

Mission

Mentors/Coaches for Early Care and Education is a statewide program offering assistance and guidance from qualified early care mentor/coaches to child care providers and directors.



“By becoming a Mentor/Coach and responding to people’s questions, I am realizing how much I know. The more we can help other providers to do a good job, the more we support ourselves and the community.” ***-Mentor/Coach***

Pictured in this brochure are participating mentors, apprentices, providers, and Idaho children who are benefiting from their expertise! Included are apprentices Zoe Thomas, Wendy Williamson, Jackie Kay, Stephanie Gerla, Charlotte Flat, Jackie Kay, Dee Eldridge and mentor Michelle Welsh.

Mentor/Coach Qualifications

- PHD, MA, Bachelor (preferably in ECE), Associate, or CDA Degree
- Extended experience working with children 0-5 years of age in a licensed facility
- Commitment to ongoing professional development
- Excellent communication skills with adults
- Desire to help other early childhood providers excel in their profession
- Enrollment in IdahoSTARS Professional Development Registry

What a Mentor/Coach Does

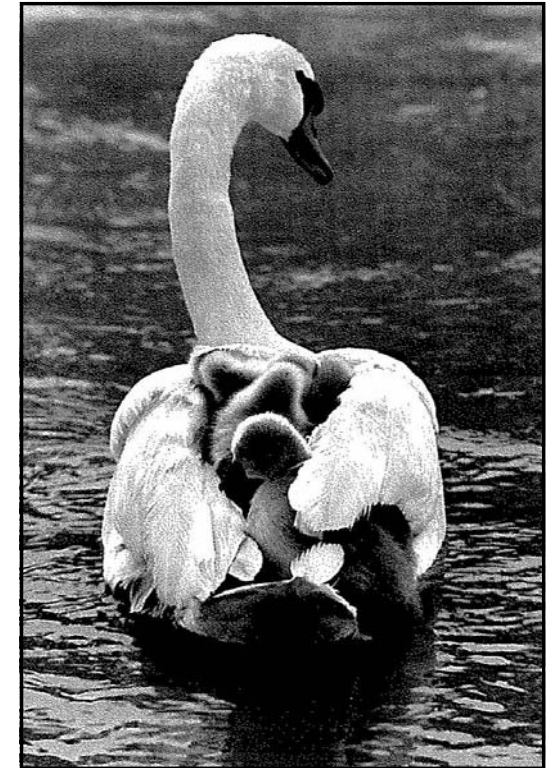
- Provides support, guidance and an exchange of information and ideas.
- Meets with an apprentice on a regular basis to work toward goals identified by the child care provider or director.

Mentor/coaches are expected to complete an orientation, Child Care Health Consultant (CCHC) training, and an online class: Refining the Skills of the Early Childhood Mentor.

To become a Mentor/Coach or to request a Mentor/Coach, dial 2-1-1 or 1-800-926-2588 Idaho CareLine and ask for your Regional Quality Child Care Consultant.

Or dial 2-1-1 and ask to speak with Julaine, the Director of Mentor/Coaches for Early Care and Education.

Mentor/Coaches for Early Care and Education



ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN
Joining Together for Quality Early Care and Education

www.idahoeyc.org

Let Our Mentor/Coaches Help You Reach Your Goals!

Types of Mentor/Coach Services Available Through IdahoSTARS

Idaho Quality Child Care Apprenticeship

Apprentices in the project receive:

- Academic scholarships toward a degree in Early Childhood Education,
- 4000 hours of on-the-job training enhanced by weekly meetings with an early child care mentor/coach and
- Incremental wage increases from employers.

Individual Projects

Child care providers seeking to achieve specific goals receive support from a Mentor/Coach. Target areas include:

- Environment rating scale assessment
- Child care health consultation
- Individual projects such as a business planning, policy review, room arrangement, curriculum development, or CDA assessment.

Accreditation

- Facility directors and family providers may request a mentor/coach to assist in the NAEYC or NAFCC accreditation process.

“The apprenticeship program has definitely improved the quality of my center. Parents notice the increased professionalism, the children get better care and they do well when they leave here.”

-Family Home Provider

Benefits of Our Program

Providers

- Mentor/Coaches are available to support the development of a business plan, parent education, policy or staff development, room arrangement, or any other long or short term project.
- Benefit from financial assistance to further your education, wage increases from your employer, and one on one encouragement from a Mentor/Coach.

Directors

- Reduce staff turnover.
- Increase your staff's level of expertise in Early Childhood Development.
- Let a Mentor/Coach encourage you and your staff through the accreditation process.

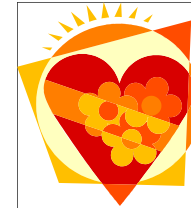
Mentor/Coaches

- Join a growing network of early childhood Mentor/Coaches for support and continuing education.
- Share your expertise in early childhood with child care providers while earning extra income.



“I can really see an improvement in the apprentices' awareness of a child's stages of development. It's a great program. It elevates the quality of care for children. I see the apprentices putting what they learn into practice.

The apprenticeship training motivates my teachers and the children reap the benefits.” — Director



At the Heart of Mentoring

At the heart of mentoring is the wish to pour all of one's knowledge, wisdom, and charisma into those eager to learn and grow. I entered the ECE field armed with nothing more than a love for children and a need for employment. Over the years, several people took the time to run alongside me as I grew in the field. These people revolutionized the way I view children and injected a sense of professionalism I didn't think existed in ECE. They were my mentors, and they eventually filled me up so I too could learn to teach, and teach to learn. I believe that good mentors strive to “work themselves out of a job” as my mentors did — duplicating themselves in others. It is my turn now to empower others. — Mentor/Coach



Graduating apprentices and scholars celebrate their accomplishments.

Idaho AEYC partners with the US Department of Labor, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and the University of Idaho Center for Disabilities and Human Development.



CENTER ON DISABILITIES AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
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University of Idaho
College of Education



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE