

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CAPEd MAKES EARLY LEARNING A PRIORITY AND INVESTS IN IDAHO'S YOUNGEST CHILDREN**

February 20, 2015 (Boise, ID) - Following a week focused on the importance of early learning, CapEd Credit Union is stepping up to support our youngest children. The organization has taken to heart that over fifty percent of Idaho's children are not prepared for kindergarten when they enter the classroom and believes that Idaho can do better. Through a partnership with the Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children (Idaho AEYC) and Lee Pesky Learning Center, CapEd is providing free *Every Child Ready to Learn* trainings for 150 Treasure Valley child care providers.

"We are happy to be working with Idaho AEYC to bring awareness for this important subject and are confident that working with child care providers in the Treasure Valley is an effective way to support early childhood learning," says CapEd CEO Todd Erickson.

The *Every Child Ready to Learn* trainings teach child care providers how to build important literacy and mathematics skills young children need to develop before kindergarten. The age-appropriate activities target three stages of development: Infant (birth to 18 months); Toddler (18-36 months); and Preschooler (3 to 5 years). Providers will receive a packet full of materials they can use in their programs to quickly implement what they learn. The *Every Child Ready to Learn* training also gives child care providers activities families can use at home with their children.

"CapEd has a long history of supporting our community through investing in education," says Beth Oppenheimer, Idaho AEYC Executive Director. "We applaud CapEd's commitment to help increase kindergarten readiness and their dedication to developing high-quality early learning environments for children in the Treasure Valley."

Research has proven investing in high-quality early learning is the most cost-effective solution to improving our education system by preventing disparities before they start. The *Every Child Ready to Learn* trainings will give child care providers the tools and resources they need to prepare our youngest children for school and success in life.

*CapEd Credit Union is a full-service financial institution serving members throughout the state of Idaho. CapEd currently has eight locations in the Treasure Valley, and is headquartered in Meridian, Idaho. For more information or to join the Credit Union, visit [www.CapEd.com](http://www.CapEd.com).*

*The nonprofit Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children (Idaho AEYC) is dedicated to advancing Idaho's early learning profession and advocating for children and families. The organization was founded in 1984 and is headquartered in Boise, Idaho. Learn more at [www.idahoaeyc.org](http://www.idahoaeyc.org)*

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