



May 9, 2019

Champions of Child Care

Strengthening Child Care for our Community

MORE THAN SPONSORS. PROUD SUPPORTERS.

Congratulations to the 2019 Champions
of Childcare Nominees.



ADVANCING CARE. HERE.



**MidHudson Regional
Early Education Center**

Westchester Medical Center Health Network

MidHudsonRegional.org

Champions of Child Care

Program

May 9, 2019

Registration

Welcome

Introductions

Dinner

Award Presentations

Raffle

Closing



Please use
#cccdpChampions2019
to post your photos to
social media!



VASSAR COLLEGE

CONGRATULATES

THE CHILD CARE COUNCIL OF DUTCHESS AND PUTNAM, INC.

WIMPFHEIMER NURSERY SCHOOL &

THE INFANT TODDLER CENTER

ON THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE AND DEDICATION TO
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT



Programs At A Glance

Child Care Resource and Referral (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Provides information to parents on locating child care, consumer education, referrals, subsidies, services for families
- Recruits child care providers, provides start-up information and technical assistance in meeting regulatory requirements
- Provides the community with education on child care issues and current data needed in planning for community services
- Supports employers in planning, implementing and providing employee child care services
- Offers Quality Improvement initiatives to child care providers
- Facilitates regular Professional Development for the Family Day Care Networks

Child Care Registration (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Provides supervision of 57 family day care homes in Dutchess and 15 in Putnam
- Provides supervision of 44 school age programs in Dutchess, and 12 in Putnam
- Includes processing new and renewal applications, monitoring and inspecting programs, providing technical assistance and investigating complaints

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP—Dutchess and Putnam)

- Supports group and family day care providers in serving nutritious, healthy meals and snacks to children in their care
- Manages the CACFP federal reimbursement program for participating providers

Health Care Consultancy Services (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Registered Nurse on staff conducts training on health issues for child care providers
- Reviews and approves health care plans for medication administration
- Conducts training for medication administration

Day Care Subsidy Administration (Putnam)

- Manages the subsidized day care services program

Regional Infant-Toddler Technical Assistance Center (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Provides training and technical assistance to providers who care for infants and toddlers

Resource Lending Library (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Onsite lending library consists of toys, equipment, teaching units and professional resources

Child Care Tuition Scholarship Program (Dutchess)

- Administers child care scholarships to income-eligible families whose children attend licensed child care centers in Dutchess County. Funded by the Dyson Foundation

Professional Development (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Provides opportunities for child care providers to take trainings in the nine required topic areas
- Training opportunities may be held at the Child Care Council or at the program site.
- Quarterly cluster meetings for home-based child care providers
- Quarterly workshops for child care providers and parents

Babies Step Forward (Dutchess and Putnam)

- Provide Child Development Associate and Medication Administration Training to staff at two day care centers, one in Dutchess and one in Putnam County



Congratulations to all of our nominees!



Day Care Centers



- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>Acorns to Oaks
 Acorns to Oaks II, Inc.
 Astor Early Childhood Program
 Shirley Hoffman
 Pamela Jenkins
 Bard College Nursery School, Inc.
 Chrissy Joel
 Carol Murray
 Bright Horizons Children's Center
 Care 4 Me, Inc
 Brandi Curtin
 Carrie Simko-Frazita
 Child Care by Valerie
 Andrea Addington
 Country Grove Children's Ctr.
 Creative Kids Childcare
 Alexis Centorani
 Nicole Ferris
 Larell Mc Caffrey
 Dayle Tracey
 Kristina Wynne
 Creative Kids Child Care Center
 Christina Agnew</p> | <p>Creative Kids Kent, LLC
 Terra Avery
 Sandra Danzi
 Samantha Finer
 Ashley Martin
 Jennifer Messineo
 Charlene Morrissey
 Alyssa Plastini
 Dover Golden Goose Preschool & Senior Center
 Tina Evans
 Megan Niederkorn
 Dreamland Daycare
 Funshine Nursery School & Daycare Center
 Green Chimney's Children's Services, Inc.
 Lauren Durnin
 Heart 2 Heart Child Care Center LLC
 Faith Archer
 Rosemaria Dossantos
 Amber Echevarria
 Ashley Fiallo
 Daniel Rudolph
 Sharnele Simpson</p> | <p>Honey Bee Childcare Corp
 Honeybee Child Care Corp. II
 Tienna Cochran
 Lorie Ohara
 J.A.C.E. Daycare and Early Learning Program
 Kidz Town of Dutchess
 Caitlin Hernandez
 Agnes Lopez
 Barbara Pocarobba
 Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center
 Northern Dutchess Day Care Center
 Once Upon A Time Preschool and Day Care
 Over the Rainbow Learning Center
 Laurita Crespo
 Tonya Giner
 Amber Hine
 Poughkeepsie Child Development Center, Inc.
 Stages Childcare, Inc.
 Christie Kennedy
 Step By Step Childcare Center LLC</p> | <p>Stepping Stones Childcare and Development, Inc.
 Marianne Christie-Peci
 Juliana Giannasca
 Michelle O'Meara
 Nicole Woodward
 St. Lawrence O'Toole Early Childhood Learning Center
 Carol Feehan
 Renee Torchiano
 The Children Station of Brewster
 Giana Flocco
 Gina Pietronuto
 Lynn Shinkaroff
 The Enchanted Forest Day Care and Learning Center, LLC
 Drew Brophy
 Dainna Lifrieri
 Vassar College
 Justine Bastian
 Dawn Timmons
 Wish Upon A Star Childcare, Inc.
 Meghan Behler
 Regina Behler</p> |
|--|--|---|--|



