



## **Cathryn A. Riley Innovation for Quality Prize**

Cathryn A. Riley, or Cate, made a lasting impact on the Child Care Council of Westchester and the field of early care and education. She was a program coordinator at the Council. She was also involved with the New York State Child Care Coordinating Council, now known as the Early Care and Learning Council. Cate served on the New York State Department of Education Committee for Teacher Certification, the Board of the Westchester Association for the Education for Young Children and the Advisory Board of Westchester Community College. Following Cate's death, the Council established a special fund to honor her and her many contributions.

In 2016, the Council launched the Cathryn A. Riley Innovation for Quality Prize to recognize important new improvements in early care and education quality. Several awards were made to child care resource and referral agencies across the state as well as the Early Care and Learning Council. This year, the Council will award two prizes, one for Westchester area organizations and the other for the remaining counties in New York. The Council is interested in existing or new projects that meet one or more of the following criterion:

- (1) Involves collaboration with other parties
- (2) Strengthens business practices
- (3) Involves working with employers
- (4) Strengthens professional development

Eligible organizations include regulated child care and after school programs, and child care resource and referral agencies. Each prize will be funded up to \$2,000 depending on the project budget request.

For an application, please contact Kathy Halas, Executive Director, at [kathyh@cccwny.org](mailto:kathyh@cccwny.org). The application deadline is close of business on Friday, April 28, 2017. The awards will be decided by a committee of the Council and announced at our Annual Awards Breakfast on May 19, 2017.