

YOICE for Children 2024 VOICE for Children Distinguished Career Award Recipient

Deb Green Executive Director, Parent Infant Center

Deb Green is a devoted leader that has served more than 40 years in the field of early childhood education. Deb holds a M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education/Administration from Arcadia University and a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Penn State University. Deb has served as an adjunct instructor of Early Childhood Education at the Community College of Philadelphia for 25 years and has served as a board member of First Up for many years.

Deb's dedication began early in her career when she became the owner and director of a program in Philadelphia that became the first NAEYC accredited program in the Philadelphia area. Deb's other early childhood work has included the role of regional manager for a national employer-



sponsored child care company, and the director of the early childhood division at an Philadelphia area independent school.

Deb's dedication to a quality early childhood experience for young children continues today as the Executive Director of the Parent Infant Center (PIC), where she has served for the past eleven years.

The Parent Infant Center is a NAEYC accredited and Keystone STAR 4 program located in West Philadelphia. PIC currently serves over 350 children in its early learning and school age programs. Deb is proud of the continually growing diversity that PIC represents among the staff and families. Deb Green is an advocate for the accessibility of high quality to all families and children.

PIC has become well-known for its Reggio Emilia-inspired philosophy and in the value of connecting children with nature. As a visionary leader, Deb oversaw the construction of PIC's unique nature playground, one of the very few nature playgrounds in the country that is located in an urban neighborhood. She has been invited to speak at many regional and national events on incorporating both the Reggio philosophy and nature



play in programs. Deb loves inspiring teachers and program leaders in thinking outside the box and dreaming of what joy in the early years can look like for all children.

