

## FROM THE INCOMING EDITOR

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I am deeply honored to be writing to you as the incoming Editor of the *Journal of Child and Youth Care Work*. What follows are some of the reasons why I feel this way.

We are at an auspicious time in the development of our field. The North American Certification Project is gaining momentum and we are closer than ever to having our profession widely recognized. ACYCP has been at the forefront of these developments.

The Journal has continued through the years to disseminate information that has furthered the professionalization of Child and Youth Care, while at the same time capturing the ever-changing and dynamic nature of the work. The Journal has always featured a broad range of articles, yet has, at its core, been devoted to the promotion of professional practice and practitioners.

I am following in the footsteps of two leaders in our field, Mark Krueger and Karen VanderVen, whose vision has nurtured the Journal and the profession at large. My predecessor, Karen VanderVen, has taught us all much about this work and especially about the importance of activities as intervention and involvement across the lifespan. She has mentored me through this first piece of co-editing and has shared her wisdom, her humor, and her love of the Journal. I have also inherited from her a fabulous Managing Editor in Laura Galovits of the Child and Youth Care Learning Center.

I want to continue the tradition of excellence in the Journal and maintain much of the current format. Mark has graciously agreed to continue to write his regular Nexus column, and Karen will also contribute to "Honoring Our Own." I hope to add some new elements. This issue features a new column called "Dialogue with Youth," in which a young person has shared his perspective with us. I urge you to encourage the youth you work with to consider contributing something to a future issue. I would also like to invite you to send in any other suggestions you may have and, of course, to write. As always, submissions from front line workers are especially encouraged.

We have an exciting and diverse issue for you that cuts across many aspects of Child and Youth Care. In our feature article, Leon Fulcher provides us with a comprehensive and thought-provoking comparison of residential work in Europe, North America, and the South Pacific. Jack Phelan urges us to use play and activity programming to facilitate change, while Bluma Litner sensitizes us to the experiences of youth with ADHD and Learning Disabilities and suggests strategies for facilitating

growth. Sharon Spence cautions us about the dangers of dual relationships with clients. In a section on Research and Evaluation, Lisa Ostiguy and Robert Hopp suggest multiple strategies for evaluating and justifying our services. Benjamin D. Webman and Karen Voght report promising results of a preliminary study that examined outcomes of a relaxation program for inner-city preschool children, and B. Scott Finnell describes a recent study of job satisfaction in Child and Youth Care Work. Finally, Karen VanderVen has contributed an enlightening review of Michael Nakkula's and Sharon Ravitch's book and has elaborated on the contributions of hermeneutics to Child and Youth Care Work.