



Infant Welfare Society of Evanston

2200 Main Street • Evanston, IL 60202 • 847-491-9650 • IWSE.org

IWSE NEWSLETTER | FALL 2020

BATTLING COVID-19

Upon re-opening July 20th, 2020, IWSE had not experienced any direct COVID-19 cases through October. Last month, IWSE Leadership has decided to close our facilities and move our services to 100% remote learning effective immediately.

With the upcoming year-end activities and holidays, we have determined that returning to in-person services after family gatherings will not be safe for our staff and/or our families. With this combination of increased COVID rates, internal cases in our IWSE community with quarantining of staff, as well as potential holiday gatherings in the near future, we have made the difficult decision to move to 100% remote services effective immediately through January 19th, 2021.

Teachers and staff will be in contact with families to provide resources, activities, check-ins, and support. Please be safe and follow the IDPH recommended protocols during this difficult time.

In the meantime, please review our reopening guidelines on iwse.org.

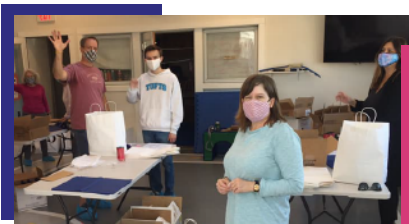


EVENT:

TASTE FOR TOTS

Let's Toast! IWSE partnered with **Schaefer's Wines, Foods, & Spirits** in Skokie and presented a digital tasting of wines that perfectly pair with Thanksgiving. Thanks to all who participated, we raised over \$22,000 to help IWSE's mission of supporting early care and education.

An extra special thank you to our volunteers for the Taste for Tots event! With their help, everything went smoothly, safely, and successfully—we couldn't have done it without you!



In this Month's Issue:

- Battling COVID-19
- Taste for Tots Fundraising Event
- SECE-Lifting Up Early Childhood Event Recap
- Fall Activities for Children
- Director's Corner
- Welcome to our New Board Chair Robert Jones Jr.
- Giving Tuesday
- Thank You to the Kendall Family Foundation
- Donate to IWSE using an IRA

YOUR DONATIONS MATTER. PLEASE SUPPORT US AT IWSE.ORG/GIVING

Live Q&A Session
Lifting Up Early Childhood Virtual Event



STATE OF EARLY CARE
& EDUCATION 2020
**LIFTING UP EARLY CHILDHOOD
VIRTUAL EVENT**

This fall, IWSE helped to facilitate and produced a conversation, panel discussion and Q&A session with nationally known experts **Jane Elliott, Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton, Ricardo Estrada, Terris Ross, Ph.D., Grace Araya, & Cristina Pacione-Zayas Ph.D.** on the intersectionality of Race, Social Justice, and Early Childhood Education.

We are grateful to provide positive programming to our network of families and educators.

If you missed the event, please find it online via the [Evanston Early Childhood Council Youtube Channel](#), and share to your respective networks so that others can join our commitment to end racism, promote social justice, and empower the early childhood community.

FALL ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

HARVESTING APPLES

The Teddy Bear 2 classroom recently got an opportunity to peel apples using a very cool STEM hand crank mechanical peeler made by the TB2 teachers. They loved the effect on apples, seeing the long and extended peel occur with their own efforts as well as the yummy slicing of the apple. We made a pie, using this method to prepare our apples and the next day, apple sauce. It was a true harvest of yummy fall apples!



MAKING YOUR OWN PUMPKIN PATCH

This fall, IWSE's TBN Team took the kids outside to create their own mini pumpkin patch. This is a great time to have discussions with children about the seasons changing, collecting leaves for crafts projects inside, and for soaking up some of the last few days of warmth before winter sets in.

DISCOVERING GOURDS IN THE CLASSROOM

TBN Head Teacher Ilesha Lane explores the gourd family with her students.



DIRECTORS CORNER



PAMELA STAPLES

BABY TODDLER NURSERY

Wow...what a year 2020 has been, but I am still committed to giving 110% to ensure that ALL children have an equal opportunity to thrive while they are in our program and provide them with tools for a life time.

In this time of COVID-19 social emotional development is always at the top of the list. Children as well as adults need mental health consultation almost daily.

If you need support reach out to us for resources. I want to encourage everyone to wear your mask, wash your hands, social distance, disinfect and stay safe!!!

We're all in this together!



TIFFANY CULPEPPER

TEEN BABY NURSERY / FAMILY SUPPORT

This pandemic has changed the way that many of us move about our day and has caused us to adapt to a new normal. Despite the many changes we've all had to make, one thing for sure is we have all displayed a huge degree of courage and resilience.

I would like to take this opportunity to send a very special thanks to the Teen Baby Nursery staff on keeping our center safe and healthy for our youngest learners. You have displayed beautiful qualities of care and compassion, nurturance and most importantly resilience during a very stressful time in the face of this pandemic. The ability to continue providing high quality care and education to our children does not go unnoticed and I want everyone to know that you all are AWESOME! Mary, Iesha, Lorie, Jermeth, Krystal and Troi Thank You for all that you do!

WELCOME ROBERT JONES JR. - NEW BOARD CHAIR

The Infant Welfare Society of Evanston is excited to announce and welcome our new Board Chair as of September 2020, Mr. Robert Jones Jr. Robert has been on the IWSE Board since 2018 and recently held the role of Board Secretary. Robert is a Charitable and Trust Tax Advisor with Northern Trust Corporation since 2016 and was previously at Ernst and Young as a Charitable Tax Accountant for over 8 years. Robert is an Evanston resident and holds his Masters in Accounting and Finance from the University of Phoenix. We are looking forward to the years ahead and will benefit from Roberts' expertise, passion, and leadership of this incredibly important early childhood, parent & family organization that serves Evanston, Skokie, Morton Grove, and the surrounding community.



Giving Tuesday



WE NEED YOUR HELP

IWSE is still living its mission in support of our community's children.

With safety & your support in mind, we continue to meet the growing challenges of families and staff. Our community's children need us in these difficult times.

Over 80% of our families live in low-income households. Your investment supports our family based programs and wrap-around services. This helps us prepare our community's most vulnerable and greatest potential to be prepared to enter school ready to learn.

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO THE IWSE THIS GIVING TUESDAY AT [IWSE.ORG/GIVING](https://www.iwse.org/giving)

A Special Thank You

This year has been unprecedented. IWSE has worked hard to ensure that everyone stays safe while we work on achieving our goals of helping children and families thrive while advancing early care and education, and community partners are taking notice.

THANKS TO THE COLLECTIVE HARD WORK OF EVERYONE AT IWSE, WE HAVE BEEN AWARDED \$100,000 FROM THE KENDALL FAMILY FOUNDATION.

This is the largest donation from a family foundation we've ever received. Because of their generous donation, we will be able to continue providing for families and children in all of our communities and addressing long term challenges and ensure our leadership in the early childhood community.

YOUR DONATIONS MATTER. PLEASE SUPPORT US AT [IWSE.ORG/GIVING](https://www.iwse.org/giving)

Donate to IWSE using an IRA

If you're age 70-1/2 or older, an IRA Charitable Rollover is a great option for expanding your giving options.

For more information please contact El Cabrel Lee via email at elee@iwse.org.

