with up to 15 regulated family child care programs and to expand services at Gum Springs Glen.

Family child care provider/partners, including those serving children in the Child Care Assistance and Referral program, will be recruited from across Fairfax County. The expansion will be targeted in areas with high poverty rates, a lack of affordable housing, limited transportation, a high EHS wait list and other associated risk factors. With the addition of 40 more children to EHS, the number served in family child care will increase from 112 to 152.

In partnership with the Fairfax County Housing and Community Development Authority, the Gum Springs Glen will be renovated to serve 16 children in two additional classrooms. This will bring the number of children served in this center-based setting from 32 to 48.

"I am excited to continue our partnership with the Child Care Assistance and Referral program to expand the network of excellent family child care providers working with Early Head Start Children," said Head Start Director Jennifer Branch.

DFS Leadership Academy OFC Graduates

Cindy Osborn and Kamini Jassal of Community Education and Provider Services are recent graduates of the Department of Family Services Leadership Academy.





SACC Short Play Festival

The School Age Child Care Short Play Festival was held recently at the James Lee Community Center Theatre. Children from 10 SACC centers presented short plays they have worked on over the past few months. This event provided the opportunity for children to learn about and experience many aspects of a theatrical production.

Participating centers included Annandale Terrace, Camelot, Canterbury Woods, Fairhill, Little Run, Mantua, Shrevewood, Stenwood, Wakefield Forest, and Woodburn, under the direction of Regional Supervisor Denise Reid.



Length of Service

Fairfax County recognizes staff who have reached service milestones of 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 or more years of employment with the county. Here are Office for Children staff who reached milestones in 2014.

10 Years

Melba Altamirano
Tranisce Armstrong
Devon Armstrong
Brian Burch
Rondolyn Coleman
Denise Collins
Louis Cook
Martha Crump
Maria Delcid
Edith Marybel Enriquez
Melissa Fabian
Jennifer Guerra
Karime Gungor
Sameia Idries
Elizabeth Ivy
Daron Jones
Andrea McCall
Saeeda Minhas
Melvin Manasterio
Melanie Morris
Zahida Noor
Jason Northrop
Vestalia Olaogun
Titus Pearson
Rondia Pearson-Prescott
Rosario Sanhueza
Ivy Sinclair

Jessica Teets
Derek Wiggins

15 Years

Michelle Barrett
Marci Blansitt
Karen Butler
Angelique Combs
Kim Dempsey
Tanya Eason
Tonja Fuller
Roxana Guzman
Angelis Hoffman
La-Reiphia Jackson
Mariam Lane
Tina Lee
Joseph Lowe
Antonio Meredith
Farhat Najam
Maria Ocasio
Pilar Otoya
Jill Robinson
Anne-Marie Twohie
Shawn White
George Wollam

Linda Bentlin
Gina Cornelius
Tammi Daniels
Jennifer Davis
Marilyn Frost
Renee Gilmore
Maria Mairena
Garry Moore
Raymond Morton
Kristen Nicklas
Beverly Peterson
Mary Turner
Patrick Weekes

25 Years

Christine Colligan
Lisa Curtin
Lois Hermann
Susan Jackson
Sharina Jagoonanan
Debra Marshall
Kevin Mathews
Cynthia Osborn
Carole Rose
Amy Voss

20 Years

Michael Asihene
Angela Bacote

30 Years

Beth Leggat
Patricia Quevedo