

Founding Institutions

The Ohio State University

Baldwin-Wallace College

Endicott College

Michigan State University

University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Founding Members

Karen Alsbrooks, Ph.D.

Michelle Artibee, MBA

Julie Candela

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Traci Lewis, MSW, LSW

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Paula Smith, Ph.D.

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Susan Warfield, MSW, LICSW

Contributions

HEAASC is supported by voluntary contributions which are tax deductible for contributors as provided by law.

Donations may be sent as an organization or an individual.

Special Thank You

The Founding Members/Board of Directors would like to thank The Ohio State University ACCESS Collaborative Program for its generosity and support, both philosophical and financial, in the development of HEAASC.



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Mission

The mission of the Higher Education Alliance of Advocates for Students with Children (HEAASC) is to enable national academic support professionals to promote the academic and personal success of student parents in higher education settings.

History

The Ohio State University, Office of Minority Affairs, ACCESS Collaborative Program invited representatives from colleges and universities to its inaugural Student Parent Support Symposium, held in June 2005. The goal of the symposium was to provide a means to collaborate with existing programs that serve the student parent population and to provide fresh ideas to start or expand programming for student parents. The symposium participants desired to develop a national association to facilitate communications and networking among student parent support professionals. As a result, a group met that October and the Higher Educational Alliance for Advocates of Students with Children was born. In 2006, an invitation was sent, inviting institutions to become a founding institution of HEAASC. In 2008, nonprofit status was granted to HEAASC.

Board of Directors

For the purpose of organization initiation, the Board of Directors will initially be comprised of individual members from Founding Institutions only. The Board of Directors consists of the following voting members: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary/Historian, Student Representative, Development Officer, Membership Coordinator, Parliamentarian, and Committee Chairs. Those interested in becoming board members must qualify for professional membership, with the exception of the student representative position.

There are a number of committees that members are invited to join: communications, programming, member education, research and standards, policy/government relations, development, and elections.

Objectives of the Organization

- Identify and disseminate best practices in service delivery.
- Encourage communication among academic support professionals.
- Provide professional development and continuing education opportunities.
- Support quality research related to students with children.
- Provide bridge between K-12 and higher education service providers.
- Recruit collaborators and sponsors to support constituents.
- Develop and/or impact policy at all levels for students with children.
- Support benchmarking of administrative data and functions.
- Recognize exemplary performance of academic support professionals.

Membership

- **Institutional** - Up to 5 individuals from an institution, organization, corporation, or agency
- **Professional** - Individual whose job is to actively promote the academic and personal success of student parents a higher education setting
- **Associate** - Individual whose interests or activities are consistent with the mission of HEAASC
- **Student** - Student that is enrolled at least part time in a college or university program

Benefits of Membership

Advocates of students with children often feel isolated. These advocates understand the importance of the work that they do, yet have difficulty accessing networking opportunities, current data/trends, and professional development opportunities. The intent of HEAASC is to assist advocates with these concerns by providing opportunities that support the objectives previously mentioned. Members will be added to an interactive listserv, where they may post or respond to questions and receive information on upcoming conferences/events of interest. This listserv is hosted by Michigan State University. You will receive a confirmation email once you have been added to the listserv. The address is HEAASC@list.msu.edu.