

VOICE for Children

2024 VOICE for Children Award Recipient

Valerie Danyelle Hamilton

Executive Director and Founder, Children of God Educational Center

Valerie Hamilton, M.Ed., is a highly respected educator, lifelong learner, and passionate advocate for the education and wellbeing of young people.

With a deep appreciation for the value of learning that transcends the traditional academic boundaries, Ms. Hamilton is driven by her desire to see all students succeed.

Drawing from her extensive experiences as an educator and her own personal journey, Ms. Hamilton is dedicated to empowering students, particularly those who may face challenges or feel underserved. Her belief in the transformative power of education has led her to teach, motivate, and inspire individuals of all ages across various countries, including Hungary, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, France, Hong Kong, and China. These



international experiences have not only enriched her worldview but have also shaped her philosophy of education, emphasizing the importance of cultural sensitivity and personalized learning approaches.

Ms. Hamilton's academic achievements include a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from DeVry University and a Master's degree in Education from Cairn University (formerly Philadelphia Biblical University). She has furthered her credentials by obtaining a Pennsylvania Director's Credential and an Educational Leadership Master's Certificate from Arcadia University, showcasing her commitment to professional growth and leadership in the field of education. Additionally, she aspires to pursue a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership, demonstrating her ongoing dedication to advancing her knowledge and expertise.

In her role as the Founder and Executive Director, Ms. Hamilton has embraced advocacy as a powerful tool to address the needs of the families she serves. Since 2020, she has collaborated with organizations such as First Up and Children First (formerly PCCY), actively participating in initiatives like the Cohort 13, First Up Fellowship for Early Childhood



Education Advocacy. Her outstanding contributions have been recognized through prestigious awards, including Advocate of the Year by Children First and the Hometown Hero award by Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick. Ms. Hamilton's advocacy efforts have extended to the legislative arena, where she has spoken at the Harrisburg Capitol on multiple occasions, advocating for policies and resources to support early childhood education. Her remarkable achievements include being honored on the House floor for her pioneering work as the first African American-owned childcare center in Bucks County to achieve a Keystone STARS level 4 grading, the highest level of quality in early childhood education.

Furthermore, Ms. Hamilton actively serves her community as the advocacy Chair for the Bucks County Chapter of PennAEYC and as a board member at the Bucks County Technical High School's Child Development Program. Through her unwavering dedication to early childhood education and her commitment to amplifying the voices of marginalized individuals, Ms. Hamilton embodies the essence of a compassionate and servant leader in the field of education.

