

# THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## Neighborhood Villages

As the year comes to a close, it is important to reminisce on all of the big and small accomplishments that have transpired. The work that each of you has done in your respective programs has not gone unnoticed; we are continually grateful for your dedication to the children, families, and colleagues that you serve. Through these last few weeks of 2023, we are all in it together; we will make it through, and we will make it great.

Through this jam-packed issue, we will highlight exciting events that have occurred and are on the horizon. We have featured several trainings that are rapidly approaching, each focusing on different developmental challenges related to working with diverse children and families. Join us as we seek higher knowledge to administer care best.

There will be chaos and worries when working with families and children, but we must look to each other for support. The bonds we form with each other further offer encouragement to keep going in the face of hardships. As in our previous issue, gratitude will be a recurring theme. It is nearly impossible to remember this year without remembering the joy and the chaos that ensued. Remember, you have all accomplished outstanding achievements this year. Take care of yourself and each other as we finish the year on a high note. Thank you for being an integral asset to our dynamic community this year!

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season,

Cassidy Murphy, Tufts University, MA Child Studies and Human Development Candidate and Neighborhood Villages Intern 2023-2024



### Neighborhood Community of Practice Session

#### *FINAL PROGRAM TOUR*

Our next Operation Manager and Family Navigator COP will be:

Date: Thursday, December 21, 2023

Location: Nurture Learning LAB- 33 Bickford St, JP, MA

Time: 10:00AM -12:30PM



**URGENT: Let Your Families Know!**



**JOIN US!**

# Winter Wonderfest

**DECEMBER 9TH**

**2:00 - 5:00 PM**

**☉ EPIPHANY MIDDLE SCHOOL  
154 CENTRE ST, BOSTON, MA 02124**

**Festive Food | Photo Booth  
Music DJ | Giveaways  
Family Activities**



## COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE



We had a marvelous time during our **November Family Navigation and Community of Practice Meeting at Ellis Early Learning Center**. Your facilities were fabulous to walk through. The artwork on every corner was a highlight and beacon of fantastic work that was being done. The STEM rooms, reading corners, and open gym provide incredible spaces for young children to learn and grow. Thank you once again for your incredible hospitality!

Our time with Fresh Connect was essential for both us and the families we serve. We now understand the power of the platform and how to extract the data for program usage. This program will continue to assist our families that are in dire need of funding for food. The excitement that Erin had while touring Ellis with us further proves that our work in early education is essential.

Again, special appreciation to **Frances Velazquez, Family Navigator, and Nik Walther, Operation Manager**, for arranging our visit and welcoming all of us as colleagues. Thank you for hosting us in your beautiful facilities. We're grateful for the opportunity to learn from your impactful organization. We are looking forward to continued collaboration!

# Teaching and Learning

On the first day of the November 2023 NAEYC Annual Conference, the Teaching and Learning Team at Neighborhood Villages had the fantastic opportunity to present their highly anticipated new Toddler Curriculum. Over 7,000 educators, policymakers, advocates, researchers, and ECE business owners gathered to attend the NAEYC event. ***The presentation was led by three experts: Pamela Thompson, Director of Teaching and Learning; Sarah Elahi, Curriculum Manager; and Karen Peterkin, Toddler Curriculum Coach.***

There were over 100 educators at the toddler curriculum presentation, and the room was filled with the buzz of excitement and anticipation palpable in the air. Attendees were eager to learn about the new curriculum, and the team did not disappoint. The presentation was a resounding success, with participants expressing enthusiasm and appreciation for the team's hard work and dedication in developing this innovative curriculum. As we enter 2024, the Teaching and Learning Team at Neighborhood Villages will share more information about the Toddler Curriculum, so stay tuned for updates!