Group Family Day Care



- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>ABC Soup Corp.
 Aunt Shawn's Garden Daycare, LLC
 Care A Lot NY, INC.
 Creative Gardens Daycare
 Feels Like Home Childcare, Inc.</p> | <p>First Friends Day Care
 Froggy's Play Palace
 Anna Sica
 Jan's Kidz Childcare, Inc.
 Little Star Day Care</p> | <p>Marisela Jaramillo
 My Little Angels Daycare/Preschool, Inc.
 The Little House on The Hill Day Care
 Trudy's Group Family Day Care, Inc
 Victorian Teddy Bears/Cedar Tree Preschool</p> |
|--|--|---|



Family Day Care



- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Brook's Family Day Care, LTD
 Blooming Buddies
 Busy Town Daycare</p> | <p>Dori's Daycare
 Elizabeth Casanovas Calderon
 First Learning Family Daycare</p> | <p>Marie Daley
 Tiny Foot Steps Childcare</p> |
|---|---|---|



School Age Child Care



- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>City of Beacon
 Sandra Covington
 Correna Pidala
 First Reformed Church of Fishkill
 Healthy Kids Extended Day Program Inc. @ Gayhead Elementary
 Marcia Smoot</p> | <p>Healthy Kids Extended Day Program Inc. @ Vail Farm Elementary
 Michelle DeMuro
 Honeybee Child Care Corp.
 Mt. Tremper Outdoor Ministries
 Heather Duben
 Town of Putnam Valley</p> | <p>United Methodist Christian Afterschool Care
 YMCA of Central and Northern Westchester
 Ashley Milioti
 Christopher Robilotta
 Samantha Wallis</p> |
|--|--|--|



Nursery School



- Millbrook Community Preschool at Grace Church**

Milestone Anniversaries

Congratulations to the day care providers and staff celebrating Milestone Anniversaries in 2019.

Five Years

Ashley Chauvin - Creative Kids ChildCare Center

Mary Conte - Pine Grove Country Day Care

Rosemaria Dossantos - Heart 2 Heart
Child Care Center LLC

Jeanine Gresis - Vassar College

Mary Guarnaccia - Vassar College

Caitlin Hernandez - Kidz Town of Dutchess

Agnes Lopez - Kidz Town of Dutchess

Tara Neglia - Vassar College

Ingrid Quintana - Poughkeepsie Child
Development Center, Inc.

Lucinda Rivera - Pine Grove Country Daycare

Bethann Serwatka - Vassar College

Ten Years

Kaitlyn Antash - Creative Kids ChildCare Center

Michelle Beck - The Children's Playhouse Inc.

Claire Kackley - First Friends Day Care

Kathleen MacDonald - Creative Kids ChildCare Center

Nicole Nasta - Pine Grove Country Day Care
at Baldwin Park

Milene Olmo - Poughkeepsie Child
Development Center, Inc.

