

Childcare Learning Centers (CLC)

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Childcare Learning Centers Hires Interim Executive Director

February 12, 2013 – STAMFORD, CT – Childcare Learning Centers (CLC) announces the hiring of interim Executive Director Marc E. Jaffe, replacing Executive Director, Barbara Garvin-Kester who leaves to advocate for early childhood education through government policy and academia.

Jaffe will guide CLC through the next six months, laying the groundwork for future growth and helping to identify appropriate candidates for the permanent position. A Connecticut resident, he brings years of organizational leadership as well as dedication and experience in non-profit service to underserved children.

“Marc’s strengths allow CLC to continue moving forward, building on accomplishments and current programs to help us continue to close the achievement gap of underserved children,” says Robert Mattis, President of the Board for CLC. “At the same time, he brings the knowledge and network to help increase donor outreach and to garner greater recognition for our outstanding educational programs. He is dedicated to providing new opportunities for educational excellence and community support while addressing some key challenges of these economic times.”

Since 1991, Jaffe has held several positions with Harlem RBI/The Dream Charter School, including President of the Board of Directors, Board member and Chairman of the Home Run Leadership Council Advisory Board. He launched and has helped lead the program’s award-winning non-profit youth sports and after school enrichment program that now serves 1200 children.

“Working with CLC is an opportunity to further strengthen some of the best practices in early childhood education,” said Jaffe, “and to contribute to the continued well-being of the children, as well as the support of the families, involvement of the community and progress of teacher and staff careers.”

Jaffe is a member of the UJA-Federation of New York executive publishing committee, charged with fundraising and acting as a conduit to the publishing community for literacy programs and book donations. He is also co-founder and president of consulting firms focused on building brands and content for corporate clients as well as nonprofit organizations such as the Heifetz International Music Institute, SwimStrong and Growth for Good. Previously, he was Chairman and CEO of Pixfusion and held several other top executive positions in both public and private corporations including Rodale, Inc.

Jaffe received his JD from Columbia Law School and Bachelor’s degree from Columbia College of Columbia University.

Background on CLC

Childcare Learning Centers has a long history of making strides in supporting the Stamford community by working to close the achievement gap among underserved children. Over the past five years, some accomplishments have been nationally recognized.

- CLC supports nearly 1,000 children – including residents and some children of parents who work in Stamford. By consolidating the program to six main facilities, it offers innovative, high quality programs for our children and comprehensive family support services, including parenting education. CLC care includes services for the families, meals for children, nutrition and health services and information.
- With the support of a grant from the U.S. Department of Education’s Institute for Education Sciences, CLC was selected by Yale University’s Center for Emotional Intelligence to contribute to the development of the innovative RULER program in social-emotional skills for preschool. All children, parents, teachers, and staff are being trained and coached in this cutting-edge program.
- Based on dedication to quality and support from partners, CLC increased teacher credentials. In fact, it received the highest ratings across all review categories in the most recent evaluation for accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).
- Bringing more books to more children while encouraging more parental involvement in learning, CLC expanded the Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library program supported at CLC by Pitney Bowes and United Way of Western Connecticut.
- With the help of United Way and pediatricians from the Stamford Hospital, CLC continues its Healthy Bodies nutrition and exercise program for families, children and staff.
- The Harold Sandak Garden project provides children with hands-on experience working with experts from the arboretum to learn about plants, gardening, responsibility, science, and awareness of the outdoors.
- Working cooperatively with city, state and federal government agencies, more than 50 non-profit agencies, local employers and volunteers from local corporations, CLC receives help with service, programs and economic support.
- Moving forward, CLC plans to build on the current innovative program with Yale University to develop curricula and train teachers based on the latest and most innovative research available in the country on how emotions can drive learning, decision-making, creativity, relationships and health in children and people of all ages.

For further information about Childcare Learning Centers, contact Robert Mattis (Rmattis.CLC@gmail.com) or visit <http://clcstamford.org/>

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