



# Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.

Connecting Communities and Children

February 12, 2026

Dear Child Care Provider,

The Child Care Council is pleased to host its 20th Annual Champions of Child Care Celebration on Thursday, May 7, 2026, as a prelude to Provider Appreciation Day on May 8.

As the season of renewal approaches, we are delighted to invite you to join us in celebrating the growth, dedication, and lasting impact of child care providers and programs throughout our community. The *Champions of Child Care Celebration* is a meaningful opportunity to honor those whose commitment to early care and education allows young learners to flourish.

To assist us in this recognition, we kindly ask that you complete the enclosed form for any individual within your program who has earned an educational degree and/or reached a five-year service milestone since 2025. We also invite programs that have achieved accreditation to be recognized during this year's celebration.

We warmly encourage you to share this invitation with the families you serve. Please display the enclosed flyer in a visible location for staff and parents and distribute copies to families within your program. Parents are graciously invited to submit nominations recognizing the individuals and programs who have helped their children grow, learn, and thrive. In past years, many of our most meaningful honors have blossomed from the heartfelt words of grateful families, and we would be honored to receive many more this year.

All submissions must be received by March 18, 2026, either in writing to the Child Care Council or submitted online at [www.childcaredutchess.org](http://www.childcaredutchess.org).

To ensure fairness to all applicants and allow adequate time for review, we kindly ask that submissions be received by this date, as materials received after March 18, 2026 will not be able to be considered.

Thank you so much for your attention to this timeline.

Thank you for helping us cultivate a celebration that honors the dedication, professionalism, and everyday care you provide to children and families across our community.

With sincere appreciation,  
Champions of Child Care  
Nomination Committee Chair

Mara Goulette

301 Manchester Road, Suite 201A, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 • Phone: (845)473-4141 • Fax: (845)473-4161  
900 South Lake Blvd. Mahopac, NY 10541  
[www.childcaredutchess.org](http://www.childcaredutchess.org) • [info@childcaredutchess.org](mailto:info@childcaredutchess.org)

*The programs provided by this agency are partially funded by moneys received from the County of Dutchess.*



**Award Information Form**  
**2026 Champions of Child Care**  
**Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.**

**PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION**

**Education Award**

The following **current** employee(s) has earned the following Certificate or Degree during the period  
of April 2025 through May 2026

Employee Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ License #: \_\_\_\_\_

**You are:** \_\_\_\_\_ Family Day Care \_\_\_\_\_ Group Family Day Care \_\_\_\_\_ Day Care Center \_\_\_\_\_ School Age Child Care

How should the **TITLE OF THE DEGREE** earned be worded on the certificate?

(ex: Associates in Applied Science, Early Childhood; School Age Child Care Credential; Child Development Associate, Infant/Toddler; etc.)

CDA (Child Development Associate)  BA or BS in Early Childhood or a related field  
 One Year Certificate in Early Childhood  MA or MS in Early Childhood or a related field  
 AA or AS or AAS in Early Childhood or a related field

**Milestone Anniversaries**

The following **current** employee(s) has achieved a milestone in employment  
**at our program** during the period of April 2025 through April 2026

Employee Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ License #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Length of Employment in Program: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 years (circle one)

**Accreditation Recognition**

Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ License #: \_\_\_\_\_

During the period of April 2025 through April 2026, the program named above has been granted:

National Association for Family Day Care Accreditation or Reaccreditation (circle one)  
 National Early Childhood Program Accreditation or Reaccreditation (circle one)  
 National Academy of Early Childhood Program, Division of National Association for the Education of Young Children  
Accreditation or Reaccreditation (circle one)

Date of Accreditation or Reaccreditation: \_\_\_\_\_

To be included in the 2026 Champions of Child Care Recognition, please submit this form **no later than March 18, 2026**:

**Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.**  
**301 Manchester Road, Suite 201A, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603**  
**Attn: Champions of Child Care**