

Debra Sue Ward

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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- 45 years of experience in Early Childhood Education/Child Development programs infants/toddlers, preschool, and school-age/afterschool programs
- 40 years of experience In Early Childhood Education/Child Development Supervision/Management
- 20 years of experience with the inspired Reggio Emilia Approach to education
- 35 years of experience teaching Child Development courses at various Community Colleges in San Bernardino and Los Angeles Counties
- 11 years serving as a Mentor Director to Directors and students in the field of ECE
- Experienced in writing grants and grant management
- Designed and implemented training programs related to ECE for teachers, interns, volunteers and parents
- Developed marketing brochures, newsletters and documentation to make children's learning visible
- Coordinated, planned and implemented successful public relation and fundraising events
- Creative, flexible in organizing, and planning

EDUCATION

MASTER OF SCIENCE | 2002 | UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE

- Major: Child Development

BACHLOE BACHELOR OF ARTS | 1978 | UNIVERSITY OF REDLANDS

- Double Major: Psychology and Theatre Arts with a Dance Emphasis

RELATED TRAINING AND CERTIFICATES

State of California Teacher Credentialing Child Development Program Director Permit, expires 2030

California Community College, Nursery School and Preschool Education Credential, no expiration

Committee Member of the California Child Care Policy Workforce

Certificate of Participation in Reggio Emilia, Italy Preschools 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2021, 2024

Program Administration Scale (PAS) Reliable Training

Business Administration Scale (BAS) for Family Child Care Reliable Training

Trainer of Training about Family Engagement

Mentor Director for the California Early Childhood Mentor Program since 2014

Trainer for Desired Results, 2015

Professional Growth Advisor, for Child Development Permits in California since 1998

Program for Infants and Toddler Care Training (PITC)

YMCA Senior Director Certificate, 1991

YMCA Citrus Belt Child Care Cluster Coordinator Certificate, 1994

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE RELATED TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

- Director of the Child Development Center/PT Faculty | Cerritos College | 2006 – retired July 1, 2024
- Child Development Center Director/and PT Faculty | San Bernardino Valley College | 2004 – 2006
- Interim Child Development Grant Coordinator | San Bernardino Valley College | 2001 – 2004
Child Care Specialist | YMCA OF Riverside/ City and County | 2000- 2001
- Associate Executive Director – Child Care Services | Redlands Family YMCA | 1990 – 2000
- Senior Program Director for Child Care/Fitness Program Director | Redlands Family YMCA | 1981 – 1989
- Preschool Teacher/Dance Instructor/Program Director | YWCA of Redlands | 1977-1981

TEACHING EXPERIENCE RELATED TO CHILD DEVELOPMENT

- Taught Child Development courses in Administration and Management of Child Care programs, the Family Home and Community, Music and Movement, Creative Activities for Young Children, Exceptional Children, Principles and Practices, Assessment and Observation, The Practicum Fieldwork, and the Infant/Toddler Development and Activities courses for the following Community Colleges:
- Cerritos College Part-time Instructor (Teaching Practicum Course) | 2006 – 2024
- Rio Hondo College, Part-time Faculty for Child Development | 2012 – 2018
- San Bernardino Valley College, Full-Time Faculty and Center Director | 2004 – 2006
- San Bernardino Valley College Adjunct Instructor for Child Development | 1988-2004
- California State University, San Bernardino, Extended Learning Instructor for Child Development | 1998 - 2006
Crafton Hills College Adjunct Instructor for Child Development | 1999- 2001
Victor Valley Community College Adjunct Instructor for Child Development | 2000 - 2001
Mt. San Jacinto Community College Adjunct Instructor for Child Development | 2000 -2001

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE RELATED TO CUSTOMER SERVICE AND RETAIL

- Cloth World, part-time time service clerk and cashier | 1973-1975
- Broadway Dept Store as a Youth Council served in Retail, Cashier| 1975-1977
- YMCA of Redlands, served as a Program Director responsible for Customer Service | 1981-2000

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Wrote successful grant proposals totaling \$5 million for Child Development Programs in San Bernardino County
- Developed and conducted staff development training modules in the inspired Reggio Emilia approach to ECE
- Responsible for writing and securing \$1,800,000 of State Department of Education Contracts for CSPP and CCTR for Cerritos College Child Development Center

