

**Kate  
Center Director**



I am the Center Director but my journey at the World Bank Children's Center began in August 2006 as a Director of Education. I have a Master's Degree in Pedagogy with a specialization in Early Childhood Education. I have completed extensive studies about educational systems in different parts of the world.

I spent over 20 years working in educational field with children and adults. Coming to the World Bank Children's Center has been an exciting opportunity. As a part of the Pedagogical Team, I direct, guide, act as a resource, and support the educational philosophy and pedagogy of the program. Relationship building is an integral part of my work and building bridges between all of our constituents – staff, parents, children, across four sites makes that possible.

**“Why did you choose Early Childhood Education as your career?”**

To observe and learn how a little human grows and thrives is a beautiful experience. Universal qualities of children, such as purity of mind and perceiving things with non-corrupted eyes, serves as a mirror for me to reflect upon myself and what I have lost as an adult.

**Elly (Henriette)**

**Assistant Director**



Originally from The Netherlands, married and mother of two wonderful boys. I taught for many years as a teacher/educator in Holland and the U.S. I have BA in Education (Pre-K through 6th grade.) with specialization in Early Childhood Education and Remedial Teaching. Throughout my life next to teaching, I enjoyed developing my creative/artistic side through many languages.

Driven as an educator, by an endless curiosity and a desire to open up to new perspectives, I have studied, implemented and practiced many approaches over the years but the philosophy of Reggio Emilia touched my heart. Reggio's theories are rich and provocative, the pedagogy of listening and the hundred languages. They see teachers as researchers, who value the sense and meaning of life.

The World Bank Children's Center has embraced this philosophy and since 2004 I was fortunate to be part of this community, from classroom teacher to atelierista. My current role as program specialist for the infant and toddler group is to guide and mentor other teachers in the philosophy of Reggio Emilia. In the fall of 2010 I had the opportunity to take part in In-Dept Study Week: "The experience of the infant toddler centers and its contexts" in Reggio Emilia. Being part of this professional development opportunity highly enriched my knowledge and professional approach into the Reggio Emilia practice.

**Why did you choose Early Childhood Education as your career?**

I enjoy working with children. They are natural, eager to learn, loving, and the future belongs to them. For me, working with children and their families is not just a job or a career but I consider it my lifestyle

**Anita**  
**Program Specialist**



I was born in Tanzania, East Africa. Before relocating to Maryland, I lived in Sweden for 35 years. I am married to Curt, and we have five children. I acquired both a bachelor's and Master's degree in Education, with a focus on Early Childhood Education, from Stockholm University in Sweden.

In October of 2010, I had the honor of attending *In Depth Study Week* in Reggio Emilia in Italy where I represented The World Bank Children's Center. The experience widened my knowledge of the Reggio Emilia approach to education and enriched and transformed my teaching to a higher level.

**"Why did you choose Early Childhood Education as your career?"**

I adore the curious, hopeful, and creative nature of children. I especially appreciate their honesty and hearing their raw thoughts and observations. I believe that the early years of a child's life are extremely important and affect them for the rest of their development. I am committed to fostering this development with the child-centered Reggio approach. Every day I believe that I learn from the children and love that they remind me to think creatively, be kind to my friends, and express myself.

**Fatu Jacqueline  
Studio Teacher and Program Specialist**



Originally from Cote D'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), I moved to the United States in 1984. I lived in New York City where I attended New York University (NYU) to study English. I fell in love with the Washington Metropolitan Area while visiting and decided to settle here. I continued education at Howard University taking classes in English, Psychology, and Speech. I was formally educated in France (Aix-en-Provence), and Cote D'Ivoire (University of Abidjan). I earned a Baccalaureate in "Mathematics, