



## Monthly Update from Gabriela ~ September 2017

### CACFP Grant ~

You may be wondering why some of GPCP educators and Farm to School coordinators have been wearing hair nets these days. This is because we finally got approved for the Child and Adult Care & Food Program (CACFP). The CACFP is a federally-funded program administered by Bright from the Start. The Grant provides reimbursement for nutritious meals served to children in child care centers.

If you have been at GPCP for a few years, you probably know that we have been trying to get this grant for quite some time. It was an arduous process that required a complex application and we had to undergo a successful pre-operational visit. Going forward, we must comply with federal and state regulations/guidance and maintain adequate records to support the monthly claims for meal reimbursement and other costs charged to the program.



I am very proud of our accomplishment. It was a tremendous effort led by our fabulous Assistant Director, Ms. Qiana Suggs in collaboration with Taylor Mead and Ina Musgrove, Farm to School coordinators from their respective campus. I extend my sincere appreciation to each one of them!

### Stroller-K Fundraiser for Project Infinity – Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup> 2017 9:00am – 12:00pm

Please join GPCP staff in support of Project Infinity's fundraiser, the 'Stroller-K', in Roswell GA. This is the FIRST ever Project Infinity fundraiser, and ALL GPCP educators will be participating in one way or another.

Project Infinity is an action research project involving schools for young children in Atlanta and Greenville, SC. The Project is a non-profit organization that promotes the exchange of ideas & points of views regarding the education of young children and in on-going dialogue with the Reggio Emilia Approach since 2002. GPCP is a founding school member of the Project.

Project Infinity has been funding a vast amount of GPCP's professional development initiatives during the past 16 years. Thanks to Margie Cooper's strong leadership and generosity, we have been working with Educators, Atelieristas and Pedagogistas from the schools in Reggio Emilia for these past years. In addition we benefit from the collaboration with the other four member schools of Project Infinity.

To register, go to [www.inspiredpractices.org](http://www.inspiredpractices.org)

You have the option to run/walk OR support the many different volunteer spots. The event is at Riverside Park, a beautiful park in Roswell. You could even make it a day to explore Roswell if you'd like.

***We would love to have strong parent participation in this event!***

# Personnel Update

Next week, we will welcome Rachel Czech, as new co-educator for the GP Ladybugs class. Rachel will replace Claritza Castillo who left GPCP a few weeks ago.

I also want to express my appreciation to Irina for holding the fort during these weeks of transition; to Ms. Patrice for working with this class each day and to the families for their support!



"I was born and raised in Minnesota, where I would later graduate from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities in 2014, with my Bachelor of Science in Youth Studies. Growing up in the north woods, amidst the land of 10,000 lakes, instilled a deep love for all things nature, the outdoors, and sustainability in me from an early age. Through my coursework and community service learning at the U of M, I was able to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation for the work that is done with young people within an experiential learning context. I am so excited to continue this learning journey here at GPCP! I moved to Atlanta in May of 2016 and have completely fallen in love with this city. It truly feels like home for my dog Lady and I now."

The GP Campus also has another change coming up soon. Ms. Esther, assistant educator in the Swans class, will step down from this position as soon as I find a replacement. Esther had to come to this decision to support her family's needs and she feels truly devastated about it. I am happy that she will remain employed by GPCP as she has agreed to support our school's needs as a substitute. I will keep you all posted about the hiring for Esther's replacement.

## **CALENDAR**

Monday through Wednesday, October 9th, 10th & 11th – SCHOOL CLOSED –

Fall Break and Educator Planning Day (children return to school on Thursday October 12th)

Saturday, October 14th – Workday at both campuses

Saturday, October 21st – Stroller-K Fundraiser for Project Infinity

Tuesday, October 31st @ 10:30am – Halloween Parade at each Campus

***Family-Educator Conferences are coming up in October. Please refer to your child's class letter for actual dates and be on the lookout for sign-up sheets.***