Fifteen Years

Eileen Bingay - Pine Grove Country Day Care

Gina Porcelli - Creative Kids ChildCare Center



Twenty Years

Rosemarie DiCarlo - Pine Grove Country Daycare

Susanne Merlini - Pine Grove Country Daycare

Allison Pulver - Bard College Nursery School, Inc.



Twenty-Five Years

Denise Dagnone - Pine Grove Country Day Care at Baldwin Park

Thirty Years

Marie Daley

Shirley Hoffman - Astor Early Childhood Program

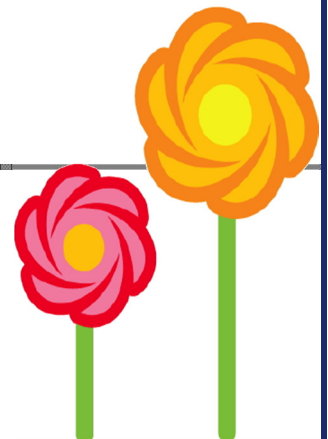
Thirty-Five Years

Kerri Senger - Pine Grove Country Daycare

Forty Years

Regina Behler - Wish Upon A Star Childcare, Inc.

Regina Johnson - Community Family Development, Inc.



2019 Education Awards

Congratulations to the following persons who have achieved an Education Milestone during 2018. We salute your efforts to further your education to enhance what you offer to children and their families.

Olivia Woodcock

Dutchess Community College Day Care Center
Humanistic and Multicultural Education Masters

Alison Ugarte

Blooming Buddies
Bachelor of Science, Early Childhood Education
Studies

Kelsey Sullivan

Care 4 Me, Inc
Bachelor of Science, Early Childhood Education

Rachel Planke

Poughkeepsie Child Development Center, Inc.
Associates in Applied Science, Early Childhood

Yvonne Almedia

Astor Early Childhood Program
NYS Teacher Assistant Certification

Karla Ruiz

Astor Early Childhood Program
ERSEA Certification

Faith Archer

Heart 2 Heart Child Care Center LLC
Child Development Associate

Morgan Farrell

Heart 2 Heart Child Care Center LLC
Child Development Associate

Rebecka Salg

Care 4 Me, Inc
Child Development Associate

Maribel Davila

Astor Early Childhood Program
Family Development Credential

Cynthia McNeil

Astor Early Childhood Program
Family Development Credential

Precious Hawley

Astor Early Childhood Program
Family Development Credential

Jalila Sabour

Astor Early Childhood Program
Family Development Credential



National Child Care Provider Appreciation Day: May 9, 2019



The second Sunday in May has long been recognized as the day to honor mothers and their commitment to children. **The Friday before Mother's Day, May 10, 2019, is Provider Appreciation Day**, a special day to recognize child care providers, teachers, school-age program staff, child care center directors and staff, and all those who work with children and are responsible for their education and care. **It is estimated that nearly 11 million children under age 5 are cared for by 2.8 million child care providers in the United States.**

Provider Appreciation Day began in 1996 by a group of volunteers in New Jersey who saw the need to recognize the tireless efforts of providers who care for children of working parents. Momentum and support for this event has grown each year, and recognition presently includes individuals and government organizations throughout North America, Europe, and Asia.

To learn more about Provider Appreciation Day, visit www.providerappreciationday.org.

Congratulations to our Award Winners!

Dutchess County

Child Care Council Award of Excellence

Shirley Hoffman
Astor Services for Children and Families

Day Care Center of the Year

Poughkeepsie Child Development Center, Inc.

School Age Program of the Year

City of Beacon

Group Family Day Care

Program of the Year

First Friends Day Care

Family Day Care Program of the Year

Marie Daley

Outstanding Special Needs Award

The Little House on the Hill Day Care

Director of the Year

Carol Murray
Bard College Nursery School, Inc.

Staff Members of the Year

Justine Bastian
Dawn Timmons
Vassar College

Rookie of the Year

Froggy's Play Palace

Nursery School Program of the Year

Millbrook Community Preschool @ Grace

Putnam County

Child Care Council Award of Excellence

Rosemaria Dossantos
Heart 2 Heart Child Care Center LLC

Day Care Center of the Year

Creative Kids Kent, LLC

School Age Program of the Year

Town of Putnam Valley at Elementary School

Group Family Day Care

Program of the Year

ABC Soup, Corp.

