



All-in!

NEWSLETTER

Executive Director's Report
March 2022

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Our Mission

CAIU provides innovative support and services in partnership with schools, families, and communities to build capacity and model courageous leadership to help them be great. #BeGreat

Our Vision

Recognized as a trusted and influential partner in achieving life-changing outcomes in the Capital Area. #ChangingLives

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Front cover: [Capital Area Intermediate Unit](#) and CASTL raised over \$5,000 in a kick-off event for the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library! In this photo, Brandon Carter, Special Projects Supervisor, reads to a student! [Learn more.](#)

**Share your stories,
student successes, and
#changinglives moment!**

Email All-In! Newsletter or social media content to communications@caiu.org.



All-in!
NEWSLETTER

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From the Executive Director's Desk



Providing Healing Promoting Hope

March is Women's History Month. I am totally team #girlpower, so I did a little dive into a rabbit hole on the topic. The National Women's History Alliance identified the theme for this year's celebration as "Providing Healing, Promoting Hope." This theme is "both a tribute to the ceaseless work of caregivers and frontline workers during this ongoing pandemic and a recognition of the thousands of ways that women of all cultures have provided both healing and hope throughout history." The theme of Healing and Hope really resonated with me and aligns nicely with our organization's vision, mission, and values so, this month, I chose to share about how I think we – regardless of gender identity - can all provide healing and promote hope.



The act of providing healing can be done in endless ways, making it a universal possibility for all. Healing can be the process of restoring health and well-being to an individual, a group, a community, a nation. Healing is considered an important dimension of civic engagement, given the impact of oppression and exclusion on multiple populations throughout history. To heal requires an intentional consciousness of the environment in which a person or people are existing. Tying into last month's article on empathy, helping another to heal requires genuine compassion and understanding. In the context of what we do, healing another maybe as concrete as helping a child overcome the impact of their disability or helping a family to obtain life sustaining services. It may be listening to a peer/family member, validating their distress, or just

listening. Never discount the big impact from the littlest acts of kindness.

Promoting hope also brings with it endless possibilities. Let's start by defining hope as more than a wish, as in "I hope the sun will shine today." Instead, think of hope as a chosen perspective that envisions and acts upon the potential for positive change. In a nutshell, hope is being open to possibility. We have lived through two years of a pandemic and may be seeing the beginning of another catastrophic world war, making hope feel pretty far away, which is all the more reason to find ways to share a message of hope. For an individual, this may mean demonstrating you care, showing acceptance and appreciation, offering help, and most importantly staying connected. In your team, promoting hope can take the form of ensuring that everyone feels they belong, helping others find their greatness, cultivating a mentality of abundance, and championing others. For our communities, we promote hope when we engage in positive activities that build momentum towards a positive outcome; when we serve our community shelters, food pantries, service agencies; when we advocate for those that have less, and stand up for those that need a champion; when we take a stand for equity, when we take action to create belonging for all, we promote hope.

What ideas do you have for providing healing and promoting hope?



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andria B. Saia".

Dr. Andria Saia (she/her/hers)
Executive Director

ENOLA CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Article by: Daren Moran, Director of Business and Operations



As the daffodils start to peak up from the ground, so are the walls of the Enola construction project. A few months ago, I wrote an article talking about the exciting construction project that we were taking on at the Enola office. Now that we are almost three months into this project, I wanted to share an update.

You can see tremendous progress being done on a daily basis. The staff from Lobar and associates have encountered a few speed bumps similar to what we are encountering in our day to day lives. There have been some shipping delays on certain products, price increases on others, and some that are just no longer available. We have had constant communication with their team to ensure our project remains on schedule. A few of these issues might have set us back a few weeks but we are hoping to make up this time in the spring.

Our facility planning team has tried to respond to feedback as it comes in but the one thing that wasn't anticipated causing an issue was the removal of the vending machines. The vending machines are leased by the CAIU and monthly utilizations reports are

sent for review. During the pandemic the purchases greatly decreased so the decision was made to move them to the Capital Commons. The usage continued to decrease and the sound and location in the Commons made it difficult to hold a meeting in there so the decision was made to remove them until construction is complete. I can promise you that they will return and will have a new dedicated home. Thank you for all the feedback about the machines and suggestions moving forward. It has been noted and will be taken into account when our facility fully re-opens.

The Enola remodel project that is currently going on is the largest construction project that the CAIU has ever done since the original building of the facility. We are



working through some

issues and learning as we go.

I want to personally thank all of our staff for their patience during this project but also want to shout out directly to our Operations Staff and Front Desk Staff. They have been key players in this process and keep the rest of the building operating as normal as possible. Thank you for your continued support of the CAIU as we look forward to a great "grand re-opening" in the summer.





The Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Article by: Beth Cappello, Special Projects Coordinator

Since 1998, March 2nd has been celebrated as National Read Across America Day. Books and reading are the focus of the day, making it the perfect one to officially kick off our efforts to bring Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to the capital area of Pennsylvania.

The Dolly Parton's Imagination Library sends books to children, ages birth to five at no cost to families, no matter their families' income. Millions of preschoolers all over the world, including Australia, the United Kingdom, Canada, the U.S., and the Republic of Ireland are receiving books every month, but NOT in Dauphin, Cumberland, or Perry County. Why? Because there is not a local affiliate in our area. We are here to change that reality. Imagination Library negotiates the wholesale cost of books, ships them, supports affiliates with promotional materials, while the affiliates provide the \$2.50 cost of each book, registers

children, and promotes the organization in their area.

A group of volunteers, under the umbrella of CASTL, is determined to make sure the youngest children in the CAIU footprint all have the same opportunity to start life with a rich literary background! All children deserve this, regardless of economic circumstances. We recognize that a child's success in school and life is largely dependent upon an extensive vocabulary, exposure to a wide and varied selection of stories, and the ability to be a critical consumer of information. Beginning life hearing a loving adult read well-chosen stories puts children on a better path to a brighter future.

In honor of Happy Read Across America Day, the Capital Area Intermediate Unit and CASTL launched the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library fundraiser at the Capital Area Early Learning

Center (ELC) in Lemoyne. The event took place from 9:00am – 10:30am. It was an amazing day! We had volunteers reading books to the children and Mr. Music, Lenny Tepsich, with Ready Set Music, led a sing-along with the children in our Early Intervention classrooms. Ready Set Music is produced by WITF and funded through the Pennsylvania Department of Education by grants. Our event kick-off goal was \$5,000 and with many amazing sponsors, we were able to make our \$5,000 goal.

We still need to reach our goal of \$180,000 before we can open the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to Dauphin, Cumberland, and Perry Counties. If you would like to donate, please use the link below.

More information about CASTL and the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library: <https://sites.google.com/capitalareaiu.org/castl/home>

Emerging Leader Development Program



Pictured left to right: Stefan Moyer, Dan Conway, Mari Bender, Beth Cappello, Colleen Bushman, Heather Donovan, Melissa Rosado, Julie Mestemaker, Marilyn Miller, Cassie McCabe, Bryan Guerrisi, and Michaela Fickes

*Article by: Brandon Carter,
Special Projects Supervisor*

On February 10, 2022, the Emerging Leader Development Program (ELDP) concluded its 2021-22 cohort session. Please congratulate these leaders (pictured above) for completing the year and a half program that included practical learning activities, job shadowing, project leadership, and oral presentations.

ELDP is a formal program that develops and

prepares individuals to be competent future CAIU leaders from all CAIU functional areas. These individuals transition from individual performers to team leaders as emerging leaders. They may be self-identified, supervisor-designated, or have just assumed supervisory responsibilities.

If you are interested or would like to recommend someone for ELDP, please contact Brandon Carter, Special Projects Supervisor, bcarter@caiu.org, for more information.



June 20 - July 29



The CAIU Summer Camps are back for 2022 and ready for registrations! We have a wide variety from horses to kayaking and crafting, and more! We are taking every precaution to keep campers safe and healthy during the camps. Head to caiusummercamps.org for all of our camp offerings!

GREAT NEWS!

Cumberland Valley School District [CAMhP](#) Wins 1st Place in State Suicide Prevention Awareness Contest

Article by: Cumberland Valley
CAMhP Classroom

In December, our CV [CAMhP](#) classroom entered the Prevent Suicide PA PSA poster contest to raise awareness for suicide prevention. We collaborated as a team to submit this poster to spread a message of hope. We want others to know that they are not alone and there are people willing to help. Although life has its twists and turns, there is hope and healing ahead. It is our hope that we can inspire and

empower youth all across PA!

Our classroom's submission won first place in the poster category. As a result, we have been invited to be honored at a Philadelphia Phillies game later this spring.

Thank you to all the CAIU staff, friends and family who voted for us. We really appreciate your support!

Stop by the Capital Goods Store, any Wednesday this spring, to congratulate the CV [CAMhP](#) team in person!



Capital Area Intermediate Unit



Poetry Out Loud

Article by: Beth Cappello, Special Projects Coordinator

The CAIU held its second [Poetry Out Loud](#) contest on February 9, 2022. As part of the Arts in Education Partnership that the CAIU has with the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, each year, partners hold a Poetry Out Loud contest where high school students recite poems from the anthology published by the NEA.

The Regional contest consisted of 11 schools participating from Cumberland, Dauphin, and Lebanon Counties. This year, our contest was held virtually. The students recited three poems each through a group Zoom call. All students performed wonderfully and we couldn't have asked for a more supportive group. Throughout the entirety of the contest, students and teachers were providing others with positive feedback during and after their recitations. It was a wonderful sight to witness.

Our winner for our region was last year's runner-up and 12th grader, **Niyathi Chagantipati** from

Cumberland Valley High School! Niyathi will move forward onto State Finals to represent our region! The runner-up from the contest was 10th grader, **Lydia Lloyd**, from Schole Homeschool Group of Harrisburg!

We are incredibly thankful for the students who participated, the teachers for supporting them throughout their journey, and the judges to support the CAIU for their contest: Dr. Holly M. Wendy from Lebanon Valley College, Jess Moyer from the American Cancer Society, and Senators Baseball Stadium, Brandon Carter, CAIU native, and Kim Greenawalt from Gamut Theatre.



Niyathi
Chagantipati

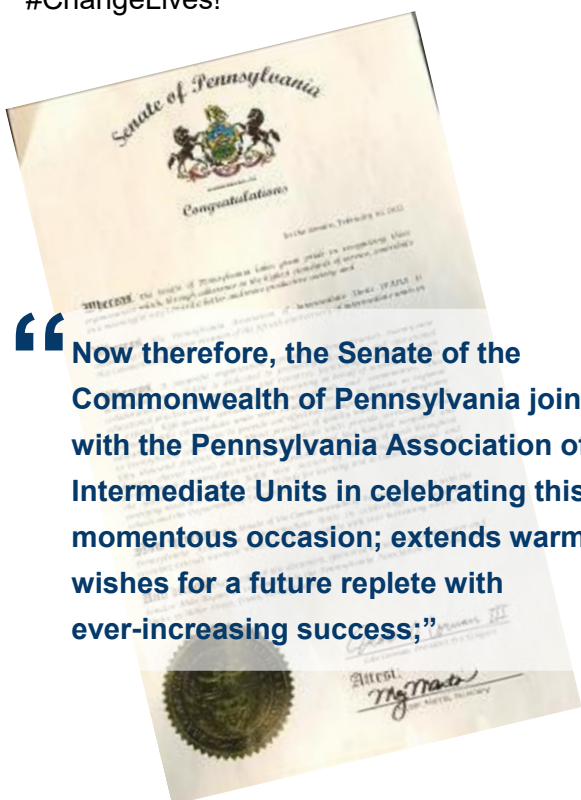
Noteworthy

#BeGreat #ChangingLives



Employee Appreciation Day

Employee Appreciation Day was March 4. To celebrate staff contributions and to say THANK YOU! in this our 50th year of #BeingGreat, all staff will receive the 50th Anniversary mug and sticker pictured, along with a coffee pod. It is a small token of appreciation that we hope will remind our staff everyday that they are an AMAZING EDUCATOR, no matter what role they play in ensuring that CAIU continues to #ChangeLives!



“Now therefore, the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania joins with the Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units in celebrating this momentous occasion; extends warmest wishes for a future replete with ever-increasing success;”

Podcast features CAIU's Deb Genet

Capital Area Intermediate Unit's Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) teacher, Deb Genet, was featured on a podcast called *PaTTANpod* in a segment entitled “Teacher of the Deaf – The Unique and Valuable Role Played in a School Setting.” Deb did an excellent job explaining the unique needs of learners with hearing loss and the crucial role that teachers of DHH play in providing quality instruction. Please view and share. You can access the podcast here: PaTTAN YouTube channel: <https://bit.ly/3KDX3AN>
Podcast Platform: <https://bit.ly/3FQIBSk>

Early Intervention News

The Early Intervention Related Services teams are hard at work providing supports to students and families. The [EI Behavior](#) and [EI Occupational Therapy](#) Teams both have monthly newsletters to share the latest news. The teams are currently working on a podcast series to share best practices in early intervention with the field. Be on the lookout for more information in the coming months.

Spring Musical Calendar

Cumberland Valley School District CAMhP student Laura C. created an organized list of all the upcoming spring musicals for the Capital Area school districts. Wow!



[SPRING MUSICAL CALENDAR](#)

Laura handles set production for her home school district's (Derry Township) musical. Support students in the arts by attending a show!

