



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
October 19, 2007

**CONTACT:** Wendy Irvin  
(717) 657-9000

## **Readman Awarded PACCA's 2007 Educator of the Year**

**HARRISBURG, PA** – The Pennsylvania Child Care Association announced the recipient of its 2007 *Educator of the Year* Award at the Association's state conference, "Early Learning: Creating a Foundation for the Future," held October 11-12, 2007. Melissa Readman, from Steps to Success, Inc., Leola PA, was awarded the Educator of the Year Award for outstanding direct care and education of young children as a child care teacher.

As the award recipient, Melissa has demonstrated the ability to go the extra mile, handle difficult situations with ease and share creative ideas with great enthusiasm.

For eight years, Melissa has been the Pre K teacher and model educator at Steps to Success Christian Childcare in Leola, PA. When asked what motivates her to work within the child care profession, Melissa said "I have the awesome opportunity to impact our society each and every day in my work with young children. The lessons and ideals instilled in these young minds will carry them on through life."

Her peers view her as an outstanding child care provider with a natural gift of understanding people of all ages. "Loving children is what she does best," said Steps to Success Director Michelle Harbaugh. In recent years, Melissa has also been recognized by Lock Haven's School of Education at the Honors Convocation for her academic and professional contributions.

The Educator of the Year Award is presented to the child care teacher or teacher's aide that sets an excellent example for other caregivers to follow. Individuals are nominated by colleagues and parents of children in their care. Recipients are selected by the Award Committee comprised of PACCA members. Melissa received her award at a special awards luncheon during the conference.

Pennsylvania Child Care Association (PACCA) is a state-wide nonprofit 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to facilitate the provision of quality early care and education to the children of Pennsylvania. Its members provide care to over 200,000 children in the Commonwealth from infants through school age. For more information, visit [www.pacca.org](http://www.pacca.org).

###

**Pennsylvania Child  
Care Association**

"Serving Pennsylvania's  
Child Care Professionals"