

Your News from ^{The} Aspire Registry

Connecting Early Childhood
Professionals in New York State

July
2016



A Real Commitment to Professional Growth

The Child Development Associate (CDA) credential is one of the most widely recognized credentials in early childhood education and is an excellent way to advance one's career in the early childhood field. Ethel Cordova knew this when she encouraged a cohort of the family day care providers she works with to pursue the CDA. As the Family Child Care Network Coordinator at Cypress Hills Child Care Corporation, Ethel arranged to hold classes at their main office two nights a week. The providers were all enrolled in CUNY's 12 credit CDA certificate program offered in partnership between CUNY's School of Professional Studies and NY Early Childhood Professional Development Institute, funded by the Stella and Charles Guttman Foundation, Inc.

But still, she wasn't sure if the CDA classes would be well attended. After all, the providers in her network didn't finish each night until 5:30pm or 6:00pm. Would they be able to do night classes? Ethel polled the providers in her network and to her delight they were enthusiastic! Soon enough Ethel had helped to enroll 11 providers in the program and decided to join the cohort herself. Ethel believes that there is always more to learn in the early childhood field, and thought that she could provide additional support and encouragement to the rest of the group if she did the work alongside them. And boy was she right!

Just last month, all 12 participants received their CDA credential at a cap and gown ceremony where family and friends came to celebrate. Ethel described the event as an emotional day for the group who had grown extremely close over the course of the last year and a half. Not only did the CDA classes give providers a chance to refine their practice and deepen their understanding of developmentally appropriate practice, but completing the classes as a group has also created a lasting support system.

We hope you will join us in congratulating Ethel and this fabulous group of providers! If you have interest in the 12 credit CDA program through CUNY's School of Professional Studies, contact Dana Benzo at Dana.Benzo@cuny.edu.



Ethel Cordova, Professor Paula "Pepper" Robinson and the providers that received the CDA credential.

FAST FACTS The Aspire Registry Support Specialists receive many emails and phone calls on a daily basis. We use a ticketing system to keep track of the technical assistance that we provide to our members. This system has helped us immensely to ensure that your requests are answered in a timely manner and that you are satisfied with your experience. See below for technical assistance stats from last month:



Scale:

Over 600
requests solved



Efficiency:

Less than 4 hours
for first reply to emails



Satisfaction:

97%
customer satisfaction rating



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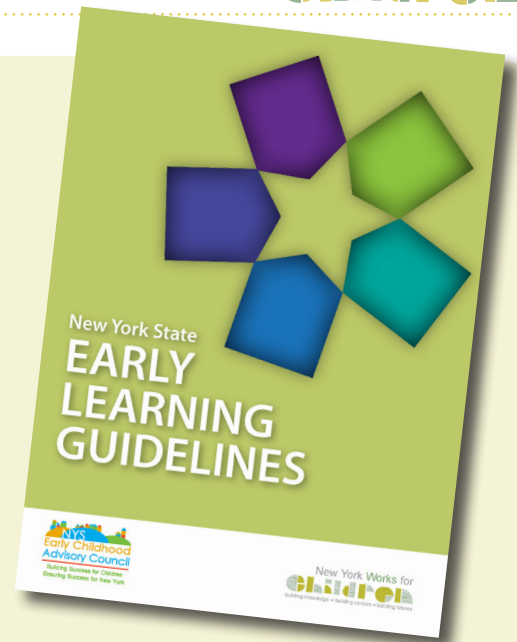
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New York Works for
children
building knowledge • building careers • building futures

Understanding Child Development with the New York State Early Learning Guidelines

Created by partners at New York Works for Children, the New York Association for the Education of Young Children (NYSAEYC), and the New York State Early Childhood Advisory Council, the New York State Early Learning Guidelines (ELG) is a detailed overview of child development and is a useful tool for students, teachers, providers, and directors. This valuable resource is designed to be used as a daily reference to support early childhood professionals and improve the quality of early childhood education in New York State.

The ELG outlines the developmental milestones children attain between birth and age 5, and is a great resource to refer to when you want to know how children develop. These milestones are divided into five domains: (1) Physical Well-Being, Health, and Motor Development, (2) Social and Emotional Development, (3) Approaches to Learning, (4) Cognition and General Knowledge, and (5) Language, Communication, and Literacy. Each domain provides detailed information on



the typical development of infants, toddlers, and preschool age children, so it is a useful tool no matter what age you work with. The ELG also comes with strategies and examples of developmentally appropriate activities for you to try with your children. For example, if you notice a child between 18 and 36 months walking backwards or jumping in place, the ELG suggests that you provide opportunities for the child to run, throw, jump, and climb to help in the development of their gross motor skills.

If you are interested in exploring the ELG, you can download a copy of it for free, or purchase print copies from the NY Early Childhood Professional Development Institute’s website, www.earlychildhoodny.org.

SPOTLIGHT This month’s newsletter features the newest member of The Aspire Registry Team. Meet Katherine Haro, one of our Registry Support Specialists!



Katherine Haro
REGISTRY SUPPORT SPECIALIST

“ My name is Katherine Haro and I am a Registry Support Specialist here at The Aspire Registry. I have been working with New York Works for Children since May 2016. I enjoy the workplace atmosphere and my colleagues are helpful, reliable, and professional. Outside of work, I enjoy working with children by volunteering in schools, as well as other hobbies such as baking, writing, and dog walking. I can’t wait to continue to learn and grow with The Aspire Registry team! ”