Family Day Care Program of the Year

Happy Kids Playhouse LLC
Ana Horvath

Outstanding Special Needs Award

YMCA of Central and Northern Westchester
@ Fulmer

Director of the Year

Dan Rudolph
Heart 2 Heart Child Care Center LLC

Staff Member of the Year

Samantha Finer
Creative Kids Kent, LLC

Rookie of the Year

Juliana Giannasca
Stepping Stones Childcare and Development, Inc.



In loving memory of
Marion P. Eagen

August 25, 1943 - April 18, 2019

Marion Eagen was employed at the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. from 1988 – 2017. During those 29 years, she held the positions of Parent Referral Counselor, Assistant Director and Interim Executive Director. Marion possessed a wealth of knowledge about child care, community resources, and data collection. She problem solved for parents and children, advocated for child care providers, and staunchly supported the NYS Child Care Resource and Referral Network.



Marion, thank you for your dedicated years of service to our community.



The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.

would like to **congratulate** all of this year's nominees and award winners! Many thanks for all your **hard work** and everything you have done for the children of our community!

The dedication you bring to your program is invaluable!

Are you a **CHILD CARE PROVIDER?**

Join the Program

BECOME A

CACFP

Provider today!

Learn more at
www.childcaredutchess.org



Contact Lorraine Scuccimarra
at (845) 473-4141 x220
lsuccimarra@childcaredutchess.org



Spring Valley Region
Infant and Toddler Resource Network

What We Offer

- Guidance and support to infant and toddler caregivers
- Assistance in planning and arranging environments and developmentally appropriate activities
- Trainings that meet OCFS training requirements
- In-person and telephone technical assistance

MY TEACHER BROUGHT OUT THE PAINT...



Rosemarie Lawton, Infant Toddler Specialist
(845) 473-4141 ext. 217
rlawton@childcaredutchess.org



Fun Facts about The Champions of Child Care Celebration



How did Champions of Child Care get started?

For many years the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. held a luncheon at a local restaurant for its Annual Meeting with speakers, election of the Board of Directors and recognition of child care providers. The recognition of providers was at the end of the meeting and as the program seemed to last longer each year, many in the audience had returned to work before the recognition took place.

Then in 2003, a small group of us decided “to give it a shot” and host an event solely to recognize and honor child care providers. There was little time to plan, so we hoped it would all come together. We had no intention of doing this again.

Approximately 100 people attended (more than we had anticipated) at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel. The son of one of the Council staff entertained with a spectacular tap dancing routine and everyone enjoyed a delicious dinner. The rest of the evening was devoted to presenting awards and honoring child care providers. As people were leaving, we were overwhelmed with the many sincere thank you’s. But one family day provider’s comment made all the difference as she said, “I was planning to close my doors because I felt discouraged and unappreciated. But after tonight I feel appreciated and I’m staying open.”

That one comment gave us the reason and the inspiration to continue to celebrate the many dedicated, caring and passionate people who care for our children every day.

How many awards have you given out between 2003 and 2018?

Special Awards: We have given awards to **287 child care providers** that have been nominated by their peers.

Milestone Awards

- 5 Year Milestone Awards: 267
- 10 Year Milestone Awards: 149
- 15 Year Milestone Awards: 83
- 20 Year Milestone Awards: 51
- 25 Year Milestone Awards: 27
- 30 Year Milestone Awards: 13
- 35 plus Year Milestone Awards: 9
- TOTAL Milestone Awards: 599**

Education Awards

- Child Development Associate: 130
- School Age Credential: 12
- Accreditation/Re-Accreditation: 13
- Associates Degree: 48
- Bachelors Degree: 32
- Masters Degree: 21
- Doctorate: 1
- NYS Teaching Assistant Certification: 6
- Other: 11
- TOTAL Education Awards: 256**



How do you decide who receives a Milestone or Education Award?

A flyer is sent by mail and electronically to all regulated child care providers asking for years of service in five year increments and any educational achievements received within the past 12 months.

How do people nominate child care providers?

About 2 months before the Champions Event, we invite anybody to submit a nomination for any child care provider in Dutchess and Putnam Counties. We send this form electronically to all parents and providers on our mailing list and through the postal service to all regulated child care providers. We ask this to be shared across all social media outlets and ask that it be given to all parents in child care programs. The link to our online nomination form is available on our website and also through our Facebook page. Many reminders are sent out electronically during the nomination period.

