

Alliance Members Paying It Forward

The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project has impacted many recipients in ways that they never imagined possible. Some recipients have been the first generation in their families to go to college as a result of receiving a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship. Others have stated that they are better teachers because of lessons they have learned in their classes, and they are also able to use the information they obtain in their classes at home with their own children. Some have gone on to finish their degrees and obtain higher level positions in early childhood.

Many T.E.A.C.H. recipients are not content at simply receiving their own degrees; they have a desire to pay it forward by helping others to do the same. “Paying it forward” is different than “paying it back”. “Paying it back” indicates that you are giving back to someone that gave something to you. “Paying it forward” means that when you receive something good, you do something good for someone else.

Some recipients are paying it forward by telling others about T.E.A.C.H. at every available opportunity. Some are mentoring other recipients, or extending their support to recipients when they feel like they want to give up. Some T.E.A.C.H. recipients are now serving on advisory committees or boards of directors.

We want to know how you are working to pay it forward. For every step that you take, how are you helping others? We invite you to send us your stories, pictures or short videos showing us how you are paying it forward. Your story may be featured in an upcoming issue of the Alliance newsletter, *Alliance in Action*. Just visit the link below to download the submission form and email it to Teresa Graves at teresag@childcareservices.org or contact Teresa for more information.

Some Ideas on How to Pay It Forward with T.E.A.C.H.

- Give an encouraging card to another recipient that is currently in school
- Volunteer to mentor another recipient
- Look for a council or board on which you would be interested in serving
- Volunteer to tutor another recipient in an area in which you are strong
- Volunteer to give campus tours to new students in the early childhood curriculum
- Offer to help another early childhood teacher to apply for the T.E.A.C.H. Project