

PRESS RELEASE

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Berkshire Child Care Leader Retiring After 39 Years

The Board of Directors of Child Care of the Berkshires (CCB) announces that Anne Nemetz-Carlson, President and CEO, will be retiring at the end of September 2022, after leading the organization for the past 39 years and a search for a new leader is underway. Nemetz-Carlson has been a strong leader in promoting high quality early education and care for young children and vulnerable parents. In 1983, Nemetz-Carlson joined CCB after serving five years as the Director of the Williamstown Community Day Care. Over the years, Nemetz-Carlson has expanded the programming of the Agency and diversified its funding to create a more stable and sustainable agency that has a large and positive impact in the community.

Anne Guest, President of the CCB Board commented: Anne is a phenomenal leader and a wonderful person and has always had the best interest of the children, family, and employees of CCB in her sight. I wish her a well-earned and wonderful retirement, as does the whole Board.

Nemetz-Carlson firmly believes that early education is extremely important and that the parent is the child's first and most important teacher. Under her leadership, CCB expanded its programming to provide additional family engagement opportunities and support. CCB opened a Family Center that offers parent education and support to all parents, an early literacy home-visiting program for 2 and 3 year olds, and a home visiting parent support program for first-time parents under the age of 21 years. Nemetz-Carlson is a strong advocate for high quality child care programs, access for low-income children and improved compensation for educators and family support specialists who work with this high-risk population.

Dick Alcombright, a grandfather and former mayor of North Adams reflected: "Through Anne's leadership, CCB has grown to be the leader in community-based child care in Berkshire County and beyond. Her passion for excellence in programming and care is only exceeded by the love she has for those she serves....the children. Having my granddaughter at CCB for the past 5 years, I witnessed all she has built and watched my little girl embraced each day in the love and care that is provided at CCB. I wish Anne health and happiness in the many years ahead.

One major accomplishment over the past several years is the coordination of the transformation of the former Haskins Elementary School in North Adams that houses the Monument Square Early Childhood Center and many of its family support programs. Nemetz-Carlson worked tirelessly to secure public and private funding and to create an up-to-date, accessible, welcoming and beautiful environment for children and families.

Nemetz-Carlson stated: “I have been fortunate and honored to work at such a dynamic, caring and effective agency, supported by a talented and dedicated group of employees who advance the organization’s mission every day. I will miss this work which I have enjoyed immensely and I am assured that the Board will chose a leader who will maintain CCB’s significant and active role in the community.

Liz Costley, former Chair of the CCB Board, stated that Nemetz-Carlson has transformed Child Care of the Berkshires through visionary leadership, fierce commitment and wide-ranging advocacy. Future generations will continue to benefit from her leadership and passion in the years to come.

CCB’s Board is currently in search of a new President/CEO. The job posting is found on Indeed.com and on the CCB website.

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Child Care of the Berkshires (CCB) is a large not-for-profit human services corporation located in Berkshire County in Western MA. Its mission is to strengthen families through the provision of high quality child care, education, support services and advocacy. CCB works primarily with low-income, high-risk populations. CCB improves the social welfare of children and families through a variety of programs that include child care centers, a network of family child care providers, home visiting programs, and family engagement activities. It employs approximately 75 – 90 full and part-time employees. Its budget is approximately \$4.5M.