

## What will be Inside this Newsletter

- » **Silver Innovation Award Winner**
- » **Essential Supports for Working Families**
- » **Staff Spotlight**



*Pictured: Bethany Davis, Jill Norris, Angela Cooper & Kate Dean*

## Coming Soon!



Stay tuned to learn more about the Child Care Aware<sup>®</sup> of Kentucky Community Toolkit. This resource is designed to assist anyone interested in raising conversations about the importance

of child care in local communities. The kit will include data, statistics, resources, and starter questions.

**Follow @CCAWAREKY** on Facebook or visit the CCAKY website [www.childcareawareky.org/](http://www.childcareawareky.org/) often for updates.

## Child Care Aware<sup>®</sup> of Kentucky Earns Silver Innovation Award at National Summit

Child Care Aware<sup>®</sup> of Kentucky has been recognized as one of six national finalists for the prestigious Wings of Innovation Award, presented at the Wind Beneath Your Wings Summit hosted by TOOTRiS. This honor celebrates groundbreaking efforts to improve child care systems across the country.

Read more - <https://hdi.uky.edu/news/child-care-aware-of-kentucky-earns-silver-innovation-award-at-national-summit/>

## Essential Supports for Working Families



Child care is an essential workforce support which contributes to the overall success of businesses nationwide. Working families often struggle to find accessible and affordable child care options, which can directly impact employee absenteeism and retention. Companies lose an estimated \$4.4 billion annually as a consequence of child care-related absences while companies offering child care services or assistance reduce the number of days employees missed by 30%. Child Care Aware® of Kentucky offers a variety of consumer education resources and services to support employers and employees in addressing child care needs. The Employer Toolkit is designed to educate and empower employers in establishing family-friendly work places that result in a win-win for businesses and working families.

For more information, local presentations, or free technical assistance, contact Kate Dean, Director of Community Based Partnerships and Strategy @ [Kate.Dean@uky.edu](mailto:Kate.Dean@uky.edu).

Visit <https://www.childcareawareky.org/support/employers/> to learn more about Child Care Aware of Kentucky's resources designed specifically for employers.

## Meet Our Staff

For over 25 years, Kate has worked to expand supports for children, families, and communities in a variety of social welfare settings. Joining Child Care Aware® of Kentucky in 2015 solidified her commitment to working families across the Commonwealth. Juggling a full time career while raising a family, Kate has first hand experience of the important role quality child care plays for working parents. Without the peace of mind that our children have somewhere safe, fun, and nurturing to grow and thrive, it's hard to keep our minds on our work.



*Kate Dean*  
Director of Community Based  
Partnerships and Strategy