



# Memphis Association for the Education of Young Children

March  
2009

Bring Communities Together for Children  
Children Bring Communities Together

The mission of this organization shall be to provide opportunities for the members to enhance their knowledge of the newer approaches in Early Childhood Education and to coordinate the efforts of others in promoting the general welfare of and improving education opportunities for all children.

## *Board Members 2009*

### **Board of Directors**

President: Martha V. Jackson

Vice President of Services: Towanda P. Smith

Vice President of Support: Margaret Scott

Secretary: Elizabeth Jordan

Treasurer: Carol Chapple

Past President: Ruby White

### **Member at Large**

Gwendolyn Stuckey/Karen Vinyard

### **Committee Chairs**

Membership: Debbie Kallaher/Marian Chandler

Week of the Young Child: Cynthia Morgan

Spring Conference: Chana Brooks

Mini Conference: Brenda Williams

Accreditation: Sandy Guntharp/Carolyn Anderson

Environment Rating: Dianne Bauer/Doris Parker

### **Nominations**

Directors'/Caregivers: Patrice Jones

Health & Safety: Wardell Seals

Publicity: Latrice Robinson

Training Review: Sandra Williams

Scholarship: Asia Goodman

Public Policy: Robin Mayweather

### **Agency Representatives**

Shelby County Child Care Resource and Referral: Dianne Bauer

TECTA: Barbara Sandlin

Family Day Home: Janice Massey

Head Start:

DHS: Angeline Vault

Memphis City Schools: Sharon R. Williams

## *Save The Date!!!*

- **Week of the Young Child**  
April 18 -19, 2009
- **MAEYC Leadership Conference**  
April 24, 11:30 - 3:30 PM  
Urban Child Institute
- **Spring Conference**  
April 25, 7:30 - 3:30 PM  
Hickory Ridge Elementary School
- **Pre-K Express, August 8, 2009**  
Cook Convention Center
- **2009 NAEYC National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development—June 14-17, Charlotte, NC**
- **TAEYC Conference—Smokey Mountain Childhood Magic, October 15-17, Gatlinburg, TN**
- **2009 NAEYC Annual Conference & Expo—November 18-21, Washington, DC**
- **Fatherhood Summit - March 28, 2009, 9:00—3:30 PM, University of Memphis**

## President: Martha V. Jackson

A resident of Memphis, Tennessee, Martha earned her M.Ed. degree from Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville, Tennessee and her Bachelors Degree from Rust College in Holly Springs, MS., and 33 post doctoral hours from the University of Memphis. She worked in Memphis City Schools first Early Childhood Program. During that time the program was the home base program. She teaches Child Development Associate (CDA)

and is the Executive Director of Jessie Mahan Center Inc. one the oldest licensed centers in Memphis. The center is now celebrating 50 years of service. Jessie Mahan is now accredited through NAEYC with the assistance of Ready, Set, Grow!

Martha has been with MAEYC for several decades and has served as advocacy and publicity chairperson, as well as vice president of service.



**Martha V. Jackson, M.Ed**  
is the new  
**President of MAEYC**

## 2009 Leadership and Spring Conferences

- **The Leadership Conference will be held at the Urban Child Institute on April 24th, 11:30 - 3:30 PM.**
- **The Spring Conference will be held at Hickory Ridge Elementary School on April 25, 2009, 7:30 - 3:30 PM:**
- **Pre Registration (postmarked by 3/31/09): \$45 members, \$55 nonmembers**
- **Registration (postmarked by 4/17/09): \$65 members, \$75 nonmembers**
- **On Site: \$85**

### Special Events

- **Box Lunch—\$10.00**
- **4/25 - CPR & First Aid, 8:00—12:00 PM \$65**
- **4/25/09 - Silent Auction**
- **4/25/09 - Teacher Recognition**
- **4/25/09 - Make-N-Take Center (free)**

### Marketplace Fees

- **Vendors (For Profit/Selling) \$75/Day**
- **Advocates (Non Profit/Gov't) \$25/day**
- **Teacher Displays—No charge**

### Special Needs:

Please call 901-521-7877 if you are in need of special services.

Email for more information:  
[chanartzinna@yahoo.com](mailto:chanartzinna@yahoo.com)  
[mascott1@memphis.edu](mailto:mascott1@memphis.edu)

Register online at  
[www.maeycmemphis.org](http://www.maeycmemphis.org)

Or

Mail complete registration and payment to:  
c/o Debbie Kallaher  
102 North Second St  
Memphis, TN 38103  
Phone: (901) 521-7877

## Ready, Set, Grow! achieves 96% success rate in Child Care Accreditation

Accreditation has been granted to 23 of the 24 child care programs supported by the Ready, Set, Grow! pilot program at the University of Memphis that applied for accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

The program's first phase was supported by major local corporations and foundations, including Memphis Tomorrow, the Plough Foundation, the Hyde Family Foundation, and the First Tennessee Foundation, in response to growing concern about the extremely low level of kindergarten readiness in Shelby County. At least half the children entering Memphis City Schools are assessed at 20 percent or lower for school readiness. Since its implementation, the program has increased the number of accredited child care centers throughout Shelby County by 60 percent, and nearly tripled the number serving primarily economically disadvantaged children. As a result, an estimated additional 1,700 Shelby County children annually will get top quality early care and education to help boost school readiness.

