



educational excellence through leadership, partnership, and innovation

## Executive Director's Report

July 26, 2018

### PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Champions for Children is a nationally growing campaign adopted by local organizations, institutions, and businesses to meet the needs of all children. The mission of the Capital Area Intermediate Unit (CAIU) Champions for Children is to improve the lives of children with special needs who are currently receiving Capital Area Intermediate Unit services.



As an agency both directly and indirectly involved in the lives of virtually all children in the Cumberland, Dauphin, Perry and Northern York Counties, the CAIU is in a unique position to coordinate the Champions for Children campaign in this area. Working with the CAIU staff and service agencies, the CAIU develops programs and addresses the needs of many special education students in the capital region. The Champions for Children fund furthers these efforts by identifying and responding to very specific individual and group needs. We cultivate a sense in our community that student needs can be assisted by some small but strategically placed additional resources.

Contributions are accepted, fundraisers are conducted and individuals donate their time. No tax monies are involved in funding Champions for Children. Champions



for Children money is spent in accordance with the belief statement developed by the Capital Area Intermediate Unit Champions for Children foundation. Only our resources limit the possibilities for Champions for Children. We attempt to provide new and vital



support to important issues and difficult situations. Champions for Children funds have been used to purchase equipment (wheelchairs, hearing aids, glasses, computers, etc.); clothing (coats, hats, gloves, etc.), provide money for student forums, workshops and conferences for parents among other things.

### NEWS

#### Student Services

- A new high school CAMhP (Capital Area Mental Health Program) class will open at Cumberland Valley High School for the 2018-2019 school year. This will be the fifth CAMhP classroom.
- West Perry has offered to host an additional CAIU classroom at Carroll Elementary. We will open an Autism Support classroom at that location and are happy to be able to provide a service option in Perry County.
- We will also operate a new elementary MDS (Multiple Disabilities Support) classroom at Melrose Elementary in Harrisburg SD.

- United Methodist Home for Children will merge with Care for Children in November. That change will increase the number of residential students to 50. The West Shore School District has contracted with the CAIU to open two classes within that residential facility.
- We are finalizing our second round interviews for Program Supervisor and hope to have a candidate by the end of July.
- At the end of the 2017-2018 school year, five social workers piloted a Behavioral Health Screening for students through a PDE grant. This screening looks at several aspects of mental health. Beginning 2018-2019 all social workers will be trained on this screening and additional supports will be offered for student who rate high in specific areas.
- Cheryl Park and Ashley Mellott facilitated a day of administrative team building this summer for Cumberland Valley School District and CV shared the following feedback.
  - Thank you to Cheryl and Ashley for their leadership and work on this project!
  - We had an awesome day! Thanks to Cheryl & Ashley for organizing a meaningful day for our team. Patty Hillery, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent
  - The feedback on the day was all positive. Everyone appreciated the opportunity to be reminded about some critical aspects of teamwork and leadership and to get to know one another better in a fun and relaxed environment. Steve Kirkpatrick, Assistant Superintendent
- The Data Quality Network (DQN) meets on the third Wednesday of each month throughout the school year by connecting via video conference to other IUs. During the 2017-2018 school year, the CAIU had an average monthly attendance of 31 participants from CAIU educational entities. The CAIU's monthly attendance consistently ranked among one of the highest across all IUs. For more information on the DQN including session recordings and resources, please visit [www.dataqualitynetwork.net](http://www.dataqualitynetwork.net).
- During the 2017-2018 school year, 12 participants from CAIU educational entities completed a total of 25 Data Quality Curriculum (DQC) tracks and specialty modules. The DQC is a tool for LEAs to increase the quality of data submitted to PDE, thereby reducing costly data errors and staff time. The DQC is available at no cost as part of the Data Governance component of the Statewide System of Support. For more information on the DQC, please visit <http://www.padqc.org/learn/>.
- Earlier this spring the Bureau of Early Intervention Services and Family Supports (BEISFS) completed their On-Site Verification of our Preschool Early Intervention Program. The Verification Team reviews policies and procedures, compliance with regulations, quality of programs and family satisfaction. The program received a score of 92% and is in the process of developing a Quality Enhancement Plan with BEISFS.
- Jean Gray, Educational Consultant, became the new Professional Co-Chair for Early Interventions Connections (EIC) at the EIC meeting on 7/9/18. Jean will co-chair with Catherine Siris, Parent Co-Chair. EIC is a group of parents, professionals and other community members who care about young children with special needs and their families that works together to ensure quality in early intervention.
- Early Intervention speech therapy services will be moving from Northern Elementary to South Mountain Elementary for the 2018-19 school year. The EI preschool program location in the Millersburg area will close and move to Middle Paxton Elementary in Central Dauphin School District. The EI Preschool Program location at Hershey Early Childhood Center will relocate to Hershey Elementary School.

