

moaeyc Missouri Association for the
Education of Young Children

An Affiliate of **naeyc**[®]



Annual Report 2024-2025

Annual Report

December 2025



Our Mission

The Missouri Association for the Education of Young Children (MOAEOYC) promotes high-quality early learning for all children, birth through age eight (8), by connecting practice, policy, and research. We advance a diverse, dynamic early childhood profession and support all who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children.

Our members are connected through a network of local chapters that share MOAEOYC's and NAEYC's goals in working on behalf of young children and early childhood professionals.

Our work is driven by five strategic priorities and goals outlined by NAEYC:

Priority: High-Quality Early Learning

- **Goal:** *Children birth through age 8 have equitable access to developmentally appropriate, high-quality early learning.*

Priority: The Profession

- **Goal:** *The early childhood education profession exemplifies excellence and is recognized as vital and performing a critical role in society.*

Priority: Organizational Advancement

- **Goal:** *NAEOYC is a highly valued, credible, and visible organization.*

Priority: Organizational Excellence

- **Goal:** *NAEOYC reflects excellence in all aspects of organizational health and vitality.*

Priority: Leadership and Innovation

- **Goal:** *NAEOYC cultivates leadership and incubates innovative strategies that propel the field, profession, and systems of early learning.*

BOARD ACTION



Lisa Thompson,
MOAEOYC President
2024-2025

MOAEOYC C.A.R.E.S.

C– Community
A– Advocacy
R– Resources
E– Events
S– Supports

One of the most significant achievements of the past year was MOAEOYC becoming the first NAEYC affiliate to expand its service area beyond state boundaries. Working alongside leaders from the KC Chapters of MO and KS, MOAEOYC requested to include the counties that had been the GKC Chapter of KSAEOYC after KSAEOYC dissolved their Affiliate last year. The NAEYC board approved the plans in June 2025, and the expansion marked a new step for MOAEOYC to support and hopefully strengthened the connection among members in both Kansas City, MO and Kansas City, KS.

The MOAEOYC board participated in two day-long meetings with the NAEYC Affiliate Relations staff this year. These sessions marked the beginning of a collaborative process aimed at:

- ◆ Strengthening the affiliate,
- ◆ Developing an updated strategic plan,
- ◆ Creating a succession plan for the Executive Director position.

Board members provided over 450+ hours of in-kind service to the organization which included board and committee service as well as collaborative engagements with these organizations:

- ◆ Kids Win MO,
- ◆ MO United for Children,
- ◆ United Way of Jefferson City,
- ◆ PBS Early Learning Advisory Board.

MOAEOYC prioritized member education by providing information at multiple venues about the:

- ◆ New NAEYC membership model,
- ◆ New NAEYC Accreditation process,
- ◆ Development of the NAEYC and MOAEOYC C.A.R.E.S. documents.

MOAEOYC engaged with more than 1,100 individuals through six in-person events—including celebrations, trainings, a reception, chapter gatherings, and one online information session for ECE students at MU.

Looking ahead to the 2025-2026 year, plans are underway for:

- ◆ 3-4 regional conferences,
- ◆ Building a MOAEOYC board speakers bureau,
- ◆ Developing a chapter tool kit,
- ◆ Continuing the strategic planning and succession planning goals identified in June 2025.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT



In Oct 2024 NAEYC Senior Director of Affiliate Relations, Gwen Simmons, and the Affiliate Relations Specialist, Jordan Christian, spend the day with the MOAIEYC Board in Columbia. The day together promoted clarity and continuity to the relationship between NAEYC and MOAIEYC, and the responsibilities of individual board members to the organization.

Board members spent the day together reconnecting, reflecting, and developing the first steps towards a new strategic plan to address the changing times in the ECE community and the opportunities for the MOAIEYC organization. Discussion included looking for the voids in the ECE community that might be filled by MOAIEYC. A list was developed of potential collaborative organizations, and next steps included looking at comparators' and determining stakeholder interviews, which would be conducted by various board members.

The board was strengthened through the questions, guidance, and opportunities for personal interactions, as well as the opportunity for the board to focus on the future and what that could hold.