With funding provided by the Plough Foundation, *Ready Set Grow!* has begun its second phase and is now recruiting child care directors to participate in a professional development program to prepare them for the accreditation process. Directors have opportunities for scholarships for the program.

"Research shows that NAEYC-accredited centers do a better job in helping young children develop the foundation cognitive, social, and other skills so critical for success in school and throughout their life," said Dr. Deb Moberly, director of *Ready, Set, Grow!* "But achieving national accreditation is a difficult accomplishment that often requires years of effort to meet increasingly rigorous program standards.

The leadership and perseverance demonstrated by the directors and staff of the child care centers that submitted for NAEYC accreditation through *Ready, Set, Grow!*, combined with their 96 percent success rate, is a truly remarkable achievement."

Research shows that children who spend time in high quality early care and education, such as that certified by NAEYC accreditation, spend less time in special education, have more self-esteem and self-control, and are more likely to graduate from high school. They are also more likely to delay pregnancy, go to college and get better jobs. Conversely, they are less likely to commit crimes or be on welfare. Research has also shown that NAEYC-accredited centers close the achievement gap between low-income and middle-income students, as well as between students of color and others. Because NAEYC accreditation is widely accepted as the "gold standard" for early childhood program quality, the *Ready, Set, Grow!* program was designed to support a diverse array of child care centers in achieving this distinction, both to increase the number of high-quality slots and to raise the bar for overall child care quality standards in Shelby County. "We joined *Ready, Set, Grow!* because we are committed to providing the highest quality early education experience to our children and families possible," said Patrice Jones, director of Ernestine Rivers Child care Center in south Memphis. "It took a tremendous amount of persistence, but we are so proud to offer our children the best chance to succeed in school and life. We're also proud to be part of what we see as a new quality movement in early care and education in Shelby County for all our young children and their families, regardless of income or background."



**Dr. Deborah Moberly (right),  
Director of RSG**

**Sandy Guntharp (left),  
Program Coordinator for RSG**

**AC Wharton (middle),  
Mayor of Shelby County**

To earn accreditation, child care centers must thoroughly document that they have the ongoing teacher credentials to make sure that high quality care is consistently delivered in every classroom. The *Ready, Set, Grow!* program offered a variety of support for participating centers, including academic scholarships for program directors, on-site teacher training, grants for equipment and materials, and on-site consulting. In the pilot phase of the program, directors and centers spent several years meeting high accreditation standards. The program's upcoming second phase offers support to more than 30 accredited centers to help them maintain their accreditation under new, more stringent accreditation standards introduced in 2006. In addition, the second phase will help a new group of centers get started on the road to accreditation.

A list of accredited child care centers in Shelby County is available online at [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)



MAEYC is still taking applications for scholarships. Please click on the following link for more information:

[www.maeycmemphis.org](http://www.maeycmemphis.org)

Or email Asia Goodman:  
[agoodman@memphis.edu](mailto:agoodman@memphis.edu)

## Congratulations to the NAEYC Accredited Centers under the new system:

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- Jessie Mahan
- A Children's Place at Schering-Plough
- Barbara K. Lipman Early Learning Center @Temple Israel
- Hooks Dimmick Child Care Center
- Hope House Day Care Center
- LeBonheur Early Intervention and Development
- Barbara K Lipman Early Childhood Center School and Research Institute
- Emmanuel United Methodist Kindergarten
- Miss Lee's Preschool @ GSL School
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School
- St. Mary's Episcopal School



Ready, Set, Grow is looking for centers that have the following:

- In business at least 5 years
- Director with 3 years of management experience
- Center serves approximately 75 children or more

For more information, contact Sandy Guntharp, 901-258-5271, <http://coe.memphis.edu/RSG/>

## Diabetes, as it relates to obesity in Children and Adults Genes

Researchers have, for the first time, drawn a map of genetic risk factors that can lead to two forms of severe obesity: early-onset obesity in children, and morbid obesity in adults.

Children who become obese at a young age, before the age of six, have a problem with their weight. This is also true with adults genes

with family history who had a body mass over 40. Typically, body mass greater than twenty-five is considered overweight. There's ninety percent of genetic risk that comes from genes variants.

In conclusion, we need to know our family history of risk factors. Most diabetic symptoms/factors can be controlled with a strict diet.

Wardell Seals, Jr.

Health/Safety Chair

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[www.heartbeat-cpr.com](http://www.heartbeat-cpr.com)

Visit us on line at [www.maeycmemphis.org](http://www.maeycmemphis.org)