



CT-AIMH Member News

Special Points of Interest

The **CT AIMH 2009 Jane C. Bourns Award** was presented to **Mary Ann Dayton-Fitzgerald** at the "Early Relationships Matter" spring conference held jointly with Building Blocks. Mary Ann was CT-AIMH's first president and instrumental in starting the Association.



Jane Bourns was a visionary and tireless advocate for children, devoting most of her career to the development of mental health services for children.

The 2009 Fall Conference: **Nurturing our Workforce** will be November 19 at the New Haven Country Club. Janet Dean, LCSW from Colorado, will focus on reflective supervision. Supervisors and staff are invited. The Child Health and Development Institute will co-sponsor our speaker.

For more info about the fall conference or the Jane C. Bourns Award, visit: www.ct-aimh.org.

Membership News for 2009

Please welcome new Board of Director member, **Tanika Simpson**. Tanika is a clinical social worker at the Yale Child Study Center in the Minding the Baby program. She served as an agency liaison to our Board in 2008-09 from the Children's Trust Fund.

In March 2009, our application to become a 501C3 organization was approved. We are excited about this designation and anticipate being able to find additional resources with this recognition.

In July 2009, application was made to become an affiliate of the World Association for Infant Mental Health. A new U.S. affiliate of WAIMH has been formed and we are eagerly awaiting confirmation.



World Association for
Infant Mental Health

The U.S. affiliate brings together all state Associations for Infant Mental Health. We look forward to having a national voice for infants and young children and their families.

Reflective Supervision in "Zero to Three"

The 11/07 issue of "Zero to Three" is devoted to **Reflective Supervision: What Is It and Why Do It?** This is recommended reading for the 11/09 conference: "Nurturing Our Workforce."

Robert Weigand and Deborah Weatherston write:

"Supervision that invites regular reflection about one's work with infants and families, as well as the exploration of thoughts and feelings that are awakened, promotes each professional's developing capacity to understand, support, and sustain effective relationships."

"Reflective Supervision, Past, Present, and Future," is discussed by Linda Eggbeer, Tammy Mann and Nancy Seibel from Zero to Three. The capacity to be reflective and to create and maintain strong relationships on behalf of a baby are increasingly being identified as important competencies to providing services to young children and their families.

Visit www.zerotothree.org and search "reflective supervision."

Connecticut Association for Infant Mental Health

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The Connecticut Association for Infant Mental Health provides statewide opportunities to enhance knowledge and to promote a positive influence on the social-emotional health and development of infants, young children and their families.

Update on Connecticut Competencies for Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health

Committees are at work to promote the Competency Guidelines for Culturally Sensitive, Relationship-Focused Practice Promoting Infant Mental Health®.

A survey of practicing clinicians is underway with the support of the Graustein Memorial Fund to discover who is serving infants and young children. Samantha Goodrich, a UCONN graduate student is conducting the survey.

A group of 20 people interested in Reflective Supervision/Consultation met at the Early Relationships Matter conference to begin to plan for offering this reflective opportunity throughout the state.

The training committee has developed a plan to discover who offers training opportunities that meet the competencies.

The marketing/communication committee has developed a FAQ about the Competencies. Please check the website at www.ct-aimh.org for this document.

We are grateful to the CT Workforce

Visit the CT-AIMH website at www.ct-aimh.org for the most up-to-date organizational info.

Collaborative for Behavioral Health for supporting our planning process.

The Department of Social Services and the Head Start Collaboration Office identified key initiatives focusing on infants and toddlers. CT AIMH is among the initiatives with its Competency Guidelines for Infant Mental Health.

The League of States currently using the Michigan model (10) is meeting on December 1 and 2 prior to the Zero to Three National Training Institute in Dallas. The topic is Reflective Supervision, essential characteristics.

If you would like to be involved in the competencies process, please e-mail: margaret.holmberg@ct.metrocast.net



CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION
FOR INFANT MENTAL HEALTH