

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

JAN 2024

With the start of the New Year comes hope, joy, and celebration. While there is plenty to look ahead and strive towards, the year can only begin with reflecting on all that was accomplished in the past. The goals checked off, the personal victories, the gratitude shared; these are all essential memories that we hold near our hearts. Take the time to celebrate everything you accomplished in 2023 while being grateful for all that 2024 has to offer.

Let's kick off this 2024 newsletter by highlighting the exciting news within our Neighborhood Villages community. Two new staff have joined the Neighborhood Unit. Specific program staff have personal goals, and there is much to look forward to on the horizon. This volume will highlight training, webinars, and workshops that will help us gain skills better to serve our diverse families, children, and communities. Join us through a volume of celebration.

Hopefully, the New Year is beginning with rest. Please don't push yourself too hard within the first few weeks of the new year. You may have a lofty list of goals or resolutions in your journal or notes on your computer, but remember that small, gradual habits can significantly change over time. Whether they are personal or professional goals, you are all capable of accomplishing great things this year.

Have a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Cassidy Murphy, Tufts University, MA Child Studies and Human Development Candidate and Intern 2023-2024/Alina Lopez Thomas, Senior Director of the Neighborhood



Neighborhood Community of Practice Session

Our next operation manager and family navigator COP will be virtual and separate. The 2024 Calendar has been sent by email

Shared Experiences:
Describe a group learning experience that inspired or invigorated you.



COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE



The Community of Practice, a meeting meant to bring together professionals from the same field to share knowledge and best practices, took place at Nurtury Early Education in December 2023. The meeting concluded with a visit to the Learning Lab in Jamaica Plain. We appreciate the warm hospitality and willingness to share their space and provide us with a good morning meal.

During the visit, we had the opportunity to learn about Nurtury's approach to early childhood education, view their facilities, and speak with their staff members. **Oh! and Nik climbed the rock wall !!! He has skills.**

We sincerely thank Nurtury for their generosity and for visiting a valuable experience. Warm thank you to Taylor Connoly, Family Support Coordinator, for arranging and ensuring we were all comfortable.

WELCOME

January 2024-Vol. 6



Daniel Gonzalez is the Education Coach at Neighborhood Villages.

with 25 years of early education experience in the classroom and as an administrator. Starting his career at Newton North High School, where he was the first male to complete the early education program, he spent many years working with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. He led several early education centers in Massachusetts and North Carolina.

Daniel holds a Doctorate of Education in Curriculum, Teaching, Learning, and Leadership from Northeastern University, a Master's of Science in Educational Studies from Wheelock College, a Master's level Certificate in Organizational Leadership from Wheelock College, a Bachelor's of Science in Human Development from Wheelock College, and an Associate's of Science in Early Childhood Education from MassBay Community College.

Daniel has most recently taught college courses in Early Education at Dean College and Quincy College, rewriting and redesigning the entire early education and elementary education programs at Quincy College.



Lacey Mallett is the Neighborhood Program Coordinator at Neighborhood Villages.

Like many others in the field, Lacey began as an assistant in an afterschool program and worked her way through the various teaching roles before landing as a center director. After being in supervisory roles for over 10 years, Lacey decided to explore other pathways, which allowed her to grow her skills in project management and customer service. However, this hiatus only made it more clear that her heart has always belonged to the field of early childhood, and she is excited to have found a role that will utilize all of her experience.

Lacey has her Bachelor's degree in Psychology from UMASS Boston and considers herself a lifelong learner.

The Mystical 2023 Winter Wonderfest.



CITY OF BOSTON: ECE SUPPORT

CITY OF BOSTON: ECE DEGREE SUPPORT

Don't let your academic dreams of earning a Bachelor's or Master's degree remain unfulfilled – let us help you turn them into reality!!

“I have learned that I still have a lot to learn.”

-Maya Angelou



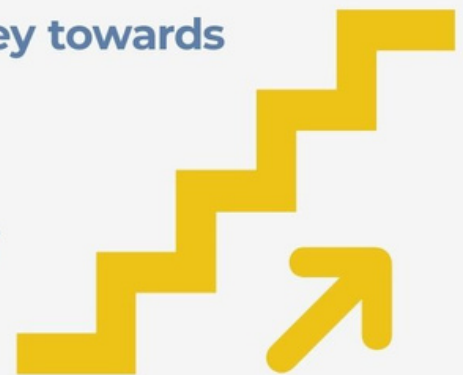
For Early Childhood Educators working in Boston, we offer:

- Personalized 1:1 guidance
- Finding the right college
- Financial aid resources
- College applications
- **And more!!!**



Contact us today to start your journey towards a brighter future!

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Community Partnerships Project Manager
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ECONOMIC MOBILITY

Co-Hosted with CFA Society
Boston



Financial Wellness Workshop

Join us for this **FREE** workshop on
— **Wednesday, January 17**
6:00–7:00pm (with Spanish interpretation)

There will be a RAFFLE for \$30 Gift Card

BUDGETING TIPS & FINANCIAL GOALS

A budget can help save for financial goals. Learn how to create a spending plan and save for the future

CREDIT & BEST PRACTICES

Learn about the pros & cons of borrowing, best practices, and how to improve your credit score

WORKSHOP WILL BE HELD ON ZOOM
REGISTER TO JOIN!

