



# PATHWAY PROGRAM

FUNDED BY WKKF & ECIC

The goal of the Pathway program is to increase the number and diversity of quality educators and leaders in the early childhood pipeline, leading to greater access and quality of early childhood education opportunities for children and families in Battle Creek.

**FALL 2022**

## What's New?

Currently, the Pathway Program is assisting 137 individuals with either a Child Development Associate (CDA) or an Associate degree in Early Childhood Education.

Students are in grind mode as it is approaching mid-term week at Kellogg Community College. The pathway program has 30 individuals working on their Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education. Between the 30 students, they are enrolled in 71 courses at KCC! Way to go, Bruins!

The Pathway Program has 107 participants working on their CDA. Individuals are working hard in CCEI or taking KCC Courses to obtain their Preschool, Infant/Toddler, or Home-Care Provider CDA! Keep working hard!

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# Center Spotlights

Fall 2022

## Jumpstart Childcare

Jumpstart Childcare Center opened in 1995 located at 393 Helmer Road N, connected to Branch Gymnastics! Jumpstart serves children 6 weeks to 12 years old.

Jumpstart has been involved with the Pathway Program since January 2022. Since then, 4 staff members have received their CDA and 5 staff members are currently working towards their CDA or Associate Degree. Jumpstart's Director adds "the Pathway program is a great opportunity for smaller centers like ours to support our staff and encourage furthering their education in ECE."



## Bright Light Early Care & Education

Bright Light Early Care & Education opened in 2022. They are located on 49 Cass St S. They serve children ages 0-5. Since opening, 7 staff members earned their CDA. One staff member is working on their CDA and 3 staff are actively working on their Associate Degree in ECE through the Pathway Program. Bright Lights Director stated "the Pathway Program has given staff a tangible process to complete a project which many have been working on for years - as a director my job is to dedicate time and resources to their completion as well - then we all benefit in the end!"



Job Openings!

SCAN ME

# Our CDA Stars

Since July, 13 participants have received their CDAs and we have processed 4 renewals. CDA recipients were: Sabrina Lilly, Toni Koons, Faith Laubaugh, Jennifer Newman, Mackenzie Minniear, Jocelyn Huerta, Brooke Johncock, Jessica Atkinson, Tiriea Ross, Brittany Snell, Martha Calderon, Jonique Anderson, Tracy Bohannon, Lindsey Krutsch, Mandy Franks & Rosalee Osten



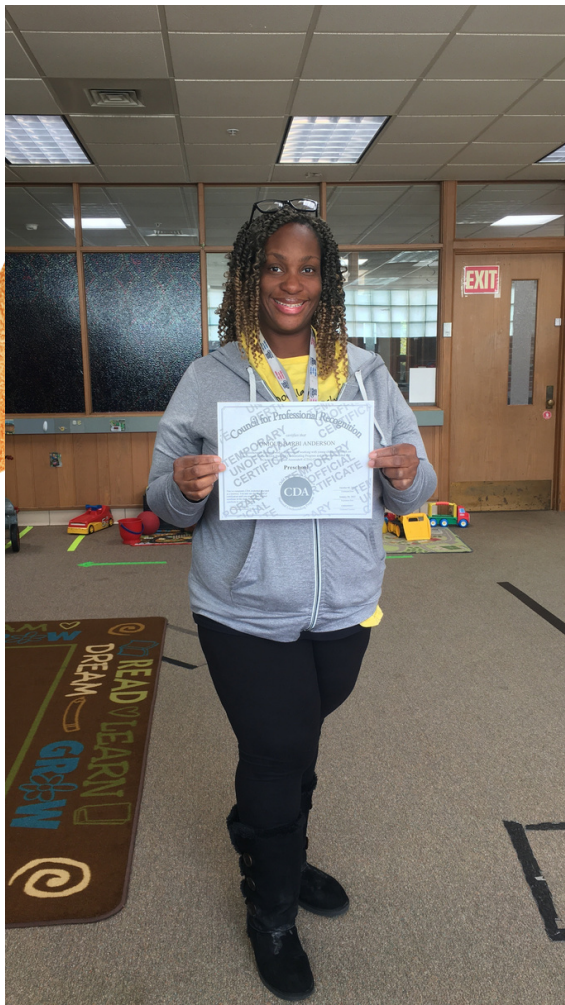
**Jocelyn Huerta** is an Early Head Start teacher at Doris Hale. She has been in the field of early childhood for two years and enjoys working with children because you learn just as much from the children as they learn from you. Jocelyn says she enjoys "shaping their little minds to be ready for the future!"

Jocelyn is now working towards her associate degree in early childhood education as she hopes one day in the later future to open her own childcare center. Way to go, Jocelyn!

**Sabrina Lilly** is a Teacher at Bright Light Early Care & Education. She has been in the field of early childhood for four years. Sabrina says "I love making an impact on children's learning!" In the future, Sabrina would like to open a childcare center for children with special needs. A fun fact about Sabrina is that she loves to put 400+ piece Lego sets together; you go girl!

Sabrina is working on her associate degree in early childhood education through the pathway program! Keep working hard, Sabrina!





**Jonique Anderson** is a Lead Teacher at Woodlawn Preschool 2. She has worked in the ECE field for 5 years and enjoys being a role model for the children. Her future career goals is to finish her Associate Degree with the Pathway Program and then move onto her Bachelor's Degree in ECE. A fun fact about Jonique is that she always has wanted to become a figure skater aside from being a teacher! How fun!

Jonique states "The Pathway Program has been a true blessing in helping me along the way with my early childhood education. Everyone in this program has been extremely supportive and kind. I feel like I have come in strides in under a year and I am truly grateful for that!" Way to go, Jonique!

## Pathway Staff Star



I'm Lisa Farrell. I am the Career Pathway Navigator for the Early Childhood Pathway Program. This is my second career as I worked as an Early Childhood Special Education Teacher for 32 years. I retired in June 2020 from CISD. I was born in Battle Creek, and am a Bearcat alumnus. My education is BS from Michigan State (Go green) and MA from Western Michigan. I love working with children but also really enjoy assisting the next group of BC educators in my current role. I am married to Patrick and have two young adult daughters that are both in graduate school. I am a diehard Spartan fan (go green). I enjoy traveling, exercising, reading, and watching my family run competitive races around the country. I am a slow jogger!

For more info on the program, contact...

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