### **Education Services**

- **ANPS Summer Academy** -Over the course of 3 days (June 11-13), we had 21 non-public school teachers across the region attend various professional development sessions at the CAIU. 290 participants attended one or more of the following sessions:  
Monday: Sarah Ward, Extreme Classroom Makeover (Executive Functioning)  
Tuesday: Alanna McMullan & Irene Reedy, Positive Behavior Support at the Tier I level  
Wednesday: Center for Schools and Communities, Diversity & Inclusion
- **Summer Reading Camp** - This year we offered the opportunity to Title I students who are enrolled in a non-public school in our footprint to attend a reading camp at various

locations across our region. The camp is designed to help reduce the summer slide by providing 2-3 weeks of small group or one-on-one instruction at the child's instructional level in all areas of reading. We have 72 students in grades 1-6 signed up to attend camps at either Hill Top Academy, Bishop McDevitt, Harrisburg Catholic (Holy Family Campus), or at the CAIU throughout June and July.

Thank you to the following employees for working the camps this summer:

- Jennifer Brosky (Educational Services)
  - Heather Waldner (Student Services)
  - Kathleen Beveridge (ANPS)
  - Carla Fontanella (ANPS)
  - Anne Hartzfeld (ANPS)
  - Ashley Reddig (ANPS)
  - Melissa Cousin (ANPS)
  - Beth Ann Connolly (ANPS)
- **Title I Literacy Night** - Title I Literacy Nights were offered at both Bishop McDevitt and Trinity on May 15th and 16th. Families learned how to incorporate various reading activities into their summer routine as well as how the Title I program is designed and implemented within their child's non-public school. 14 students from the following schools and districts were in attendance:

Non-Public School of Participants:

1. St. Theresa
2. Good Shepherd
3. St. Patrick
4. St. Joseph
5. St. Catherine
6. Holy Name of Jesus
7. St. Margaret Mary
8. Harrisburg Catholic
9. Lancaster Mennonite
10. St. Stephen's Episcopal School

Home District of Participants:

1. Carlisle
2. Central Dauphin
3. Cumberland Valley
4. Derry Township
5. East Pennsboro
6. Harrisburg
7. Steelton-Highspire
8. Susquehanna Township
9. West Shore

**Technology Services**

- **Technology Partnership – South Middleton Technology Support** - The South Middleton School District's Technology Director resigned in April. The CAIU Technology Services Team is working collaboratively with the administration at South Middleton to support all of their summer technology projects and prepare for the upcoming school year. Additionally, the CAIU Technology Team is working with SMSD on a technology staffing structure to support their needs moving into the future.
- **Technology Solution – Vocational Technical School Web Application** - Joe Gallucci, the CAIU Technology Application Supervisor, will be attending the 2018 PACTA Summer Leadership Conference on July 26, 2018 in State College. Joe, along with Sandra Traynor and Priscilla Rodriguez of Dauphin County Technical School (DCTS) will be giving a presentation on the new Programs of Study Tracker (PoST) application that was developed by the CAIU Application Development team and is now being used at DCTS. Vocational technical schools are required to track Programs of Study (POS) for all students during their tenure at the school. The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 requires the development and implementation of career and technical programs of study. There were no systems available to adequately track a student's progress in their program of study. DCTS requested that the Capital Area Intermediate Unit (CAIU) assist in the development of a web based application that

will track all DCTS students and their corresponding POS throughout their term at DCTS. DCTS went live with our first release of PoST in the spring of 2018 and plans to start the 2018-2019 school year using it to track student's POS.

## **NOTIFICATION of ACTIVITIES**

- Met with Tom Haupt, Millersburg SD
- Met with Laura Fridirici, PDE Career Readiness Advisor
- Attended CPAVTS LOC and Board meeting
- Attended Champions for Children Golf Tournament on July 24

## **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

- August 1, 2018 - Variety Bike Presentation