The commitment and energy of the NAEYC staff was very contagious, and board members left feeling energized and ready to continue the work that lies ahead in updating the strategic plan and identifying the top priorities for MOAIEYC.



(Left to right) Row 1 : Derek Krogh; Row 2: Jordan Christian, Ronda Chesney, Darla Wells; Row 3: Nicci Rexroat, Gwen Simmons, Cindy Imhauser; Row 4: Lisa Thompson, Sandy Seipel, Stacy Johnson

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS –Phase I

In early 2025 a board self assessment from the New Hampshire Center for Non-profit Organizations was conducted to give clarity to the areas of MOAEYC that each individual board member felt were strong, and which areas needed attention. After those results were compiled and shared with NAEYC, the NAEYC Affiliate Relations team met again with the board in June 2025 to review the complete survey, and to pull out the specific areas the board felt were the top priorities.

Three specific areas emerged, and committees were formed to continue the work of addressing those needs. Those committees are :

- Succession Planning
- Board Membership and Orientation
- Fundraising

By days end the board had a clearer picture on the next steps between now and the next meeting with the NAEYC team –or Phase II of the strategic and succession planning process.



Row 1: Nicci Rexroat, Darla Wells, Ronda Chesney, Jami Swindell, Samantha Lacefield

Row 2: Gwen Simmons, Judy Simpson, Mackenzie Cindy Imhauser, Sandy Seipel, Jordan Christian

Row 3: Travis Davis, Derek Krogh, Lisa Thompson, Michelle Mathews

As a part of the days activities, board members recorded their description of the boards strongest characteristics, made a paper airplane, and “sailed” those thoughts together, before sharing them with the group.



GOVERNANCE



Lisa Thompson
MOAEYC President
2023-2025
St. Louis, MO

Lisa served as President until Sept 1, 2025, when she became the Past President of the MOAEYC Board until Aug 31, 2026



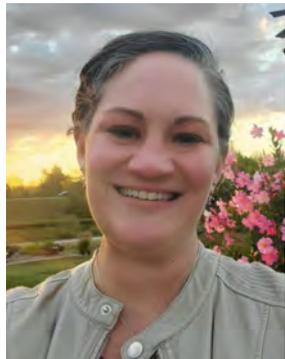
Nicci Rexroat
MOAEYC President-Elect 2024-2025
President 2025-2027
Holts Summit, MO

Nicci assumed the role of President -Elect on Sept 1, 2024, and then became the Board President on Sept 1, 2025.



Darla Wells
MOAEYC Vice President
2025-2027
Newburg, MO

Darla was re-elected in the 2025 governing board elections and continued her position on Sept 1, 2025



Jami Swindell
MOAEYC Secretary
2025-2027
Rolla, MO

Jami was elected in the 2025 governing board elections and took her position on Sept 1, 2025

FINANCIAL

FY23 Financial Report (9/01/24-08/31/25)

INCOME	Membership Dues	15,415.16
	Advocacy Donation and Book sales	1,218.86
	Conference/trainings	2,457.60
	Director Credential	250.00
	Board Donations	508.23
	Conference on the Young Years	4,134.67
	Released funds from dissolved chapter	1,833.22
	Chapter training	389.79
	Job Board postings	76.42
	KRT Funds moved from investments (CYY Bash, PPF & CAD)	8,000.00
	TOTAL	\$ 34,283.95
EXPENSES	Annual SOS Registration	53.53
	Office Supplies	109.98
	PO Box rental	256.00
	Phone	137.28
	Insurance-D&O and Liability	1,120.87
	Zoom	159.00
	Board Training	942.27
	Contract Services	30,000.00
	Website hosting/maintenance/program	371.68
	Public Policy Forum	1,788.69
	Child Advocacy Day	801.76
	Conference on the Young Years	7,668.13
	TOTAL	\$ 43,409.19

ASSETS	
MOAEYC Checking Account	\$ 69,823.28
MOAEYC Reserve fund	\$ 12,036.79
Total MOAEYC	\$ 81,860.07
Kathy Thornburg Leadership Funds (overseen by MOAEYC)	\$ 195,624.59
Total	\$ 277,484.66

COMMUNITY

Early Childhood Professional Awards

- ◆ The second Annual Early Childhood Professional Awards recognized outstanding ECE educators in various categories, with five recipients accepting their awards at the Bash event.

