

## IDEALS ■

- To provide the community with high-quality education/care programs.
- To promote cooperation among agencies and interdisciplinary collaboration among professions concerned with the welfare of young children, their families, and their teachers.
- To work, through education, research, and advocacy, toward a society in which all young children have access to high-quality education/care programs.
- To work, through education, research, and advocacy, toward an environmentally safe world in which all children receive adequate health care, food, and shelter and are able to live without violence.
- To promote knowledge and understanding of young children and their needs. To work toward greater social acceptance of responsibility for their wellbeing.
- To further the professional development of the field of early childhood care and education and to strengthen its commitment to realizing its core values as reflected in this Code.

### NAEYC Mission Statement

NAEYC's mission is to serve and act on behalf of the needs, rights and well-being of all young children with primary focus on the provision of educational and developmental services and resources.

### Goals

NAEYC expresses its mission in terms of three broad goals:

1. Improving professional practice and working conditions in early childhood education.
2. Supporting early childhood programs by working to achieve a high-quality system of early childhood education.
3. Building a high-performing, inclusive organization of groups and individuals who are committed to promoting excellence in early childhood education for all young children.

# A Guide to the Responsibilities of the Community and Society



## NAEYC: Code of Ethical Conduct



## PRINCIPLES ■

- You should communicate openly and truthfully about the nature and extent of services that are provided.

- Weekly or monthly calendars should be sent home with the child so the parent/caregiver can have an idea of the activities that are going on in the classroom.

- You shall not offer services that you do not have the competence, qualification, or resources to provide.

- Encourage parents or members of the community to volunteer in the classroom. For career day have people come in and talk about their jobs. Another suggestion is to have a Pioneer day. Parents and other volunteers can dress up and hold activities, such as sewing, cider making, designing a teepee, etc.

- You must cooperate with other professionals who work with children and their families.

- Talking to the coaches and/or other teachers that are involved in the student's life can give the teacher insight to how the child is developing.

## PRINCIPLES ■

- You should not recommend for employment any person whose competence, qualifications, or character makes them unsuited for the position.

- Children should receive an education from an experienced instructor.
- The educator should have some knowledge of the information they are conveying to the students.
- Credentials will help the individual earn the job but they should provide proof of the skills they acquired from those certificates.

- You shall be familiar with laws and regulations that serve to protect the children in your programs.

- Knowing how your child is being protected is important. If you feel that more should be done to take care of your child then you should take a stand and voice your opinion.

- When you have evidence that an early childhood program is violating laws or regulations protecting children, you shall report it to persons responsible for the program.

- Once the violation is reported the program should be given reasonable time to remedy the situation. If no changes are made, then the problem should be reported to the appropriate authorities.

## PRINCIPLES ■

- When you have evidence that an agency or a professional charged with providing services to children, families, or teachers is failing to meet its obligations, you acknowledge a collective ethical responsibility to report the problem to appropriate authorities or to the public.

- By reporting to the community that a specific facility is not operating correctly you are saving children from that detrimental environment.

- When a program violates or requires its employees to violate this Code, it is permissible, after fair assessment of the evidence, to disclose the identity of that program.

- The community has a right to be aware of the care that is being provided to the children in those facilities. Families with children do not want to send those children to programs that are not educational and do not meet the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct.