

## Board of Child Care (BCC)

In last year's report, I shared about how Board of Child Care is developing our three-year strategic plan. We are now in our second year of implementation and are already seeing our purpose statement of **enriching communities, one family at a time** come alive. Guiding us in fulfilling our purpose are our four core values: Safety, Integrity, Empathy, and Impact.

In this year's report, I want to share our strategic plan's four central goals:

### **1. Organizational Alignment and Focus**

In 2015, we earned NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) as well as CARF accreditation (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) for the first time. The process made us focus on our operational manuals and policies and ultimately ensure they are the same across all BCC programs wherever possible. This alignment work is making us more efficient and consistent.

### **2. Attract, Engage and Retain Extraordinary Talent**

With about 500 staff in two United Methodist conferences across the Mid-Atlantic, we need to ensure each employee is supported in their work. We have a number of projects underway that will help us cultivate a workforce that is always learning, growing, and driving lasting change. Because when we are learning and growing, we are ensuring we are providing the best possible care and services for children, families and communities.

### **3. Teamwork. Always.**

One example of BCC teamwork is the transformation our programs are experiencing. We are infusing evidence-based practices throughout all our offerings. This is a huge undertaking that requires every corner of our organization to work together. Our end objective is to offer a continuum of care that can adjust for the unique challenges a youth and their family is having at different times in their treatment.

### **4. Leading Collaborations and Connections**

As a connectional denomination, The United Methodist Church offers unique opportunities for collaborations. BCC has worked closely with Chaddock, a UM organization based in Quincy, Ill., to learn more about developmental trauma and attachment programs. Their advice and council was instrumental in helping us re-launch our adolescent girls program in both Baltimore and Martinsburg this past year.

BCC has also deepened our relationship with the UMA, an association of health and welfare ministries affiliated with the UMC throughout the country. We welcomed our new UMA CEO, Mary Kemper, as a new neighbor to BCC when the UMA moved its headquarters to Maryland. I am also proud to announce that I was nominated and voted onto the board of the United Methodist Association in the fall of 2016.

As I write this we are preparing for our site visit from the United Methodist Association's EAGLE (Educational Assessment Guidelines Leading toward Excellence) accreditation review that will be held in March of 2017. The results of all our accreditation visits are posted on [www.boardofchildcare.org](http://www.boardofchildcare.org).

I once again offer our sincere appreciation to the congregations and individuals who have been prayerfully supporting our work in so many ways. Some examples include:

- Inviting our staff to preach and share about our mission;
- Touring our programs and volunteering for projects;
- Contributing financially or via gifts in kind, especially during the Christmas season;
- Making prayer blankets or creating welcome bags for our youth;
- Supporting our spiritual life team by providing resources such as Action Bibles;
- Sending birthday cards each month to our residential program participants;
- Dropping off boxes and boxes of cookies and snacks for our growing teenagers;
- ...and countless other examples of hospitality and love.

Thank you, Baltimore-Washington Conference, for your support through your prayers, your gifts, and your presence. We invite and encourage you to engage with us in enriching communities, one family at a time. Get started at [www.boardofchildcare.org](http://www.boardofchildcare.org) to arrange for a campus tour, read our latest annual report and audited financial statements, sign up to receive monthly pictures and program updates, and to discover ways to get more involved.

With immense gratitude,  
Laurie Anne Spagnola  
President and CEO