# Presidents' Good Steward Award



## Shaunna Babcock

### Center Director

## *NHTI, Concord's Community College*

The Child and Family Development Center (CFDC) at NHTI, Concord's Community College is an environment created specifically to inspire and influence our early childhood education students. The classroom teachers, administrative staff, and faculty work collaboratively to deliver quality experiences, provide rich observation opportunities, and mentor the students studying early childhood education (ECE).

The mentoring that takes place at CFDC is critical to the development of our Early Childhood students. The classroom teachers play a critical role in supporting our students as they come to observe children learning and teachers teaching. They need to understand the courses that students are taking as well as how best to support a student's expanding knowledge, skills, and dispositions.

Currently serving children ages 6-weeks – 5 years, CFDC welcomes roughly 65-70 ECE students each semester, going beyond the scope of traditional public and private child care programs. In addition to ECE students, students from other disciplines, such as dental hygiene and nursing, on campus have utilized the lab school to enhance their learning and understanding through observations and interactive activities with the children. Most recently our Center Director, Shaunna Babcock, attended a Department Head council meeting to discuss more Service Learning opportunities for students from various departments to help enrich a new kindergarten program scheduled to open in the Fall semester.

Our teachers and staff of CFDC are role models to our students as professionals and advocates in the field. The lab school has hosted community workshops for child care providers and has presented professional development through conferences and workshops within the community. This coming April one of the infant room teachers will be presenting at the New Hampshire Association for the Education of Young Children annual spring conference held at Plymouth State University.