

At its Annual Meeting on June 30, 2026, Child Care Connection's Board of Trustees elected a new president. **Jeanine Verdel** was unanimously elected to lead the agency for the 2027 fiscal year. Verdel, who joined the board in 2022, served as vice president during fiscal year 2026 and as secretary the year prior. She will take over for outgoing president Ross H. Bear, who served as president for four consecutive terms. Verdel holds a bachelor's in political science with a concentration in Constitutional law from Rowan University. After graduating, she worked as a paralegal for the law firm of Duane, Morris & Heckscher and as a loan officer at PB Mortgage, before joining the State of New Jersey. There, she worked at the New Jersey Housing & Mortgage Finance Agency and the New Jersey Real Estate Commission before joining the New Jersey Office of Attorney Ethics, from which she retired as assistant chief of investigations in 2022. A New Jersey native, Verdel currently resides in Hamilton Square. Other newly elected officers include **Jenna Lee** of Burlington, who was elected to her first term as vice president after having served as secretary for the 2026 fiscal year, and **Tatiana Dodge** of Newtown, Pa., who was elected to her first term as secretary. **Tamie Miles** of Willingboro was re-elected to her third term as treasurer. Other board members include **Jacqueline Jupin-Manzi**, **Wil Pettiford**, and **Brittany Barbet, Esq.** Barbet, an attorney with Fox Rothschild, Princeton, was elected at the Annual Meeting to her first term on the Board.

Child Care Connection is pleased to welcome back all newly elected/re-elected officers and trustees for the 2027 fiscal year. For more information on Child Care Connection, visit www.ccc-nj.org.