

May 2022



Welcome to a special issue of REACH dedicated to provider appreciation. Although May 6 is officially Provider Appreciation Day, we're celebrating you the entire month because of your impact and tireless commitment to your work.

Throughout May, our social media platforms will feature messages expressing our appreciation. We kickoff the month with an opportunity for you to nominate the early childhood educator of the year.

Be sure to check out videos from Rena Hallam, director, Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood and Caitlin Gleason, associate secretary, early childhood support.

We also reached out to families who were more than excited to share how much they appreciate you. And finally, we included a round-up of our Voices From the Field series from the last several years, spotlighting your contributions.

## Recognizing You!

### Early Childhood Educator of the Year

As a part of provider appreciation month, DIEEC is launching "The Early Childhood Educator of the Year" campaign. We want to hear who you think consistently goes over and above to deliver quality care to young children.

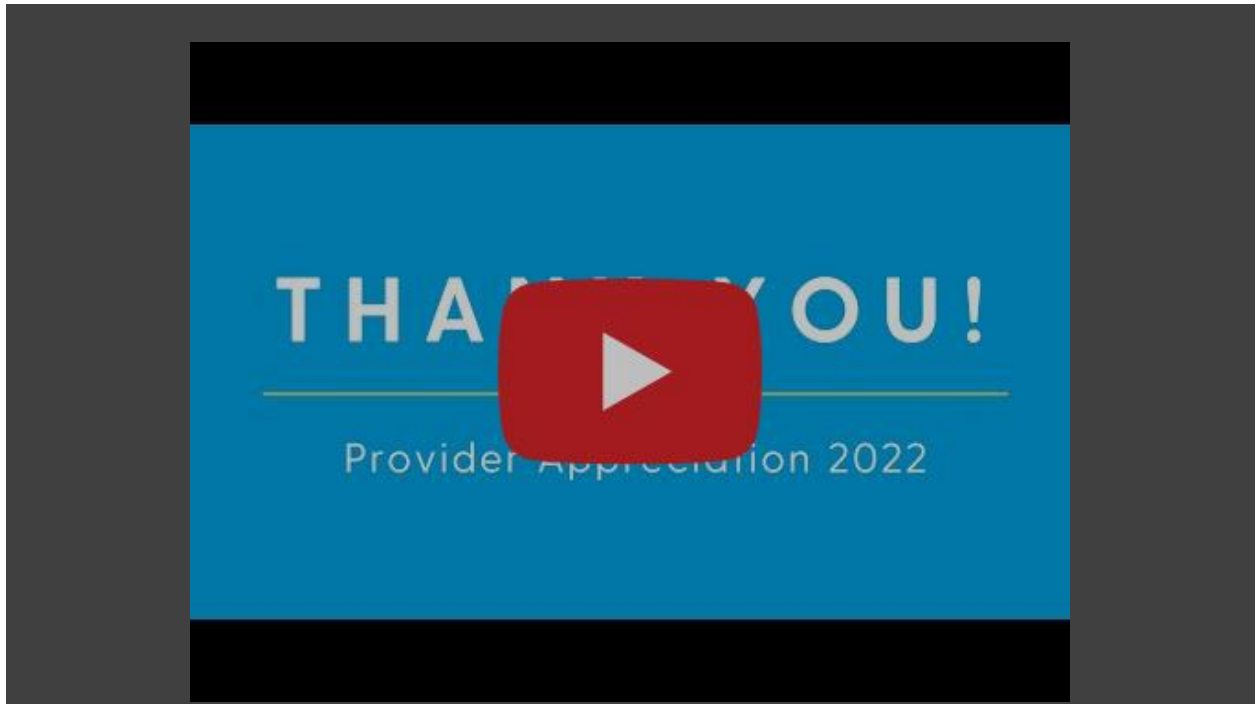
Center administrators, please complete the form below to nominate one classroom educator from your program. Family child care educators, please complete the form below to nominate yourself or a colleague. All nominations must be submitted by **Monday, May 16**.

