

Fran Chasen – Candidate for CAAEYC Board President-Elect

Leadership Experience

Establishing the California Infant Development Association (IDA), a volunteer run organization, and working to grow and sustain it has been a journey in leadership. IDA offers all disciplines working in the field of Early Intervention the opportunity to share relevant research as well as develop and support policy issues to maintain and improve services for special needs children 0-3 and their families.

Commitment to getting a non-profit up and running requires learning how to work in small group, outreaching to local communities, planning and putting together events, developing an effective Board of Directors with supportive Committees. Learning how to put in place fiscal requirements and reporting methods is also important.

These skills were put to good use in my professional career and in volunteer work with SCAEYC and now Southern CA. Chapter-CAAEYC

Diversity and Inclusion

Developed and implemented diversity and inclusion training events for the Infant Development Association and SCC events. The goal for attendees was to create a forum for relevant conversation that would result in higher levels of awareness and action efforts to improve situations in all communities.

I have spent my entire career in ECE addressing diversity, equity, inclusion, and, with a policy lens, special education. My career choice was based on my interest in working with families and their children. Understanding the difficulty of giving each family what it needs, I realized I had to add advocacy to my job skills.

Contributions

CAAEYC and SCC have offered me the opportunity to learn new skills and to partner with colleagues working on important policy issues that impact families and their children. Participation in groups at the Chapter Board CAEYC Board levels has not only increased my knowledge and skill levels but has given me the opportunity to connect to and enjoy many friendships. This reminds me in so many ways why it is important to have fun and play.

Vision

The field of early care and education is facing many challenges, and I view CAAEYC as an important player in supporting, maintaining and growing a skilled workforce that can create opportunities to provide needed, quality services to families and their young children. CAAEYC, as an organization, can not only provide the necessary connections for growth and learning but can also impact awareness, effectiveness and implementation of quality policies to support the continuation of the California Early Care and Education system. I have utilized outreach and collaboration to build community partnerships, develop functioning committees, and identify fiscal support for a CAAEYC organizational framework that supports meeting its goals as a voice for Early Care and Education for its members, children, and families in California.