Scan the QR code to register or contact Benjamin at bbrennan@ebsoc.org or call 617.569.3221 ext.149 with any questions.



Every Child **Shines**

MOBILIDAD ECONOMICA

Coanfitrión con CFA
Society Boston



TALLER DE BIENESTAR FINANCIERO

Unáse con nosotros para un taller **GRATUITO**

— el **17 de enero 6:00pm-7:00pm**

(con interpretación en español)

Rifamos una tarjeta de regalo de \$30

RECOMENDACIONES PARA SU PRESUPUESTO Y LAS METAS FINANCIERAS

Un presupuesto le ayuda ahorrar para sus metas financieras. Aprende de cómo crear un plan de gastos y ahorrar para el futuro

CRÉDITO Y LAS MEJORES PRACTICAS

Aprende de los positivos y negativos de pedir prestado, las mejores prácticas y como mejorar su puntuación de crédito

EL TALLER ES VIRTUAL/ZOOM ¡INSCRÍBASE YA!

Escaneé el código QR para inscribirse o pongase en contacto con Benjamin a bbrennan@ebsoc.org o llame a 617.569.3221 ext.149 con cualquier duda.



EDUCATIONAL TRAINING



ZERO TO THREE
LEARN

***Your Adventure Starts with Area 1: Supporting Social-Emotional Development
January 8-24 or February 5-22, 2024***

The ZERO TO THREE Critical Competencies for Infant-Toddler Educators™ Micro Training-of-Trainers offer the unique opportunity to become a badged trainer in one, two or all three areas of the Critical Competencies. Build your organization's capacity to support infant and toddler educators. ZERO TO THREE faculty will guide a cohort of up to 20 trainers through an intensive five-part virtual training for each Critical Competencies Area. Trainers can choose to complete one or all three Critical Competencies areas.

ZERO TO THREE offers a diverse range of virtual programs for early childhood professionals. Whether you're looking to ***further develop your skills in diagnosing and treating early childhood mental health disorders or improve your effectiveness as a coach***, our evidence-based training programs will help you meet your career goals.

- ***Area 1: Supporting Social-Emotional Development***
- ***Area 2: Supporting Cognitive Development***
- ***Area 3: Supporting Language & Literacy Development***

The Children's Trust is offering two training, one for parents and one for staff, regarding child sexual abuse prevention. Below are the details regarding the two trainings. If either training is of interest, please reach out to niurkad@gmail.com directly for more information.



Staff Training / Length• 2 hours

This training will teach staff knowledge, skills and attitudes to prevent child sexual abuse. Topics discussed: safe environment, working with parents, prevention strategies, protective factors, signs and symptoms and responding to disclosures.

Parent Training / Length• 90 minutes

Keeping Kids Safe is a 90-minute multilingual and multicultural workshop for parents and guardians to provide them with practical skills to help keep their children safe from dangerous or abusive situations. Parents will learn to use age-appropriate language, understand the signs and symptoms of abuse, how to create family safety rules and what to do if a child discloses something has happened to them.

*Check out the Training Center page on their website at
<https://childrenstrustma.org/training-center> *

EDUCATIONAL TRAINING - COMING SOON



This two-part workshop aims to teach grandparents raising grandchildren how to create support groups within each other. Both workshops are held via zoom. To register for the two-part workshop, please email colleen.pritoni@mass.gov and make the subject line "Support Group Training."

Workshop 1 will:

- Provide you with information and resources for working with and supporting grandparents and relative caregivers.
- Prepare you to start a new support group specific to kinship caregivers' needs.
- Review ideas for potential guest speakers to your group and future collaborations to support your group.

Workshop 2 will:

- Discuss strategies of facilitating a successful support group.
- Help participants develop an "Action Plan" to get a group started.
- Discuss marketing strategies, the use of social media, and other methods of outreach to grandparents and relative caregivers.

- **Part 1: 2/1/24**
 - **9:00 AM-12:30 PM**
- **Part 2: 2/8/24**
 - **9:00 AM- 12:30 PM**

BOTH WORKSHOPS VIA ZOOM



Let's Celebrate Success

**Nicholas Walther, Operation
Manager at Ellis Early
Learning on his new baby!**



**Ashley Taylor, Operation
Manager at East Boston Social
Center for receiving her MBA!**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Thank you for joining our Neighborhood Newsletter community! We appreciate your contributions and encourage you to share any upcoming program news and highlights with us. Our monthly newsletter is eagerly anticipated by all, so if you have content for the next edition, please send it to lmallett@neighborhoodvillages.org at least two weeks prior to publication. We can't wait to see what you have in store!



Stay Tuned for the February 2024 Newsletter

The Neighborhood News is a digital newsletter by Neighborhood Villages