

Schott Fellowship News

Architects of Change

Volume 3 Issue 11 November 2007



Cornerstones: Strengthening the Foundation of Health and Safety in Early Education and Care

On January 11, 2007, The Schott Fellowship held an exploratory forum on health and safety practices and issues in early childhood programs in Massachusetts. Since then, a distinguished advisory panel has met twice to add to the literature review, analyze suggestions made on January 11th, and prepare a final report with recommendations for policy changes and reforms in practices to improve the health and safety of young children in the Commonwealth.

The Advisory Committee report entitled *Cornerstones: Strengthening the Foundation of Health and Safety in Early Education and Care* can be found on our website at www.schottfellowship.org. We hope that this report will provide you with important information about health and safety. If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at 617-873-0678.

The 2008 Schott Fellowship Interviews Are Complete!

On November 1st & 2nd, eleven volunteers interviewed candidates for the 2008 Schott Fellowship, at Cambridge College. We would like to thank all our volunteers who generously gave their time:

Jennifer Amaya-Thompson, Paula Bowie, Marie Enochty, Marcia Farris, Carol Nolan, Jeannie Parkus, Maria Paulino, Mary Police, Kate Roper, Marta Rosa, Adrienne Welch

Alumni News

Anna Carollo Cross has been appointed to serve on the Framingham Grant Distribution Panel for the Metrowest Community Health Care Foundation. The Foundation funds community health and wellness issues and recently funded several projects targeting early childhood issues such as mental health and childhood obesity.

Costanza Eggers-Pierola is Principal Investigator in an Educational Development Center study of Trinidad and Tobago's early childhood care and education system. She and EDC colleagues are studying and making recommendations for a nationwide reform initiative that aligns standards and practices "from nursery to tertiary."

Patricia White just returned from Chicago where she had the honor of presenting a curriculum workshop at the NAEYC national conference. The workshop had over 100 attendees at the presentation.

Kate Roper was on a workgroup for the Special Commission for After School and Out of School Time. The final report can be found at: <http://www.massafterschoolcomm.org/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 4** Last meeting for 2007 Schott Fellows
- December 12** Principal's site visit to Framingham
- January 15** 9:00 to 5:00 Schott Fellowship Meeting
- January 15** 5:00 to 7:00 PM 2008 Schott Fellows Reception
- January 16** 9:00 to 5:00 Schott Fellowship Meeting

The Schott Fellowship in
Early Care and Education

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Reception for 2008 Schott Fellows

The Schott Fellowship will be hosting its annual reception
to welcome the new 2008 Schott Fellows

January 15 at 5:00 to 7:00 PM

at Cambridge College

1000 Massachusetts Avenue

Cambridge MA

Please RSVP to schottfellowship@yahoo.com by January 7th, 2008

Health and Safety Roundtable

Despite a stormy day, 40 professionals from around the Commonwealth and representing diversity in discipline - early education, child care, medicine and public health - trekked to Cambridge College on November 6, 2007 to participate in the Summit on Health and Safety in Early Childhood Programs. The keynote speaker, Grace-Ann Caruso Whitney, MA, MPA, PhD, Director of the Connecticut Head Start Collaboration Office, shared how Connecticut successfully developed and implemented a comprehensive health and safety system in early childhood programs. Also presenting were Phil Baimas from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care, Sally Fogerty from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and Dr. Michael Yogman, a practicing Massachusetts pediatrician.

Summit participants then separated into three groups to address each of the recommendations set forth in the recent policy statement entitled "Prioritizing Health and Safety in Early Childhood Programs: A Wise Public Investment in School Readiness." These workgroups were facilitated by Nancy Topping-Tailby, Massachusetts Head Start Association, Kate Roper, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Carol Nolan, Somerville/Cambridge Head Start and Mary Police, Building Blocks. The summit was organized by 2007 Schott Fellows Sonia Carter, ABCD Head Start and Children's Services; Jeannie Parkus, Cambridge Public Schools; and Pamela Tames, Esq., Medical-Legal Partnership for Children, Boston Medical Center.