

CKN Participation at Tennessee Association for Children's Early Education (TACEE) annual conferences

Report by Vic Legerton, October 7, 2024

Judi and I exhibited at the TACEE Conference on Saturday, October 5, 2019 at the Millenium Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville (when Connie Casha was serving as TACEE President).

Judi and I exhibited at the TACEE Conference on Friday and Saturday, October 21 & 22, 2022 at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville.

Trish and I exhibited at the TACEE Conference on Friday and Saturday, September 8 & 9, 2023 at the College of Education, Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro (when Connie Casha was serving as TACEE Conference Chair).

The 2024 TACEE Conference is Saturday, October 12th at Chattanooga State Community College and we have not registered or plan to attend.

This annual conference continues to provide the best possible benefit for the least cost. We have each time been charged only \$30 to \$35 for a table at the Noncommercial rate and have consistently been provided a space with great exposure in the midst of the meeting, workshop and dining room access.

The 2023 session had the maximum exposure and interest. With the support of the Kiwanis Children's Fund grant, we gave over 100 Moozie Kindness Program kits to representatives of preschools, day care centers, Head Start centers across Tennessee. There was especially a large representation of such early childhood education sites in Middle Tennessee, including most of The Academy and Learning Zone sites who have subsequently invited Moozie and her team to visit their campuses and visit with their children, typically all children ages 2 through 5.

I recommend that CKN continue to exhibit as often as possible at the TACEE annual conference since there will be some different early childhood education sites represented by administrators and board members each year. If we do not have grant funds available to enable giving the materials (other than postcards and stickers and perhaps the MCW#3 book), we should offer all materials at standard wholesale prices. We should also encourage the sites to have a set of materials in each classroom for the convenient use by teachers and sending the Moozie Kindness Kit home, for an evening or weekend, with each child each month to get parents and other caregivers involved in the process of teaching and mentoring kindness. We might also encourage each site to have some CKN resources on hand for parents who wish to have them in their home, potentially with a profit for the site. If appropriate, neighboring businesses or parents might be invited to sponsor a set of the CKN materials for a classroom that will benefit the educators and children for decades.