# 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



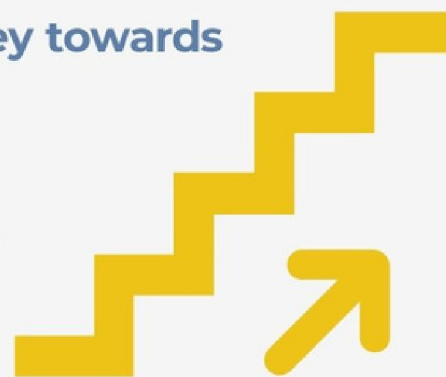
For Early Childhood Educators working in Boston, we offer:

- 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!**

Khadiga Hassan  
Community Partnerships Project Manager  
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# EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

This free, five-episode virtual conversation series offers a warm and inviting opportunity to connect with other parents and families of children with differences in or challenges to their development. Through a series of conversations with parents of children with developmental differences, challenges, or disabilities, we will explore the unique as well as common experiences of loving and raising children whose developmental process and journey is delayed or atypical.

**The series will run on five Mondays from through December 18, 2023, from 3 to 4 PM ET / 12 to 1 PM PT.** All episodes are one hour with live Spanish translation and closed captioning available.

## HOPE VS. DENIAL SESSION 4: PARENTING WHILE RISING TO CHILD DEVELOPMENTAL CHALLENGES



**Parenting While Rising to Child Developmental Challenges**

**Hope versus Denial**

with Roxanne Hoke-Chandler,  
Mother, Early Childhood Systems Coordinator for Family Engagement and Training at the Department of Public Health

**Monday, December 4, 2023**  
3 - 4 PM ET / 12 - 1 PM PT



**Paternidad al Enfrentarse a los Desafíos del Desarrollo Infantil**

**La esperanza frente a la negación**

con Roxanne Hoke-Chandler,  
Madre, Coordinadora de Sistemas para la Primera Infancia para el Compromiso Familiar y la Formación del Departamento de Salud Pública

**Lunes, 4 de Diciembre, 2023**  
3 - 4 PM ET / 12 - 1 PM PT

This series is moderated by Jayne Singer, Ph.D., IECMHC-E® (Center of Excellence for Infant and Early Child Mental Health Consultation), Director of Developmental and Relational Health at the Brazelton Touchpoints Center.



## You still have time for Episode 5!

### Episode 5: Disability, Culture, and Equity

Monday, December 18, 2023, 3-4 PM ET / 12-1 PM PT



**Parenting While Rising to Child Developmental Challenges**

**A Family to Family Real Talk Conversation**

October 12, 2023  
12 - 1 pm ET / 9 - 10 am PT

October 23, November 6,  
December 4 & 18, 2023  
3 - 4 pm ET / 12 - 1 pm PT



**LEARN**

**MORE**



# EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

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**ZERO TO THREE**  
LEARN

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.

**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.

- **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](mailto: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> \*

SIMMONS UNIVERSITY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
BOSTON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

SEEKS BIPOC APPLICANTS FOR THE :

# WORKFORCE WELLBEING EMPOWERMENT PROJECT



**APPLY  
HERE!**

FREE professional training which aims to add to the capacity of the mental health workforce serving Boston area children and families impacted by trauma

Applications due December 20, 2023

## WHAT WE'RE OFFERING: TRAINING DATES:

- 15 hours of free training for BIPOC mental health workers
  - Certificate in Workforce Wellbeing from Simmons University
  - \$250 Stipend & 15 CEUs
- January 22, 2024, 5pm-6:30pm
  - January 29, 2024, 5pm-8pm
  - February 5, 2024, 5pm-8pm
  - February 12, 2024, 5pm-8pm
  - February 26, 2024, 5pm-8pm
  - March 4, 2024, 5pm-6:30pm

\*Eastern Standard Time





## 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 [athomas@neighborhoodvillages.org](mailto:athomas@neighborhoodvillages.org) at least two weeks prior to publication. We can't wait to see what you have in store!



Stay Tuned for the January 2024 Newsletter

The Neighborhood is a digital newsletter by Neighborhood Villages