Categories Include:

- ✓ Infant-Toddler Teacher
- ✓ Preschool Teacher
- ✓ K-3 Teacher
- ✓ Administrator
- ✓ Young Professional
- ✓ Emerging Leader
- ✓ Advocacy



(Left to right) Bailey Austin (Early Childhood Preschool), Erica Buck (Early Childhood K-3), Samantha Lacefield (ECE Emerging Early Learning Leader), Casey Hanson, for Kids Win Missouri (Advocacy), Rachel Allison (Early Childhood Administrator), (not pictured – Madelyn Dorenbusch (Early Childhood Infant Toddler)

New Chapters Added

- ◆ In 2025, MOAIEYC added two new chapters,
 - ⇒ Lexington Chapter (NW MO)
 - ⇒ Jefferson County Chapter (SE MO)

CYY BASH

- ◆ Building on last year's success, this year's CYY Bash introduced a MOAIEYC branded picnic blanket for the first 50 members to arrive. The MOAIEYC picnic blanket was a popular addition and served as a visible symbol of belonging within the organization.



Week of the Young Child Proclamation

- ◆ In April 2025, MO Governor Mike Kehoe signed a Proclamation proclaiming April 5-11, 2025 as Week of the Young Child. Members of the board met with him in his office to receive the proclamation during Child Advocacy Day.



Board Service

- ◆ Part of the board's 450+ hours of in-kind service included collaborations with organizations such as:
 - ◆ Kids Win MO,
 - ◆ MO United for Children,
 - ◆ United Way of Jefferson City,
 - ◆ PBS Early Learning Advisory Board.

ADVOCACY



ADVOCACY:

Advocacy is an activity by an individual or group which aims to influence decisions within political, economic, and social systems and institutions.

- ◆ Several board members attended the NAEYC 2025 Public Policy Forum, followed by meetings with Missouri Rep. Emanuel Cleaver and staff from various other offices.
- ◆ Many members participated in the 43rd Annual Child Advocacy Day in Jefferson City, MO. MOAEYC was a co-sponsor of the event, hosted an information table in the Capitol Rotunda and distributed stickers that read, “Is it good for the children?”



- ◆ One board member testified multiple times before the MO legislature on topics related to early childhood education in MO.
- ◆ One board member authored an op-ed about Early Childhood Education needs that was published during Week of the Young Child.
- ◆ Seven MOAEYC members met with MO Governor, Mike Kehoe, in his office during Child Advocacy Day. They answered his questions and addressed issues related to Missouri’s child care needs and concerns, and also accepted a Week of the Young Child Proclamation.



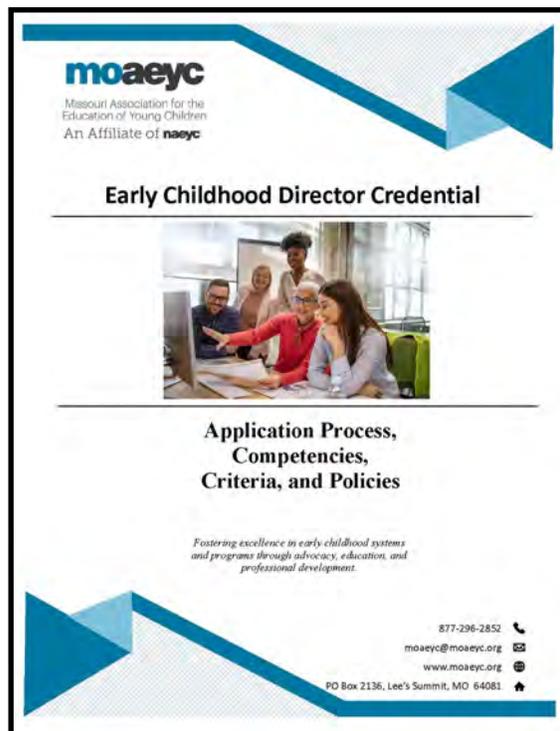
RESOURCES

Early Childhood Director's Credential Revised in 2024

The revised MOAIEYC Missouri Early Childhood Director Credential now aligns to the current NAEYC Standards and Competencies as well as the Missouri Administrator's career pathways.

