

FROM THE EDITOR

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Before I even begin to overview our 1997-8 double issue, I want to mention planning for the 1999 volume of the Journal of Child and Youth Care Work. This is for a theme focusing on the major advances and future promise and opportunity for the field as we move into the next millennium and the Year 2000 Child and Youth Care International Conference. Several exciting pieces are already in. If you have ideas or suggestions for this special issue, please let me know.

Although it has taken a while to get this issue assembled and published, I nonetheless am excited about the thematic collection of pieces intended to showcase the work and thinking that is advancing child and youth care work.

We are always engaged by the creative and insightful perspectives in Nexus, by founding editor Mark Krueger.

The first article section, "The Cultural and Political Contexts of Child and Youth Work," focuses on areas that we may be less aware of as we do our work on a daily basis.

Following these, the three pieces in "Towards Child and Youth Care Across Populations" reflect a growing trend: to view the work we do as applicable not only to children and youth, but to people of all ages. As they say, "everyone needs a child care worker!" The attention now being given to the concept of life span care – witness these articles – bodes well for its continued implementation.

Enhancing direct practice has always been central to the philosophy of the Journal of Child and Youth Care Work. With that in mind, we are pleased to offer *Bibliotherapy: A Useful Technique for the Child and Youth Care Worker*; and *Climbing the Walls: Harnessing the Positive in Emotionally and Behaviorally Disturbed Children*, describing experience and insights from a direct line worker.

Our book review by Varda Mann-Feder, features one of our own – Carol Kelly, of an important book showing all the wonderful opportunities that exist in the field.

Finally, our features include a report on an exciting change in the field as the National Organization of Child Care Worker Associations is renamed the Association for Child and Youth Care Practice; a description of a pace-setting training initiative, and "Honoring Our Own," describing recent awards won by our colleagues.

Special thanks are due to Laura Galovits of the Child and Youth Care Learning Center for her extensive efforts in journal production, without which it would not have been published.