

FROM THE EDITOR

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This is my last issue as Editor of the Journal of Child and Youth Care Work. When I was first approached in 1998 by the board of the Association for Child and Youth Care Practice to take on this job, I was overwhelmed. Not just by the potential responsibility and complexity of the task, but also by how deeply honored I felt to be approached for this important task. Editing a journal in any field is prestigious, especially for an academic, but editing a journal in our field is a sacred trust. Child and Youth Care can only move ahead as a profession if: its literature continues to grow and develop; if new authors and new readers come on board; and if the unique perspective represented in our writings become visible to the full range of helping professions. I firmly believe that we are well on the road to achieving these goals.

It is time now for someone else to step in to edit this journal, and to participate in giving leadership to the further development of our publications. Since I became Editor, we have established a peer review process and instituted a regular publication schedule. We are well on our way to being indexed in the major social science data bases. In the years ahead, I hope that the journal will continue to reach out to new authors, especially front line workers, and to champion the addition of publications that will support our emerging certification process.

There were countless individuals who contributed to the journal during my tenure as Editor. Their dedication and energy have sustained me and enriched the journal. I want to extend my most heartfelt thanks to all, and yet there are some special individuals whose contributions I must single out. Special thanks go to:

- Mark Krueger, founding Editor and publisher, without whose passion and dedication this journal would not have been possible
- Presidents David Thomas and Chip Bonsutto of the Association for Child and Youth Care Practice, whose high level of commitment to the journal has insured its survival as an important vehicle for the field
- Henry Maier, Jerome Beker, Karen VanderVen and Martha Mattingly, whose generous mentoring has been a constant source of inspiration
- Laura Shenk, John Korsmo, and Peter Rosenblatt, who all served as Managing Editors during this period, and whose vision and hard work has shaped the journal

- Our dedicated Editorial Board members, whose participation has resulted in a review process that promotes excellence
- Dean Martin Singer and Dean David Graham of Concordia University, whose continuous support has made it possible for me fulfill my role
- Patricia Hook Painter and Gail Palevsky, my able Editorial Assistants, who worked with me and all of our authors to maintain high standards for the journal

Finally, I want to acknowledge the authors, who in the end have made the largest contribution, by sharing their knowledge and expertise through their writing. And you, dear readers, whose engagement and interest sustains all of our journals, and whose exceptional work, day in and day out, is at the heart of Child and Youth Care Work.