[Classroom Educator of the Year Nomination Form](https://t.co/70bhj3bh66) <https://t.co/70bhj3bh66>

[Family Child Care Educator of Year Nomination Form](https://t.co/9yEfK9J8Bd) <https://t.co/9yEfK9J8Bd>

Winners will receive a \$100 gift card and lots of well-deserved publicity.

***Don't forget to follow us on our social media platforms during the month of May for your opportunity to vote on the finalists.***



Rena Hallam, DIEEC Director

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXwUQNwIzM4>



Caitlin Gleason, Associate Secretary, Early Childhood Support

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7DKN3YE10rU>

# Words of Affirmation

## Here's What Your Families Are Saying

*"I couldn't ask for a better person teaching my child."*

*"She has helped my daughter better improve her strengths, provided her with new, excellent educational and fundamental skills."*

*"These providers provide a strong foundation for children's learning, as well as social and emotional growth, at every age."*

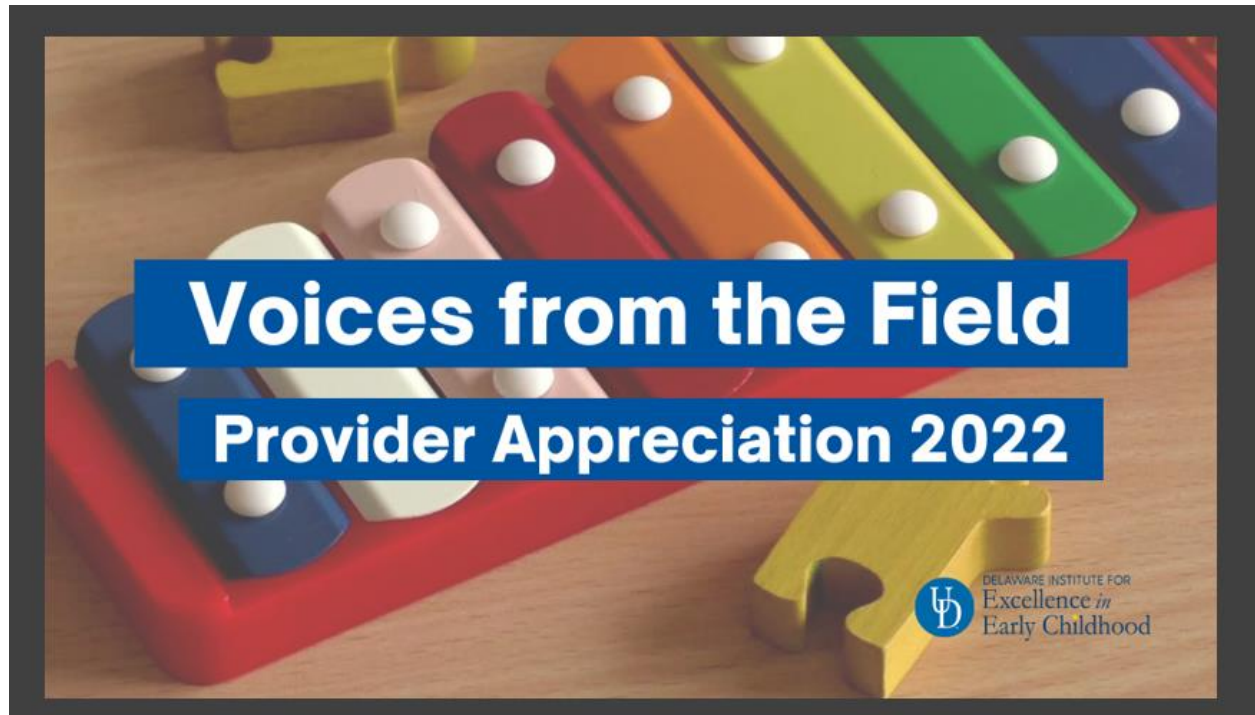
*"I'm deeply grateful to have someone contributing to my child's growth and emotional well-being."*

*"She is transparent and also gives the children a great balance of outside and inside learning."*

*"She loves my child and my child knows it."*

# Voices from the Field

**Celebrating Provider Appreciation 2022**



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOGRe1N59vk>



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