

## ACENA Fall Newsletter: Issue 25

### Letter from our President

*Dear ACENA Members,*

*Please help me to congratulate our newly elected/re-elected Board Members:*

*Director of Communications - Brittany Jennings*

*Director of Finance - Patricia Herbst*

*Director of Program Operations - Saskia Kramer*

*Secretary - Allie Powaser*

*Also, a big thank you to Beth Lynch and Gabi Molnar for serving on the board as the Director of Continuing Education and the Director of Finance for the past four years. We are all grateful for your service. We are also thrilled to have Patti Herbst return to the Board after offering her guidance and support last year as Past President. Thank you, Patti, for continuing to serve ACENA and the programs and professionals that we represent.*

*Additionally, I would like to thank Steven Fong for all of his help ensuring that the election process went smoothly this year.*

*We are still in search of someone who would like to join the Board as the Director of Continuing Education. Please do not hesitate to let me know if you are interested or would like more information regarding this position.*

*We also have a number of subcommittees that are active and are currently accepting new members. I would be happy to share more information about these opportunities. Thanks again for all that you do for the CE community of North America. I am excited to see what we can accomplish together in the coming months.*

*Andea Benyovszky. Ph.D.  
President of ACENA*

---

### 2018 ACENA Conference Update

August 26th - 29th 2018  
Hosted by Sara's Garden, Ohio

The working theme of the conference this year is: **CONDUCTIVE EDUCATION ~ BLENDING TRADITION AND INNOVATION.** The conference aims to highlight how the discipline of Conductive Education is a holistic approach to intervention that bridges the gap between educational and therapy services.

The conference will take place at the [Sauder Heritage Inn](#). Lodging is now reserved for ACENA Conference delegates and the conference will take place on site. Below is a tentative schedule of events:

**Sunday, August 26th**  
Arrival and check-in at hotel

**Monday, August 27th**  
Tour of [Sara's Garden](#)  
Tour of [Historic Sauder Village](#)  
Toledo Mud Hen's baseball game

**Tuesday, August 28th**  
Conference Day One  
Evening Gala (TBD)

**Wednesday, August 29th**  
Conference Day Two

The [2018 ACENA Conference website](#) is currently under construction, however you can check back periodically to keep up to date on developments.

---

## Research Study: Contenance in Children with Cerebral Palsy

ACENA is partnering with Governors State University and the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago in studying toileting continence of children with cerebral palsy. The study is trying to evaluate if there is a different level of mastery of toileting in children/young adults with cerebral palsy that have experienced Conductive Education or not. We are also trying to establish the normal developmental milestone for mastering bowel and bladder control for children with cerebral palsy.

The study pertains to caregivers of a family member with cerebral palsy. Please share among the families you work with and encourage others to participate.

<https://www.research.net/r/JNQ26W3>

The study will close on September 30, 2017

---

## World Cerebral Palsy Day Friday, October 6th



Join the global celebration for the 17 million people with cerebral palsy and the 350 million people who support them. Post your World CP Day events, photos on our [Facebook page](#) or on your Center's page!

### Public Awareness

Please help to raise awareness to create cultural change so that everyone in

society embraces people with CP as brothers, sisters and full citizens.

### Civil Rights

Help to raise awareness at the local, regional and national level about cerebral palsy to be able to guarantee that basic rights and individual opportunities are real and cannot be taken away.

### Medical/Therapeutic/Education

Continue to provide everyone with CP the best possible therapy/education options to be set up for success. Connect to organizations to create real change for people living with CP.

### Contribution

"Small steps make big strides!" Make a list of three ways you could help someone with cerebral palsy. This could include ideas of products/small inventions for someone with cerebral palsy.

Don't forget to wear **GREEN** to show your support! And check out World CP Day's [website](#) to learn more about how you can be a part of the global movement for individuals with cerebral palsy.

---

## **CE Center feature BOOST CE, California**

**BOOST is a Conductive Education based year-round program located in Northern California. It was established by two families in 2001 as a summer camp for children with motor disabilities in Sonoma County.**

**Since then BOOST has focused on using Conductive Education to help maximize independence, improve quality of life, and develop the confidence, health, as well as psychological well being of participants and their families.**

**In 2008, BOOST became a program of United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay. Over the next couple of years under the direction of Margaret Farman (CEO) and Katie Lightfoot (program director) BOOST continued to grow. In 2016, BOOST became a year-round program with the hiring of Saskia Kramer, as the BOOST Director and full-time conductor.**



**What programs does BOOST currently offer?**

Once a month, children from around the area gather for a "Mini-intensive."

These are three day sessions in which students and families work on their independence. In-between the mini intensives, they participate in individual, small group sessions on a weekly basis after school.

Once a week BOOST hosts a session called "We Play Wednesdays" where children get the chance to learn how to play. These assisted playdates focus on the furthering development of the children's social skills, movement ability, speech, communication skills, and cognitive functions. Sessions are thematically planned with an opportunity for all children to engage in community based activities. Developing creativity and participation skills are emphasized in this group.

Twice a year BOOST hosts longer intensive programs. Right after the holidays, students start the year with a one week winter session. In the month of July, children and their families get the chance to participate in a month long program. During these intensives, over twenty kids work on improving their skills with the help of a multidisciplinary team that consists of: conductor teachers, OTs, a behaviourist, and a family therapist along with more than forty volunteers.



### **What is next for BOOST?**

This fall BOOST started another school year with an increase in programs, services, and families. As of now, BOOST accepts children aged 3 to 21. One of BOOST's current goals is to be able to offer programs to young adults as well. In the next year, BOOST plans on expanding its services by opening a traditional school day classroom.

---

## **Mark your Calendars!**

September 20th: ACENA Board Meeting, 7PM Eastern

October 6th: World CP Day

October 11th: ACENA Board Meeting, 7PM Eastern

October 29th: World Stroke Day

November 8th: ACENA Board Meeting, 7PM Eastern

\*Check out [ACENA's calendar](#) to stay up to date !

Check out our facebook page:

