



SCHOLARLY VIEWS & NEWS

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Summer 2020

Congratulations BA Graduates!

Keri White
Kimberly Droppo
Connie Delacruz
Samantha Sulik
Cheryl Sullivan

News from Child Care Aware of WA Scholarships

This is not an easy time to be a scholar, and not an easy time to be a child care professional. The ongoing stress and heartbreak caused by systemic racism and police brutality, combined with the devastating health and financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are causing tremendous challenges. We see you. We support you. We thank you.

We stand with all those who oppose racism, police brutality and white supremacy in all its forms. We stand with everyone who is working to build a brighter future for themselves, their families and their communities. We invite you to read our statement against racism: <https://childcareawarewa.org/2020/06/05/eradicating-racism-is-long-overdue/>. Your work and your academic goals are important.

To those of you who will not be able to celebrate a traditional graduation, we share your sadness at missing these activities, while also congratulating you on your tremendous accomplishments. Well done!

If you are in school and struggling to make ends meet during these difficult times, we want you to know that help is available. In our state people can call 211 or visit <https://wa211.org/> for free resources nearby. Also, we have created a list of foodbanks at the colleges we partner with. You can find them online:

- English—<https://childcareawarewa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Food-Pantry-List-FINAL.pdf>
- Spanish—<https://childcareawarewa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Food-Pantry-List-Spanish-FINAL-1.pdf>



CCA of WA Scholarships Staff:
Ivonne Pereira, Program Coordinator
Meka Riggins, Director of Scholarships
Christine Zumwalt, Program Coordinator
Tiffany Khanphongphane, Program Assistant



Scholar Spotlight - Carla Olsen, Adventures in Learning

Carla Olsen, assistant teacher at Adventures in Learning Preschool in Lacey, knows first-hand the benefits of going to school for her BA in early care and education.

“I have already learned so much from being in school, and it has helped me to become a better educator for my children and their families,” she said.

She encourages other child care professionals to earn their degrees. “Don’t think about it, do it! It is the best decision you could make.”

Carla credits her CCA of WA scholarship for helping her pursue higher education. Her long-term goal is to earn her Master’s Degree.

Scholar Advocacy During COVID-19

Advocating for increased investment in child care and early learning is always important. Now, as we face a global pandemic, state budgets are shrinking as needs are increasing. Please join us in raising your voice in support of sustaining Washington’s child care and early learning investments.

Letting your elected representatives who serve you in Congress and in Olympia know that you support increased access to high-quality child care is as easy as sending an email. You can email your federal reps in just a few minutes from our website at <https://childcareawarewa.org/advocacy/take-action/>, and you can find your state reps to email here: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/>.



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1001 Pacific Ave., Suite 400
Tacoma, WA 98402

Summer Reminders:

Attention Graduates—Congratulations! Please email a copy of your final transcripts and graduation photos if you would like to share: scholarships@wa.childcareaware.org.

Financial Aid—Apply for 2020-2021 federal financial aid now at <https://studentaid.gov/>. If you receive an award, please let us know before the academic year starts.

End of Contract Survey—You will receive a required (and anonymous) survey vial email at the end of your scholarship contract. Please complete the survey when it arrives.



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SCHOLARSHIPS
For early learning professionals

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Child Care Aware of Washington Scholarships offers scholarships to early learning professionals to enrich their expertise. Our goal is to advance the early learning field by increasing educational achievement and helping early learning professionals achieve their goals.