



## Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency

*We help make things happen*

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### **CAA Employee Jerrold Dowell Awarded Child Care Credential**

(Cincinnati, OH) – Jerrold Dowell of the Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency Head Start program has been awarded a Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential in recognition of outstanding work with young children. The credential was awarded by the Council for Professional Recognition in Washington, DC, which represents the early childhood education profession.

CDA is the only major national effort to improve early childhood education and care by evaluating and recognizing the skills of individuals providing care. The first credential was awarded over 30 years ago, and now 49 states plus the District of Columbia include CDA in their childcare licensing regulations.

As part of the CDA assessment process, every candidate for the CDA Credential is observed working with young children or families by an early childhood professional. In addition, the candidate must demonstrate the ability to work with families to develop children's physical and intellectual capabilities in a safe and healthy learning environment.

The CDA Credential is having a positive effect on the quality of early childhood education and care. Its impact is evident in center-based and home visitor programs, as well as family childcare, the most common form of care for children under 5 years old.

The Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency is a private, non-profit organization that provides numerous social service programs to help families become self-sufficient. Head Start is a comprehensive early education program that prepares children for kindergarten. For more information on the services provided by the agency, call (513) 569-1840 or visit [www.cincy-caa.org](http://www.cincy-caa.org).

Childcare staff and parents wanting information on CDA should write to the Council for Professional Recognition at 2460 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009-3547, or call the Council at (202) 265-9090 or (800)424-4310.

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