

WCCAA Officers:

President:

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2021 Board

Meetings:

January 20-21

March 17-18

May 19-20

July 14-15

September 15-16

November 17-18

WCCAA Regions:



Our Mission:

To support each other as Child Care Administrators in providing quality programming for Wisconsin's families.

Mark Your Calendar!!! WCCAA Mini-Conference Nov. 5th

Holiday Inn Pewaukee-Milwaukee West 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

WCCAA Members Only Event – [Watch for Registration Information](#)

Pam Boulton, EdD, is an Instructor for the Center for Early Childhood Professional Development and Leadership in the UW-Milwaukee School of Continuing Education and serves as the Coordinator for the Exchange Leadership Initiative for Exchange Magazine. In addition to her 40-year tenure as the Director of the UWM Children's Center, Pam served terms as the Chair of the National Coalition for Campus Children's Centers, the President of the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association and as a member of the NAEYC Council on Accreditation. She is actively involved in the Wisconsin Nature Action Collaborative for Children and the World Forum Foundation Working Group on Children's Rights.



Ann McClain Terrell has 45 years of professional experience in the field of education, primarily in early childhood education. She is now an adjunct early childhood education professor for Concordia University after serving as the executive director of the Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation, Inc., and an administrator in the Milwaukee Public Schools district, leading the departments of Innovation and Early Childhood Education. Additionally, Ann mentors emerging early childhood leaders. Ann earned a Master of Science degree in educational leadership from Cardinal Stritch University, a Master of Science degree in cultural foundations of education from the University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee, a Bachelor of Science degree in education from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and an associate degree in early childhood education from Milwaukee Area Technical College.



Erin Arango-Escalante, Division of Early Care and Education, previously served as the executive director of a child care agency and as the early childhood special education consultant at the Department of Public Instruction. Erin developed a national program to support young multilingual learners and their families in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a number of states. Erin earned her Bachelor of Science in Cross-Categorical Special Education, a teaching certificate in English as a Second Language, and a Master of Science in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Erin is committed to supporting and celebrating Wisconsin's diverse children and families. She believes high-quality programs involve community and child-focused perspectives to support cultural competence, family engagement, and social and emotional development. She and her family are actively involved in the Latino and Veteran communities in Dane County.



The best way to improve the American workforce in the 21st century is to invest in early childhood education, to ensure that even the most disadvantaged children have the opportunity to succeed alongside their more advantaged peers ~ **James Heckman**

Hot Topics in Early Care & Education

Financial losses and the potential permanent closure of child care centers could exacerbate longstanding challenges with access to quality care and may require intervention by policymakers to ensure adequate support for providers, families, and employers.

<https://wispolicyforum.org/research/wisconsins-child-care-sector-needs-care-itself/>

Ultimately, nearly 50% of respondents noted that they would not survive a closure of more than two weeks without **significant public investment and support** that would allow them to compensate and retain staff, pay rent or mortgages, and cover other fixed costs. https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/globally-shared/downloads/PDFs/our-work/public-policy-advocacy/state_by_state_child_care_crisis_coronavirus_surveydata.pdf

Despite the unique hurdles of 2020 legislative sessions, the 57 enacted bills outlined in this report signal that **early childhood policies and programs remain priorities** for many state lawmakers. Child care legislation accounted for over half of these enacted bills that focused on increasing health and safety standards and expanding access to child care. <https://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/early-care-education-2020-state-legislative-action-report.aspx#/>

As of June 29, \$46.9 million – 90% the total – had been allocated in the first two rounds of applications to 2,635 providers, raising questions from some advocacy groups about **whether enough money has been set aside**, and what will happen to providers when the CARES block grant money runs out.

<https://wispolicyforum.org/research/wisconsins-child-care-sector-needs-care-itself/>

Contact your Elected Officials Today:

<https://maps.legis.wisconsin.gov/>

<https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/My-Elected-Officials>

<https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials>

Sharing your personal stories are very important. Let your voice be heard!

Child Care Counts Audits and Reviews

DCF is required to conduct audits and reviews to ensure that these funds were paid out properly and to ensure that providers are adhering to the terms and conditions they agreed to when they applied for these funding programs.

- **DCF selected a random sample of providers for audit and review.** Some providers will receive documentation request letters in the mail **this week** and through the [Child Care Provider Portal \(CCPP\)](#).
- **Please continue to monitor your [Child Care Provider Portal](#)** in the event your child care program was selected in the sample.
- **If your child care program is selected to be audited**, you will be directed to submit the documentation to the Department via the [Child Care Provider Portal](#) by July 23, 2021.
- **Please ensure that you only submit the specific documents** that are stated in the letter and only for the specific date ranges and program indicated in the letter
- **Please do not take action at this time.** If you receive a notice it will outline next steps on what and how to upload necessary documents.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the auditor listed on the letter.

WCCAA Priorities for the 2021-23 State Budget

The Importance of Investing in the ECE Workforce

A long-term financial investment in the ECE Workforce will help retain staff, many of whom hold degrees (associate and/or bachelor's), leading to lower costs, making care affordable families; stabilize and expand programs; and increase Accessibility to high-quality child care slots for families who desperately need them.

Regulatory Flexibility

ECE programs across the state are seriously struggling under the far-reaching, and often duplicative, regulations tied to licensing and YoungStar. We need relief. We are pleased that DCF has proposed some changes for YoungStar. We look forward to working with DCF on these changes and advocating for additional relief.

More Funding for Wisconsin Shares

It is important for the state to continue to increase Wisconsin Shares rates to a competitive level. Two years ago, in his proposed 2019-21 state budget, Governor Evers provided \$47 million in federal funding for the Wisconsin Shares program to get Shares rates to the 50th percentile of the market. The Legislature cut this funding by \$23 million, still providing a \$24 million increase. This was on top of \$60 million for cost-to-continue.

FREE MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY!!

With your WCCAA membership you are eligible for a free Ambassador level Membership with National Afterschool Association

The National AfterSchool Association is the voice of the afterschool profession. We are the national membership organization for professionals who work with and on behalf of children and youth during out-of-school time. NAA's mission is to promote development, provide education and encourage advocacy for the out-of-school-time community to further the afterschool profession. We exist to inspire, connect and equip afterschool professionals.

A free starter membership provides the following benefits for you:

- Monthly and archived member-only **professional development opportunities and resources** targeted at entry and developing afterschool professionals
- The **NAA Weekly eNews**
- Discounts on **afterschool products and services** offered by NAA Advocate Members
<https://naaweb.org/register-ambassador/registers>

Why Become a WCCAA Board Director

Be Part of a Team that Advocates for Children, Families, ECE Teachers, Providers, Equitable Treatment and so much more.....



Check out the WCCAA **Membership Benefits** and how to apply at:

<https://www.wccaa.org/membership/wccaa-membership/>

Become a **WCCAA Sponsor Membership**, visit our website at:

<https://www.wccaa.org/about/wcca-sponsorship/>

Explore great resources at **Association for Early Learning Leaders**:

https://www.earlylearningleaders.org/page/About_ELL

See what's happening with NAA (**National AfterSchool Association**):

<https://naaweb.org/about-us>

WCCAA provides members with adequate tools to be successful and efficient leaders in the field of early care and education as well as a foundation of knowledge and strength.