- Coordinated and managed a \$2 million-dollar annual budget for a grant program called “*FOCUS*” for San Bernardino Valley College
- Coordinated Child Care Center improvements with 48 Directors in San Bernardino County for quality improvements
- Conducted complex monitoring and monthly income reports, involving revenues from state, private foundations, client fees, and grants
- Interviewed, hired and supervised interns, staff, parents, program directors, child development assistants, secretaries and clerks for a non-profit childcare program and Community College District Child Care programs
- Developed and managed infant, preschool and school age childcare programs with Redlands Unified School District
- Supervised and evaluated a staff of 4 Program Directors and 85 childcare teachers for the Redlands Family YMCA
- Coordinated all aspects of state preschool programs involving nutrition education, parent education, program compliance, assessment and curriculum development.
- Revised and wrote San Bernardino Valley College’s childcare policies and procedures
- Created manuals for Policy and Procedures at Cerritos College Child Development Center

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION

- Developed training modules and manuals aligned with the social constructivist pedagogy for Cerritos College Child Development Center
- Set up classroom environments to align with the inspired Reggio Emilia Approach to education
- Planned and coordinated the complex logistics of opening nineteen childcare centers, including licensing regulations, hiring, training staff and supervising the set-up of the physical environment.
- Conducted yearly program evaluations
- Collaborated with the YMCA of Riverside to develop a grant proposal for a corporate childcare program in Temecula, California
- Designed workshops and staff training for all YMCA departments, involving from 40 to 150 participants
- Wrote comprehensive descriptions of childcare programs and its goals and objective
- Consulted and assisted one community childcare center in Redlands with NAEYC accreditation.
- Developed, coordinated and planned activities for San Bernardino’s First Five funded program called “*FOCUS*”

MARKETING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

- Coordinated and published a monthly newsletter for the “*FOCUS*” (First Five Grant) and SB Valley Child Development Center program
- Increased public awareness of childcare programs through marketing campaigns and Public Relations
- Coordinated and Edited a quarterly YMCA brochure
- Published a monthly staff newsletter for the YMCAs in San Bernardino County
- Prepared local press releases and developed marketing materials for childcare programs
- Developed successful logos and slogans for YMCA, SBVC “*FOCUS*”, SB Valley and Cerritos College CDC programs
- Served on the Board of Directors for Redlands Noon Kiwanis Club 1989-1996.
- Held the position of The First Woman President for the Kiwanis Club of Redlands in 1995.

- Collaborated with First Five San Bernardino, Inland Regional Center, the U of R Speech and Hearing Department, San Bernardino County Resource and Referral and San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools to provide resources for families

STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

- Developed Study Groups for the Reggio Emilia Approach in ECE
- Conduct trainings and Educator Tours for the Reggio Emilia approach at Cerritos College
- Coordinated facilitators and conducted workshops and trainings for 48 childcare centers teachers in San Bernardino County.
- Conducted ECERS and ITERS for childcare centers in San Bernardino County and developed a plan of action for quality improvement.
- Conducted YMCA staff training in child abuse, the school-age director, supervising multiple sites, administration and supervision, and working with preschool and school age children.
- Facilitated exemplary program standards/task force meetings; trained EPS leaders and evaluators.
- Served as an EPS peer reviewer for the State Department of Education.
- Taught Child Development courses in Administration and Management of Child Care programs, the Family Home and Community, Music and Movement, Creative Activities for Young Children, Exceptional Children, Principles and Practices, Assessment and Observation and Infant/Toddler Development and Activities for various Community Colleges.
- Served as a YMCA Child Care Cluster Coordinator, training YMCA Child Care Program Directors and staff.
- Facilitated trainings for Pre-K Standards, Desired Results and ECERS/ITERS.
- Currently serve as a Professional Growth Advisor
- Currently serve as a California Mentor Director

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

- Currently serving as a member of the California Child Care Policy Council Workforce Committee
- Mentor Director - California Mentor Program
- Professional Growth Advisor
- Member of NAREA- Reggio Alliance
- Member of National Association for the Education of Young Children
- Served as a member of San Bernardino Valley College Mentoring Committee
Child Care/State Department Community Care Licensing Advisory Council
- Redlands Noon Kiwanis -former President 1995

REFERENCES

Dr. Elizabeth Riley– Dean, Health Occupations Division, Cerritos College

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Dionne Gibson – Child Development Department – Dept. Co-Chairperson/Program Director

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