

## **Kristie Brame- Member-at-Large**



### **Summary of Experiences:**

- Currently is an Early Learning Consultant and Director of Program Development and Training
- Past experiences include administering programs, and teaching adults and children in child care, Head Start, public schools, and universities.
- Co-host and writer of “Kid’s Corner,” a television segment for one year
- Pierce County AEYC, Puget Sound AEYC, and Texas AEYC member
- Former advisory member for Head Start of Greater Dallas and Texas Head Start Collaboration Project

### **Candidate Statement**

When I moved from Texas to Washington in 2006, I left behind many years of serving in their state and local AEYC affiliates. I thought I wouldn’t miss it, but I was wrong! Once you have had the opportunity to work with other professionals who are dedicated to working for young children, their families and their schools, you won’t ever want to give that up!

As a member of the Governing Board, I will support early childhood professionals as they seek to implement the WAEYC vision of high quality, well financed early care and education programs. Having worked as a teacher in child care, Head Start, and public schools, I bring an understanding of the commonalities and differences each of those professionals face. My years as an instructional specialist and administrator have helped me understand the complexity of program management. In Texas, I served various AEYC groups as Week of the Young Child Chair, Public Policy Chair, board member, and conference presenter. A lot of what I know about early childhood education came from the wonderful opportunities to learn that I received as an AEYC member. So I feel it is again time to work to give that opportunity to others. As a member of the Governing Board, I intend to do just that.

In today’s economic and political climate, I think AEYC is uniquely poised to bring people of diverse interests and backgrounds together. Almost everyone recognizes the importance of the early years, but only AEYC represents *all* the professionals who do the work. Our organization seeks to include all those who work on behalf of children... teachers and administrators in Head

Start, Child Care, and Public Schools.... and we seek to collaborate with other organizations that work on behalf of young children. Our goal is to grow and learn together so we can better serve our children.

As the director of Early Childhood Education (PreK – Grade 3) for the Dallas Public Schools, I coined a phrase: “Early Childhood Education: Laying the Foundation for Graduation.” I believed it then and I believe it now. It would be an honor to continue to serve AEYC as a member of the Washington AEYC Governing Board and to advocate for the high quality programs that give our youngest citizens the opportunity for life long success.