For more information about CAMhP: <https://www.caiu.org/students-families/grade-k-12-students/school-age-programs>

opportunities to do good

Champions For Children Match Madness

Champions for Children, CAIU's 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation, is participating in "Match Madness" hosted by the Partnership for Better Health and supported by M&T Bank and The Josiah W. and Bessie H. Kline Foundation.

The "Match Madness" campaign will match the first \$1,000 raised for Champions for Children until MARCH 31.

Every dollar helps! If you are interested in donating, [DONATE HERE](#) and choose the organization "Champions for Children."

Donations help to provide vital support to CAIU students in need. Champions for Children funds/donations have been used to purchase equipment (wheelchairs, hearing aids, glasses, computers, etc.); clothing (coats, hats, gloves, etc.); and home needs such as bed frames and mattresses.

Learn more about Champions for Children at <https://www.caiu.org/community/opportunities-for-everyone/champions-for-children>

Log into [Frontline](#) for the complete list of upcoming Professional Development Opportunities.

Upcoming Professional Growth Sessions

3/29/2022 - [Book Study: Unlearning: Changing Your Beliefs and Your Classroom with UDL](#)

3/31/2022 - [CAIU Reading Network - AM Session](#)

3/31/2022 - [CAIU Reading Network - PM Session](#)

4/1/2022 - [Equity Network](#)

4/1/2022 to 5/15/2022 - [Google Summit 1.0 2022 \(Asynchronous\) - April Edition](#)

4/1/2022 to 4/29/2022 - [Classroom Management for Monitors - Act 91](#)

4/5/2022 - [Instructional Coaching Collaborative Network Meeting \(April 2022\)](#)

4/5/2022 - [LETRS Module 3: Spellography for Teachers: How English Spelling Works](#)

4/6/2022 - [CAIU Instructional Technology Collaboration Spring Meeting](#)

4/7/2022 - [High Impact Strategies Training \(Virtual\)](#)

4/12/2022 - [Book Study: Unlearning: Changing Your Beliefs and Your Classroom with UDL](#)

4/22/2022 to 5/31/2022 - [Multiple Intelligences in the Classroom: Strategies, Techniques, and Material \(CPE Course\)](#)

Help us make our goal

"Match Madness" will match the first \$1,000 raised! All proceeds go to Champions for Children.



Match Madness 2022



Donations are matched until MARCH 31st
<https://bit.ly/3BgSgAX> to DONATE.

Learning & Growing Summit 2.0

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

Central Penn College
Audience: ANY Educator!
Cost: \$99

*6 hours of Act 48 Available



CAIU Compliments is a Capital Area Intermediate Unit initiative that allows CAIU staff the opportunity to share words of thanks, tout successes, or tell a story about what makes us great as an organization; our people. Submit a CAIU Compliment [here](#).

Todd Howell, Educator:

#Dedication Mr. Howell goes above and beyond to be the best he can be for his students and peers alike. He continues to foster a welcoming environment and always treats everyone with respect. Thank you, Mr. Howell!
Submitted by Anonymous

Ashlee Fleming, Reading Teacher at LYDC:

#Dedication Ashlee, I love how dedicated you are to being the best teacher for your students. You call them and visit them at the cottage to see how they are doing and to make sure they are ok. You work hard to develop quality lessons to help your students be the best. Keep doing what you are doing. You are truly the best. *Submitted by Michele Painter, Science teacher LYDC*

Caroline Owings, Special Education Teacher:

#Partnership Caroline has done an absolutely fantastic job of building community in her classroom! Students and staff feel a sense of belonging in her room and her students also demonstrate those same values. She is accepting of all students and makes each one feel special and a part of her classroom "family". She goes out of her way to make sure that the students in her class feel that they have a voice and that all their needs are met. Her ability to establish such a community and build such trusting relationships makes her an outstanding asset to the CAIU and Hill Top Academy! *Submitted by Judi Dunkle, School Social Worker*

Alison Howard, Special Education Teacher at LYDC:

#Service Alison, I wanted to compliment you on going above and beyond to be a better teacher and giving your students the best education, you can. You are committed to learning new ideas and implementing them with your students and sharing with your fellow teachers. You put yourself out there every day to help a difficult student population. You show compassion and respect to your students and have made a positive impact on their lives. This impact shows when your past students keep in contact and let you know how they are doing back home. Keep up the good work, it is greatly appreciated, and you are important to our LYDC family. *Michele Painter, Science teacher LYDC*

Carla Fontanella, Reading Specialist: #Service Carla is a tireless advocate and help to our students in need! She helps students overcome academic challenges and is

always there for them. She also assists the school staff and administration to serve the students as best as possible. Carla serves others with humility, dedication, and optimism- thank you for the example you set for all of us, Carla! *Submitted by Annette Nebel, Counselor*

