

# In the Know...

# Trainer Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 4

December 2017

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## Words from Christi: A Look Back

December is upon us and it's hard to believe another year is coming to an end. At this time each year, I like to look back and think about what I've accomplished, both personally and professionally. I'm sure you do the same. For the Professional Learning Unit, one of our proudest accomplishments this year has been forming our Trainer Support Network. So, in this issue of *In the Know*, I am taking time to reflect on our year together as a trainer community.

Our accomplishments this year included creating this quarterly newsletter as a vehicle to provide you important information about what's happening in our agency and across the state. We also held our first trainer conferences in Gwinnett and Tifton, which many of you attended. Additionally, we held our GAIEYC preconference session for trainers, during which we discussed the newly revised Workforce Knowledge and Competencies. And, of course, we also sprinkled in a few webinars throughout the year to share information about DECAL Scholars and the Georgia Professional Development System (GaPDS). It's been quite a year!

We provided you an opportunity to let us know how we're doing by distributing surveys after each face-to-face event. This feedback has been invaluable in helping us make decisions about events, webinar topics, and newsletter features. So far, your responses tell us you appreciate what we're doing and that you want more opportunities to network and learn together as a trainer community. So, look for more chances to come together with your fellow trainers in the new year.

I would be remiss if I didn't wrap up this "look back" with a huge thank you to Laura Reid, our Professional Learning Community Specialist. She has been the driving force behind our Trainer Support Network: overseeing each quarter's newsletter; handling logistics for our face-to-face events; providing her expertise and support to trainers; and overseeing our Georgia Training Approval system, among many other responsibilities. And, after doing all that, she still finds time to reflect on each event and help our team think about what we can do to make the next one better. We certainly wouldn't be able to celebrate our successes this year without her leadership of the Trainer Support Network. Next time you see Laura, please give her a huge *Thank You!*

I wish you a happy and restful holiday season and look forward to another great year together in 2018.



## Georgia Training Approval by the Numbers\*

*Approved Trainers*

	Approved in 2017	Total Approved
<b>Specialty</b>	1	84
<b>Trainer I</b>	12	229
<b>Trainer II</b>	5	198
<b>Trainer III</b>	3	109

*Approved Trainings*

	Approved in 2017	Total Approved
<b>Beginning</b>	111	5189
<b>Intermediate</b>	12	787
<b>Advanced</b>	1	78
<b>Face-to-Face</b>	93	4603
<b>24/7 Online</b>	30	1287
<b>Webinar</b>	0	83
<b>Hybrid</b>	1	81

\* As of December 1, 2017

## A Look Forward: What's Coming in 2018?

### **Workforce Knowledge and Competencies**

In October 2017, the Professional Learning Unit provided an overview of the newly revised Workforce Knowledge and Competencies (WKC) to attendees of the GAAYC preconference for trainers. The rollout of the new WKC will take place in 2018. All approved trainers and entities will be expected to update their trainings to the new WKC. Keep an eye on your email in early 2018 for invitations to informational webinars to explain the rollout process.

### **Georgia Professional Development System**

The Georgia Professional Development System (GaPDS) is currently in Phase II development, which will include all aspects of the current

Georgia Training Approval system. Phase II is scheduled to be completed in Fall 2018. Once launched, trainers will be able to use GaPDS to:

- Complete training applications
- Complete trainer applications
- Complete trainer renewal
- Share training schedules with potential participants
- Track attendance and issue electronic certificates



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## Upcoming Dates

January 20, 2018: **Southern Conference on Children**, Statesboro, GA  
<http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/ce/conferences/scoc/>

February 5-8, 2018: **Region IV Head Start Association Annual Conference**, Atlanta, GA  
<https://www.rivhsa.org/conference-registration.html>

March 1-3, 2018: **Southern Early Childhood Association (SECA)**, Lexington, KY  
[https://www.southernearlychildhood.org/page.php?url=conference\\_information](https://www.southernearlychildhood.org/page.php?url=conference_information)

March 5-6, 2018: **Strengthening Families Georgia Training of Trainers**, McDonough, GA. **Applications are due February 8, 2018**  
<http://strengtheningfamiliesga.net/totapplication/>

The **Board of Early Care and Learning** meets quarterly to support DECAL's mission and vision and help guide the department's work. Board meetings, which are open to the public, begin at 9:00 AM. For more information, visit

<http://www.decals.ga.gov/BftS/BoardOfEarlyCareAndLearning.aspx>.

### 2018 Meeting Schedule:

February 15

May 10

August 16

November 15