To earn the Credential, candidates demonstrate competency by documenting their education, experience, and professional affiliation in a state approved professional organization. Educational requirements included coursework in early childhood education or child development and administration coursework which demonstrates competency in the areas of professionalism, leadership, or management.

Individuals who earned the **full** Credential in the past are eligible to apply for the new **Lifetime Credential**. More information and the application form can be found on the MOAIEYC website.



Other Affiliate Resources

- ◆ The Social Media Committee enhanced engagement across Facebook, Instagram, and X by introducing the “Snap of the Week” initiative, which highlights local activities, and recognizes members’ accomplishments
- ◆ The MOAIEYC Facebook page currently has 747 followers
- ◆ The eight Chapter pages and the ECE Directors page on Face Book have an additional 1,007 followers.
- ◆ The MOAIEYC UPDATE (e-news) serves as the primary channel for keeping members and former members informed of current



news, board decisions, training announcements, and statewide event invitations.

- ◆ In the past year, twelve issues of the MOAIEYC UPDATE and eight special editions with specific focuses (i.e. elections, trainings, advocacy, etc.) were distributed via more than 12,300 emails, and achieved an average open rate of 35%.
- ◆ In December 2025 a new MOAIEYC website was released, and includes many features not offered in the previous version, including adaptive screens and search features.
- ◆ The MOAIEYC website on average has approximately 6,500 monthly visits.



RESOURCES

NAEYC Accreditation

Programs that pursue NAEYC Accreditation join a community invested in ensuring quality early learning opportunities for young children everywhere.

NAEYC Accredited early learning programs are exceptionally well equipped and meticulously measured for indicators of quality in the classroom and beyond. From guidelines for teacher preparation through safety standards, NAEYC Accreditation ensures that programs are safe, well prepared, and intentional about ensuring children's success. As a reputable indicator of quality, NAEYC Accreditation correlates with children's greater readiness and success in school and beyond; increased educational attainment rates; and overall healthier lifestyles.



Currently there are seventy four NAEYC Accredited facilities across the state of Missouri. Congratulations go out to these child care facilities in Missouri that have successfully achieved or renewed their NAEYC Accreditation in the 2024-2025 fiscal year. You are making a difference in the lives of children and families every day!

A search box to locate NAEYC Accredited programs across the USA can be found on the NAEYC [website](#), along with more information about the accreditation process and requirements .

Programs in Missouri that received NAEYC Accreditation this year

Florissant Valley Child Development Center of St. Louis Community College	Saint Louis
United Cerebral Palsy Heartland Child Development Center	Columbia
Kids International Early Childhood Education Center	Ellisville
Moberly Head Start	Hannibal
Ozarks Technical Community College Early Childhood Education Center	Springfield
Kingdom Kare, LLC d/b/a Learning and Fun Preschool	Kansas City
TodayCare Children's Center - SSA	Saint Louis
Hazelwood KinderCare	Hazelwood
N. St. Peters KinderCare	Saint Peters
Gerner Family Early Education Center	Kansas City
Kirkwood West KinderCare	Kirkwood
KinderCare Learning Centers-Weldon Spring	Saint Peters
Yellowjacket Early Learning Center	Kansas City
Superior Children's Center	Farmington
Hilltop Child Development Center	Saint Louis
Ries Ballwin KinderCare	Ballwin
The Children's Place	Kansas City
Edgar L. and Rheta A. Berkley Child & Family Development Ctr	Kansas City

EVENTS

moaeyc Missouri Association for the Education of Young Children

Presents:

Dr. Walter Gilliam
 Oct 5, 2024
 ★ 1:00-3:00 p.m. ★
 Columbia, MO

Challenging Behaviors Are in the Eyes of the Beholders: How Our Expectations about Misbehavior May Determine Who Gets Expelled




National Speaker, Dr. Walter Gilliam



- ◆ In October 2024, MOAEOYC hosted Dr. Walter Gilliam at a reception in Columbia, MO prior to a training session. The event took place at the home of Kathy Thornburg (former President of NAEYC 2000-2002).



