

HONORING OUR OWN: DAVID THOMAS

After over seven years as President of the Association of Child and Youth Care Practice, David Thomas has stepped down effective December 31, 2005. During his tenure, David has been a staunch advocate for youth and Child and Youth Care professionals. David is currently the Executive Director of Bryan's House. Located in Dallas, Bryan's House is a special care facility for children and teens affected by HIV/AIDS.

During his tenure, David used his passion and talents to promote the field of Child and Youth Care. His greatest legacy has been the groundbreaking initiatives towards certification of Child and Youth Care workers in the United States. This initiative became known as the North American Certification Project (NACP). During the past 3 years, the dream of certification was transformed into action steps inspired by David's leadership and vision. The process is close to completion and has already had a huge impact with the establishment of competencies for the field that are guiding training and curriculum development.

The field of child and youth care has been changed by David's work, and the board of ACYCP salutes him for his many important contributions. David will remain an active member of the ACYCP Board as the Second Vice President.

Chip Bonsutto has been elected as the new ACYCP President effective January 1, 2006. Dr. Bonsutto is the Associate Administrator at Catholic Charities Services/Parmadale, a children's residential and mental health center located in Parma, Ohio.