

**BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:**

# Terri Helms

*Program Director, Child Care Aware® of West Central Arkansas*



**Q: Was there a moment or event that inspired you to enter the early childhood education profession?**

**A:** Becoming a mom and stepping away from an office job was the turning point of opportunities to enter the ECE profession. The journey is one I still enjoy.

**Q: When did you first learn about / become involved with CCAoA?**

**A:** In 2012 – I was hired at National Park College as the first Director for Child Care Aware® of West Central Arkansas.

**Q: What aspect(s) of early care and education are you most passionate about?**

**A:** I care about professionalism and providing children with engaging opportunities to develop and learn.

**Q: From your perspective, what is the single most important step we can take to build a better child care system?**

**A:** Remember the parents/families are the first caregivers/teachers and that early child care education professionals are to provide the best support, care and learning experiences to further develop children for life readiness.

**Welcome to the CCAoA Board, Terri!**

To learn more about CCAoA's Leadership, visit [childcareaware.org/leadership](https://childcareaware.org/leadership).