Sixty people attend the events, including two NAEYC Affiliate Relations Staff. Participants earned 2 (two) clock hours of professional development training approved in MO.



EVENTS

Play to Learn Summit

- MOAEOYC and UCM co-hosted the second annual "Play to Learn Summit" in the KC area, and provided five sessions focused on the value and importance of play. More than forty participants engaged in hands on activities and "play", as well as valuable discussions, and earned 6 (six) clock hours of professional development training approved in MO and KS.



Play to Learn Summit



September 21, 2024
7:45 AM to 3:45 PM

Missouri Innovation Campus
1101 NW Innovation Parkway
Lee's Summit, MO 64086

Presented by the
Missouri Association for the Education of Young Children
and the University of Central Missouri Early Childhood Program

Focused on the value of play, the Play to Learn Summit offers all early childhood providers, educators and leaders an opportunity to enhance their skills and share their experiences in a professional atmosphere, while gaining six clock hours of approved professional development training in Missouri and Kansas.

Opening Keynote Speaker
Serious About Play: Play as an Equity Issue
Dr. Tom Sturdivant, MARC Early Learning Director

Fostering Creativity and Social Emotional Development through Literacy
Dr. Miki Trnjacki, President/CEO of Childhood Today

Promoting Joyful, Engaged Learning with the Four Types of Play
Ms. Carol Bolt, MARC Head Start Education Manager

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health: It Starts at the Top
Ms. Michelle Litt, Safe Babies Community Coordinator and Ms. Dana Perry, Kansas City Regional Director Missouri First Steps

Inspiring Student Engagement: Project Based Learning and Digital Play
Ms. Nicole Petzet, Pre-K Teacher Liberty Public Schools

Register for the conference at:
<https://moaeyc.org/summit2024>



REGISTRATION CLOSSES SEPTEMBER 12

Cost (Includes Lunch):

NAEYC Members
\$55 online by September 12

Non-members
\$85 online by September 12

Young Professional NAEYC Member \$20
Young Professional Non-member \$50

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moaeyc@moaeyc.org

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EVENTS

MOAEYC "BASH "

- ◆ For the third year, MOAEYC organized an evening event featuring music, dancing, food, door prizes, and activities during the "Bash" at the 52nd Annual Conference on the Young Years (CYY), which is the largest early childhood conference in Missouri sponsored by DESE. Participation in the Bash has grown each year, reaching over 1,000 in attendance this year. In addition to the scheduled activities, Lakeshore contributed door prizes and gift items for participants.

Participants came in all kinds of Mardi Gras attire and danced the night away while having FUN!!



EVENTS

LEXINGTON CHAPTER
moaeyc
Missouri Association for the Education of Young Children

~ Presents ~
What are the Benefits of "Play-Centered" Learning Environments?

**Feb 8, 2025
9:00-11:00 a.m.**

**Lexington 4-Life Center
811 S Business Hwy 13
Lexington, MO**
(between Dollar Store & Lexington Subway)

The Necessity of Play
When young children engage in genuine play, they are building crucial skills in social, emotional, language, cognitive, physical development and more. This session will give participants an overview of types of play, ideas on how to create an environment that encourages play, and how to support children in their play.

Shelli Lee
Early Childhood Educator, Consultant and Project Construct Facilitator

Creating A Playful Environment To Promote Children's Learning
Explore resources and strategies to organize playful learning environments that include intentional planning for interesting materials, prop boxes and opportunities to observe children in play.

