

JUDITH C. MEYERS RECEIVES 2007 JANE C. BOURNS AWARD

Judith Meyers, a clinical and community psychologist, is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Children's Fund of Connecticut, a public charitable foundation, and its subsidiary, the Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut. These two organizations are focused on improving health outcomes for children through promoting the development of comprehensive, effective, community-based health and mental health care systems.

Dr. Meyers has devoted the last twenty years to working on issues of public policy and service system reform for children and their families in several positions including as Associate Director of the Bush Program in Child Development and Social Policy at the University of Michigan, Senior Policy Advisor for Governor Michael Dukakis, Commissioner of the State of Iowa's Division of Child & Family Services, and Senior Associate at the Annie E. Casey Foundation. In Connecticut, she has served on the Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Mental Health and the Lt. Governor's Mental Health Cabinet. She holds faculty appointments at the University Of Connecticut School Of Medicine and the Yale University Child Study Center.

Under her leadership the CHDI has produced many publications detailing the current status and needs of young children in their health and mental health development with recommendations for meeting the needs. The most recent is a report on behavioral health services in pediatric care and recommendations for CT to integrate medical and behavioral health services using co-location models.

Another of her interests is building the workforce capacity in early childhood mental health. She authored a chapter on Developing the Work Force for an Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health System of Care in the recent publication, Social & Emotional health in Early Childhood: building bridges between services & systems, edited by Deborah F. Perry, Roxane Kaufmann, and Jane Knitzer.

In Connecticut, Judith has been instrumental in developing and growing the Early Childhood Consultation Project and the systems of care for children with mental health concerns through DCF and DSS. She co chairs the subcommittee on health and mental health as part of the DSS and Commission on Children's Infant Toddler Strategic Plan. Judith has supported the growth of CT-AIMH by helping to sponsor its annual meetings and conferences. She has been instrumental in bringing together those in Connecticut involved in research in early childhood mental health. She is at all tables where the healthy development of young children is the topic as a leader, an advocate, and as a funder.