Since 2003 we have received approximately 3100 nominations!

How do you choose the Special Awards Winners?

After all of the nominations have been submitted, the Champions of Child Care Committee spends about a week reading through all of them on our own. We then come together and vote on the nominations that were written to decide the most deserving of the award in each category. We do not count the number of nominations or decide the winner based on the number of nominations submitted for that program or individual.

How do you choose what the theme is?

There are evaluation forms on the tables at the Champions Event. We ask for feedback in all areas of the event. The evaluations showed an overwhelming response for last year’s theme; Tropical Luau.

Next year will be our 50th Anniversary! Be prepared to see some glitz and glam!



2019 Board of Directors

Thank You to the STAFF

Julie Riess, Ph.D.

Chair
Member at Large

Nicole Bonelli

Vice-Chair
Vassar College

Michael Liguori

Treasurer
Rhinebeck Bank

Stephanie Moore

Member at Large

Monica Lee

Astor Early Childhood Services

Lance Bixby

Dutchess County Department of
Community and Family Services

Jessica Canale

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Isabel Dichiaro

Member at Large

Deborah Disanza

Dutchess County Department of
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Bonnie Fogarty

YMCA - Putnam County

Jeffery Fox

Abilities First, Inc.

Kim Kochem

The Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse

Lisa Kroohs

Child Care Provider, Putnam

Kari Morrison

Marist College

Kathleen Murphy

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Member at Large

Mary Rokitowski

Member at Large

Pat Voytko

Early Childhood Institute of the Hudson River Valley

Kellie Wofford

Family Services, Inc.

Rita Woodcock

Dutchess Community College

Liaisons from Dutchess County Legislature

Rebecca Edwards

Frits Zernike

Nancy Owen

Council Clerk
27 years

Jeanne Wagner

Executive Director
21 years

Karen Walsh

Resource and Referral Supervisor
13 years

Lorraine Scuccimarra

CACFP Coordinator
13 years

Rosemarie Lawton

Infant/Toddler Specialist
13 years

Kim Wolfe

Putnam County Day Care Services Administrator
13 years

Dawn Haecker

Putnam County Day Care Services Assistant
12 years

Carol Hand

Day Care Registrar
12 years

Darla Fulmer

Day Care Registrar/Professional
Development Coordinator
8 years

George Bartalsky

Financial Manager
4 years

Cara Brooks

Day Care Registrar
4 years

Jennifer Brainard

Registration Supervisor
3 years

Megan Weber, RN

Health Care Consultant
3 years

Darlene Johnson

Legally Exempt and Referral Specialist
2 years

Alicia McDonald

Day Care Registrar
1 year



With Special Thanks to:

Thank you to The Champions of Child Care Committee:

Lance Bixby (the photographer!)
Cara Brooks
Mary Rokitowski
Lorraine Scuccimarra



Jeanne Wagner
Karen Walsh
Pat Voytko



Thank you to our donors:

Adams Fairacre Farms
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Buffalo Wild Wings
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Chili's Grill & Bar
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Red Lobster
Regal Cinemas
Hudson Valley Renegades
Lorraine Scuccimarra
Stewart's Shops
Stop and Shop
Texas Roadhouse
Thirty One Gifts
The Village Frame Shop



Melissa Baez and Staff
at The Poughkeepsie Grandview

**DUTCHESS COUNTY LEGISLATURE
NEW YORK**



Donna J. Bolner
Dutchess County Legislator
District 13 • Towns of East Fishkill/
LaGrange/Wappinger

Residence: 10 Budd Lane, LaGrangeville, NY 12540
Phone: 845.489.6464
Office: 22 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
845.486.2100 • Fax: 845.486.2113
dbolner@dutchessny.gov



Bambini Pediatrics PC

Wholesome Medical Care for Kids
www.bambini-peds.com

207 Washington Street
Suite 103
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Phone: 845-249-2510
Fax: 845-249-2505

Certified Public Accountant

Rosemarie Palmeri, CPA

P.O. Box 38

LaGrangeville, New York 12540

rpalmericpa@optimum.net

(845) 677-4300

**Dutchess County
STABILIZATION
CENTER**

230 North Road
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Connect to 24/7
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substance use services

Walk in any time.
No appointment needed.



