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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Corning Children's Center's Peigi Cook Presented with 2016 Early Childhood Professionalism and Leadership Award

Corning, NY (October 11, 2016) – Corning Children's Center Executive Director, Peigi Cook, was presented with the 2016 Early Childhood Professionalism and Leadership Award at Corning Community College's First Annual Joint Meeting of Academic Program Advisory Boards this morning.

Peigi Cook has set the standard in the early childhood education field since she began her career almost 40 years ago. She relocated to the Corning area to accept the Executive Director position at Corning Children's Center in 1993. Peigi has been an active leader at the Corning Children's Center for 23 years, helping it grow from a small organization in a church basement to the state-of-the-art Center it is today.

Peigi not only adheres to professional standards within the field of early childhood education but works hard to push the standards forward. She introduced the concept of Continuity of Care to Corning Children's Center in 2000, 16 years before it was included in the New York State Regulations as a valued concept. More recently, Peigi introduced a Mandarin Immersion Program concept to the Center that has been implemented into nine classrooms for 130+ children ages 18 months to 5 years old. These are just two examples of how Peigi has been a leader in the field of early childhood care and education.

Presented by the Early Childhood Department of Corning Community College, the award honors a professional provider in the field of Early Childhood who embodies the qualities of professionalism and leadership in their daily work settings. The award application states, "Within our local communities, we know there are many people who have devoted themselves to being true models of Developmentally Appropriate Practices and now we are excited to establish this award process and showcase some outstanding individuals who work with children."



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Criteria for applicants include:

- Adheres to professional standards within the field of Early Childhood
- Develops a partnership with young children and their families
- Models professionalism in everyday practices
- Displays a commitment to continual growth and learning in the field
- Effectively demonstrates leadership skills

For more information, contact Corning Children's Center Development Director, Meghan Parsons, at 607-937-5502 x123 or mparsons@corningchildrenscenter.com.

About Corning Children's Center

The Corning Children's Center is a non-profit organization founded in 1980 that provides high quality care and education for children from six weeks to five years old. The curriculum is built on a strong foundation of language, motor, problem-solving, and social skill development and is creatively enriched with experiences in Spanish, art, music, science, poetry, and more. The Corning Children's Center is licensed by New York State and is accredited by the Middle States Association of Schools. The Center is open to the public. For further information about Corning Children's Center, visit www.corningchildrenscenter.com.

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