Karin Snider, PhD
Associate Professor Early Childhood Education, University of Central Missouri

2 hours of approved professional development in Missouri

For Registration Form and Payment Link Scan QR code or go to:
https://www.moaeyc.org/Lexington_Training.php

Before Feb 1	\$15.00
Feb 1-Feb 7	\$20.00
Onsite	\$25.00

This training is being offered in support of a book study the Lexington Chapter has begun, using the Dr. David Elkind book "The Power of Play". For more information about the book study and the Lexington Chapter visit their webpage at: https://www.moaeyc.org/Lexington_Chapter.php

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moaeyc@moaeyc.org www.moaeyc.org

- ◆ Lexington Chapter led a training on "What are the Benefits of Play-Centered Learning Environments", which provided 2 hours of approved professional development training hours.

- ◆ The newest chapter -Jefferson County Chapter of MOAEEYC held a "get acquainted meeting" on Nov 12, 2026, and the main agenda item centered around hosting a local conference next year.

Please join us for an ECE community event!

TRUNK TREAT

26 OCTOBER

Location- Nicholas Career Center
655 Union St. Jefferson City MO.
12-2pm

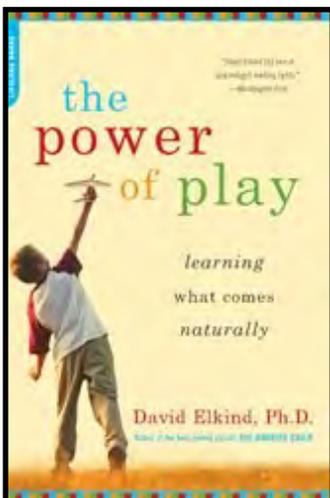
Please reach out to us at the email below to register or for more information
kurt.hafley@unitedwaycemo.org

United Way
United Way of Central Missouri

NICHOLS CAREER CENTER

MID-MISSOURI CHAPTER moaeyc
Missouri Association for the Education of Young Children

- ◆ The Mid-Missouri Chapter co-hosted their 2nd Trunk-or-Treat event with several other organizations in the Jefferson City area, and the turn-out of providers and participants was huge.



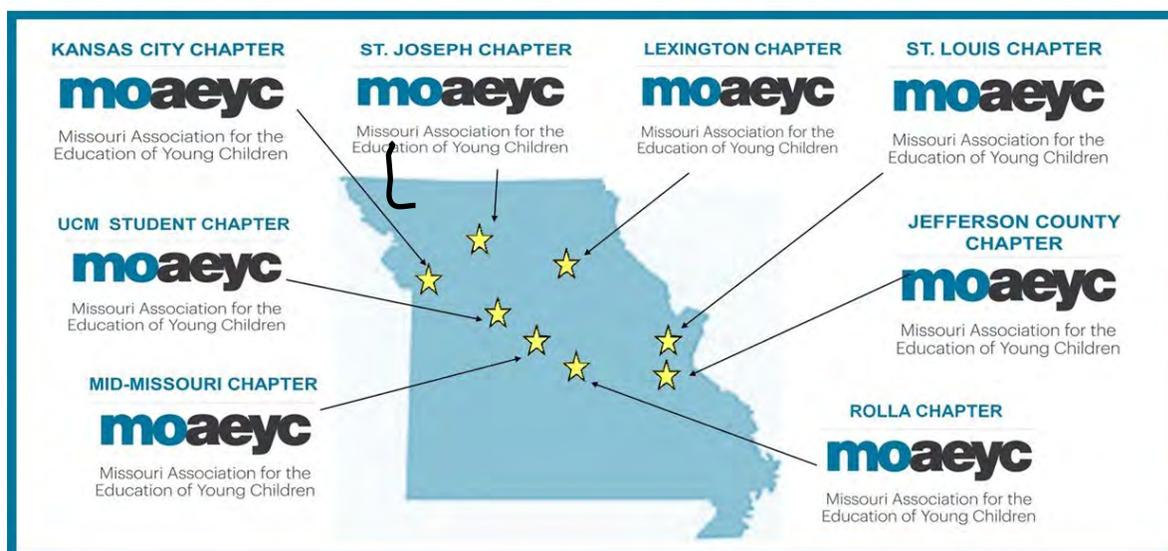
- ◆ The Lexington Chapter began a book study around the David Elkind Book "The Power of Play", and held several chapter meetings using this as the focus.