Stephanie Kleese, Early Intervention SLP: #Leadership

Stephanie has shown great leadership and poise in handling difficult situations this year. She has been committed to providing the best therapy for her students while supporting their families and allowing them to grow into better supporters of their child. She has had to assist in conflict resolution and has done so with grace and without favor. Stephanie continues to perform great work, not only as a speech/language therapist, but also as a listener and problem-solver. She is a rockstar! *Submitted by Meghan Harvey, Assistant S/L Supervisor*

Bryan Guerrisi, Online Learning Support Specialist:

#Dedication Bryan Guerrisi has been a loyal CAOLA and CAIU employee for seven years. He thoughtfully and expertly supports CAOLA schools/programs/IU's. While also helping to guide the team. This year I have watched him grow as a leader by finishing the EDLP and starting a two-year pathway to receive his principal's certification.....while raising four kids! This type of dedication strengthens CAOLA and CAIU. Thank you, Bryan, for being an integral part of our team! *Submitted by Holly Brzycki, Supervisor of Online Learning*

Jill Johnson, Communication Facilitator: #Dedication

I appreciate all you do to help our students (and me) in the classroom and beyond. You are always willing to contribute to activities and support both me and the students, and our families. You step in during the day whenever needed and are genuine in trying to keep our classroom a positive environment for learning and fun. Thank you for all you do! *Submitted by Korrin Bogdan, Teacher*

Sean Taney, EPP CATES Middle School: #Partnership

Sean connects with the students using humor and relates to them with his knowledge of gaming. This is how Sean builds positive rapport and makes our students feel comfortable with a sense of belonging. Thank you for all you do, Sean! *Submitted by Rita Harvey, MS, BSL, Mental Health Treatment Specialist*

Sarah Reitnour, Teacher CATES Middle School:

#Innovation Sarah is very knowledgeable of our electronic world, and I appreciate how she shares her expertise in game-based learning, the way the students are most engaged today. Thank you, Sarah, for all you do! *Submitted by Rita Harvey, MS, BSL, Mental Health Treatment Specialist*

CAIU Compliments continued on page 11.

Welcome New Hires!

Josie Arena

is a PCA at Yellow Breeches. She is 100% Italian.



Heather Haney

is an EPP at Middlesex. She has 3 active sons and 2 cats. They love to go camping.



Maria Hoover

is the Director of Educational Services at the Enola office. She plays piano, loves to cook, read, and spend time with her family. She has 3 kids (all teenagers - Irish triplets!)



Billi Jo "BJ" Lawrence

is an EPP/LPN at Hill Top Academy. She loves her family and sprint car racing.



Halle Reisinger

is an EPP at Middlesex. She has 4 cats.

Abigail Romberger

is an Occupational Therapist at the Enola office. She has a Sheepadoodle who is taller than her.



Farewell to our Retirees!

Eric Bostick

retiring after more than 33 years of service!

Dennis Morgan

retiring after more than 7 years of service!

CAIU Compliments continued from page 10.

Mea Magaro, Remedial Specialist, ANPS:

#Expertise Mea is always looking to learn and grow to provide what is best for her students. She actively participates in the CAIU Reading Network as well as other professional development opportunities. She then uses what she's learned to both help her students and the teachers she works with. *Submitted by Anonymous*

Tina Hastie, Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing:

#Service Hey Tina! You Rock. I would have selected more values than just the one, but I appreciate you. You do such a great job serving the DHH population and are extremely

responsive when asked to help. Keep up the awesome work! *Submitted by Ashley, DHH Teacher*

Tami Dresher, Educational Paraprofessional:

#Partnership Tami is an amazing EPP and person. She has been extremely helpful and patient in my transition back to the CAIU. Tami gives 110% every day. She enhances the work environment with her years of experience, knowledge, and humor. Tami can make a gloomy day BRIGHT! I am very grateful to have her as a colleague and friend. *Submitted by Mary Ranney, Special Education Teacher*



Open Communications Council

Staying Connected. Being Heard.

About

The purpose of the OCC is to provide a communication channel for all employees to share their feedback with organization leadership to promote a healthy culture and open communication in support of CAIU values. The OCC will establish trust between the council and employees, as well as council and leadership.

Employees wishing to contact the OCC are encouraged to submit their information via the OCC Contact Request Form. Employee names will be kept confidential and will not be shared with feedback outside of their department name, and possible sub-department or team, depending on the size and risk of identification, unless a safety or security issue is identified.

OCC Contact Request Form



CAIU Website

Logging into the Employee portion of the CAIU website, under Committees



Link

<https://bit.ly/CAIUFormOCC>

