WELCOME TO KOCO's

NEW DIRECTOR, JACOB TODD!



Hello everyone,

My name is Mr. Jake, and I'm so excited to be joining the team at KOCO! I've been in the early childhood field for nearly a decade, with experience as a lead teacher working with infants through school-age children, administrator, childcare coach, and advocate. Most recently, I helped oversee a pilot initiative with United Way focused on supporting the growth and development of the childcare workforce.

I live in East Hampton with my wonderful wife, and I'm beyond excited for the opportunity to be part of KOCO and continue building on the wonderful community partnerships and connections that have been established over the years.

When it comes to my philosophy, I believe play is one of the greatest catalysts for child development. When children are engaged, having fun, and excited to explore the world around them, some of the most meaningful learning and development happens naturally.

I look forward to getting to know all of you, building relationships with your families, and being part of your children's experiences here at KOCO. I'm so excited for what's ahead!

Mr. Jake will begin at KOCO on Monday, November 30, 2026.

Jacob Todd

An ambitious leader with a passion for early childhood education, driving innovative programs and fostering a nurturing environment for young learners.

EXPERIENCE

United Way of Southeastern Connecticut, Gales Ferry CT — *Childcare Pipeline Specialist*

March 2026 - PRESENT

Spearheading the United Way of Southeastern Connecticut's (UWSECT) childcare pipeline and pathway pilot program, a key initiative designed to combat the critical shortage of affordable early childcare and education in New London County. Collaborating closely with the SECT Childcare Collective, facilitated by UWSECT, to help expand Family Childcare (FCC) options in underserved areas. Driving the FCC Capacity Pilot to strengthen the existing FCC ecosystem, increase the capacity of licensed providers, and launch new FCC businesses in childcare deserts, significantly improving access to quality early care for families.

Belltown Discovery Center, East Hampton CT — *Early Childhood Administrator & Teacher*

November 2021 - June 2026

Childcare professional with combined experience in administration and teaching roles. Adept at managing classroom activities, implementing engaging curriculum, and maintaining a safe, supportive atmosphere. Strong communication and organizational skills contribute to effective center management and positive interactions with children and families.

Team Fitness, East Hampton CT — *Personal Trainer*

October 2021 - December 2024

Certified personal trainer with a passion for fitness and wellness. Skilled in designing personalized training programs, providing expert instruction, and fostering a supportive environment to help clients succeed. Focused on improving strength, endurance, and overall well-being through tailored exercise routines and lifestyle modifications.

SKILLS

- Program Management
- Implementing and Creating Curriculums
- Communication
- Project Oversight
- Inclusive Practices
- Self-Driven

AWARDS

- Distinguished Graduate - American College of Education
- Member of Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society
- Stone Ridge Scholarship Award Recipient

CERTIFICATIONS

- OEC Approved Head Teacher - Birth to School-Age
- OEC Approved Trainer
- NASM Youth Exercise Specialist
- ACE Fitness Nutrition Specialist

LANGUAGES

English

Mohegan Sun Casino, Uncasville CT — *Event Operations Specialist*

January 2018 - July 2021

Results-driven event operations specialist skilled in planning and implementing a wide range of events, including concerts, tournaments, and private parties. Dedicated to creating memorable experiences for guests while maximizing operational efficiency and adhering to safety guidelines.

EDUCATION

American College of Education — *M.Ed. Early Childhood Education*

January 2025 - November 2025

4.0 GPA

Charter Oak State College — *B.S. Early Childhood Education*

August 2023 - December 2024

3.85 GPA

Three Rivers Community College — *A.S. General Studies*

August 2018 - August 2022

3.15 GPA & First Generation Graduate

PROJECTS

Creator of The Connecticut Early Childhood Educators Network

Website and Facebook group that helps support ECE workforce by networking, connecting, and sharing the best practices.