SUPPORT

- ◆ Information tables have been provided at multiple locations to answer questions about the new NAEYC/MOAEYC membership model implemented in April 2025.
- ◆ An information poster and handouts were provided at CYY to highlight the new Accreditation steps and levels in the revised NAEYC Accreditation system.
- ◆ Bi-monthly Chapter Chats remained open to all leaders and prospective chapter founders, focusing on collaboration between local chapters and MOAEYC in advocacy, professional development, and member engagement. These meetings continue, highlighting the importance of sharing ideas across chapters.
- ◆ A committee was formed to develop a comprehensive Chapter Tool Kit, aiming to provide essential resources and best practices for effective chapter growth and statewide consistency.
- ◆ An accreditation chair was added to the board to support the new NAEYC Accreditation model
- ◆ The revised Director Credential was rolled out, and trainings have been conducted at CYY to share the changes and provide support for potential applicants.
- ◆ A “members” gift of a picnic blanket was given to the first 50 MOAEYC members to verify their current membership at the CYY Mardi Gras Bash.
- ◆ Thank-you cards were sent to all NAEYC Accredited center directors in Missouri during Week of the Young Child, to thank them and their staff for providing and supporting quality early childhood programming.
- ◆ In the past year two new chapters were approved:
 - Lexington Chapter (NW MO)
 - Jefferson County Chapter (SE MO)
- ◆ During Week of the Young Child thank-you notes were sent to all centers in MO with NAEYC Accreditation, acknowledging their important contributions and support for quality care in the early childhood community.

Current MOAEYC Chapters Support Educators



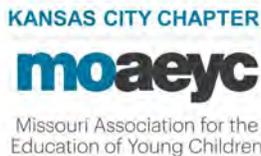
SUPPORT

MOAEYC Membership Service Area Expands

- ◆ MOAEYC becoming the first NAEYC affiliate to expand its service area beyond state boundaries when it invited four counties in Kansas to officially become part of the Kansas City Chapter of MOAEYC.

Kansas Counties Now Included:

- Leavenworth
- Miami
- Johnson
- Wyandotte



Historical Background

In June of 2024, the KSAEYC surrendered their NAEYC charter, which left members of the Greater Kansas City Chapter of Kansas without the ability to sponsor events and trainings, and to function as a Chapter any longer.

Because the GKC Chapter of MO and the GKC Chapter of KS have worked together closely for many years, bringing trainings and board leadership to the Kansas City area, MOAEYC wanted to continue supporting this bi-state work and sponsorship of events for all NAEYC members in the greater Kansas City area.

The MOAEYC board contacted NAEYC with a plan to continue supporting GKC Chapter members in the future, and working closely with the KC Chapter board leaders, submitted

a request for expansion of their service area to NAEYC.

In April 2025, the NAEYC Governing Board approved the expansion of MOAEYC's service delivery area to include Miami, Leavenworth, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties in Kansas.

MOAEYC welcomed former KSAEYC members to MOAEYC, and look forward to continuing to provide member programs and services, networking, and bringing high quality early childhood professional development and member events to the Kansas City area.

The KC Chapter board, with leadership from both sides of the state line, will become one united chapter of MOAEYC, making the voice of the chapter stronger and united in their mission to serve the area.

DONORS and SUPPORTERS

Giving Back to Their Community

The talented Auto Tech juniors from North County Tech High School in the St. Louis area, turned their wrenches into a way to give back!

By putting their skills to work servicing vehicles they raised \$715 to donate to an organization of their choosing.

After a presentation by one of their own students (the only female in the class), they voted to make that donation to MOAEYC, and proudly presented their donation to Lisa Thompson, President of the Missouri affiliate on May 23, 2025.



