The Founder's Fund for Professional Development was launched in 2018 in recognition of Janet Walerstein’s more than 33 years of tireless work to establish, grow and strengthen the agency and to improve the quality of all early childhood programs.

The Founder’s Fund for Professional Development will be used to continue Janet’s legacy of promoting high-quality child care and early childhood education through professional development. The Founder’s Fund will promote best practices in early childhood education and advance child care professionals’ expertise through:

- On-site interactive training programs and technical assistance,
- Training and support in research-backed curricula,
- Support with credentialing and career ladders,
- Leadership development, and
- On-going training and professional development opportunities for early childhood staff at all levels of experience.

Research consistently has shown that the quality of early childhood programs make a significant difference in the outcomes of children. The Child Care Council of Suffolk’s Founder’s Fund for Professional Development will strengthen and expand the agency’s ability to support more child care providers, improve overall quality and best practices and develop the next generation of early childhood education leaders.

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