**Dutchess County
HELPLINE**

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Connect to 24/7 mental health
and substance use services



CALL

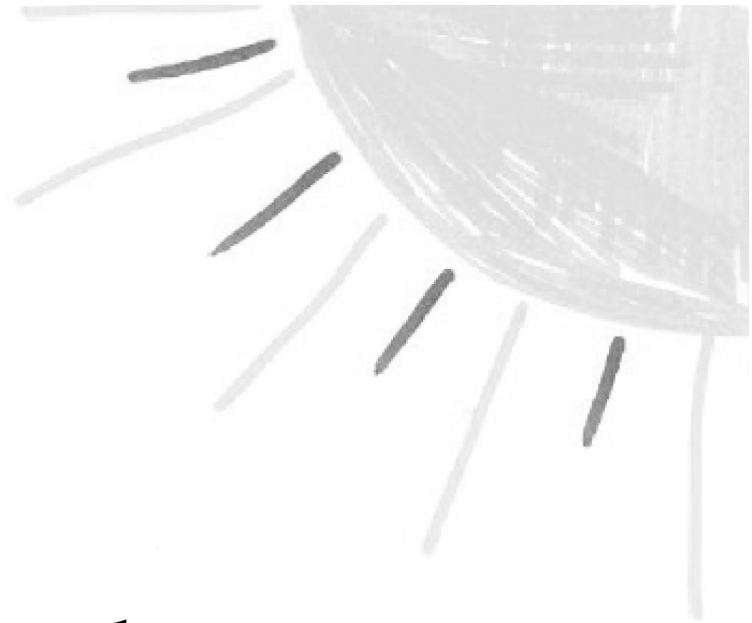


24/7



TEXT

BREAKING  THROUGH



Congratulations

to the 2019

Champions of Child Care

Thank you for all you do for
our community's youth!



Member
FDIC

Rhinebeck

Bank
Your *Community* Bank!

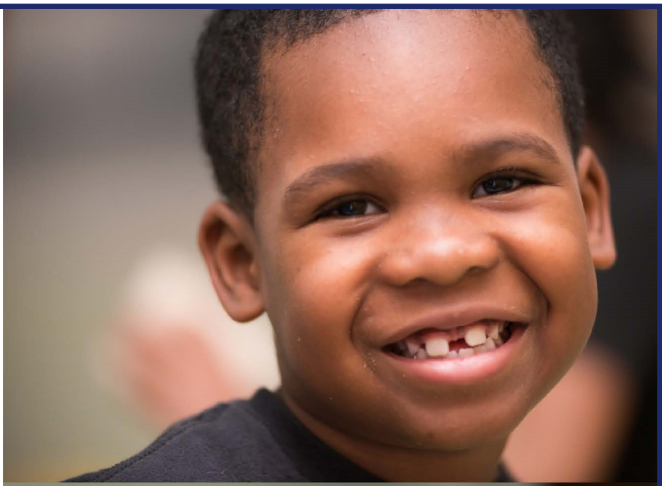


Congratulations to all the
**CHAMPIONS OF CHILD CARE
 HONOREES**
 &
**THE CHILD CARE COUNCIL OF
 DUTCHESS AND PUTNAM**
 for their valuable contributions
 to our community.



ABILITIES FIRST
 ENRICHING THE LIVES OF CHILDREN
 & ADULTS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Serving the needs of the Hudson Valley community,
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 from pre-school through adulthood.
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I Did Nothing Today

When children come home at the end of the day,
The question they're asked as they run out to play

Is "Tell me what did you do today?"

And the answer they give makes you sigh with dismay.

"Nothing, I did nothing today!"

Perhaps "Nothing" means that I read a book,

Or... with a teacher I got to cook.

Maybe I painted a picture of blue,

Or heard a story of a mouse that flew.

Maybe I wrote in my journal myself,

Or found a great book on the library shelf.

Maybe I helped a friend today,

Or went to my favorite area alone,

Maybe today was the very first time

That my scissors followed a very straight line,

Maybe I sang a song right to the end,

Or worked with a special brand new friend.

When you're three, four or five your heart has wings

And "Nothing" can mean so many things.

~Author Unknown