DONATIONS

\$1,000.00	\$500	\$20.00- \$250.00
UCM (CYY Bash)	MU (CYY Bash)	NW MO State University (CYY Bash)
	Molly Koebbe (Advocacy)	Nicci Rexroat (CYY Bash)
\$700+	Spatial Data Research Inc. Marian Kammerer	Lisa Thompson
North County Tech		MOAEYC Board Members (multiple)



Kathy Thornburg (KRT) Leadership Funds



Kathy Thornburg
Columbia, MO

KRT funds continued supporting advocacy, membership and leadership training during the year, by:

- ◆ Funding a team of Missouri board members and other advocates to participate in the Feb 2025 Public Policy Forum in Washington, D.C.
- ◆ Providing a sponsorship for the MO Child Advocacy Day
- ◆ Funding a MOAEYC information table at the MO Child Advocacy Day in Jefferson City on April 2, 2025 - including stickers for participants at CYY to wear as they visited with their local representatives.
- ◆ Providing supporting funds to the MOAEYC Governing Board to host and train with the Affiliate Relations staff from NAEYC in Columbia.
- ◆ Promoting membership awareness and engagement at the annual MOAEYC Bash at the Conference on the Young Years.

GOVERNING BOARD (Sept 2024– Aug 2025)



Lisa Thompson
St. Louis, MO

- President
- Quality Specialist - QAR, UMKC



Nicci Rexroat
Holts Summit, MO

- President–elect
- Owner, A Place to Grow



Darla Wells
Newburg, MO

- Vice President
- ECSE Teacher, Rolla Public Schools



Ronda Chesney
St. Joseph, MO

- Secretary
- Advanced Instructor, MO Western State University



Michelle Mathews
Columbia, MO

- Treasurer
- Associate Teaching Professor, MU



Stacy Johnson
St. Louis, MO

- Parliamentarian
- Chief Program Officer/ Head Start Director



Mackenzie Grayson
St. Louis, MO

- Public Policy Chair
- Director of Advocacy & Engagement, Gateway Early Childhood Alliance



Sandy Seipel
Ravenwood, MO

- CYY Chair
- Assistant Professor Northwest Missouri State University



Samantha Lacefield
Holts Summit, MO

- Ad hoc Committee Chair
- Co-owner /Teacher, A Place to Grow



Judy Simpson
St. Louis, MO

- Accreditation Chair
- President/COO, TodayCare Children's Centers



Sherrita Hurst
Kansas City MO

- Regional At-Large-Rep
- ECE Teacher, KS Public School District



Sam Schissler
Leawood, KS

- Regional At-Large-Rep
- Educational Consultant/ Kaplan



Megan Murray
Kansas City, MO

- Regional At-Large-Rep
- Outreach and Advocacy Coordinator, KidsWin Missouri



Derek Krogh
Springfield, MO

- Regional At-Large-Rep
- Regional Manager, Lakeshore Learning



Cindy Imhauser
Lee's Summit, MO

- Executive Director

We're on the Web:
<http://www.moaeyc.org>

2025-2026 Calendar

- November 19-22, 2025 -NAEYC Conference –Orlando
- February 22-24, 2026 -Public Policy Forum– Washington, D.C.
- March 5-7, 2026 -Conference on the Young Years (CYY) -Tan-Tar-A
- March 6, 2026 – MOAEYC Annual BASH at CYY
- March 25, 2026 - MO Advocacy Day– Jefferson City, MO
- April 11, 2026—MOAEYC Regional Conference—Lee’s Summit, MO
- April 11-17, 2026 - Week of the Young Child (WOYC)
- July 24, 2026 –MOAEYC 50th Anniversary
- December 5-8, 2026 - NAEYC Conference -Washington, D.C.

MOAEYC
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Lee's Summit, MO 64081

Toll free phone:
877.296.2852

Email:
missouriaeyc@gmail.com

Website:
<http://www.moaeyc.org>

Face Book
<https://www.facebook.com/moaeyc/>

AEYC-MO Board of Directors Sept 2025-Aug 2026

President

Nicci Rexroat
Holt's Summit, MO

Accreditation Chair

Judy Simpson
St. Louis, MO

At Large Representative

Derek Krogh
Springfield, MO

Past President

Lisa Thompson
St. Louis, MO

Parliamentarian

Stacy Johnson
St. Louis, MO

At Large Representative

Open

Vice President

Darla Wells
Newburg, MO

At-Large Representative

Michelle Mathews
Columbia, MO

Social Media Chair

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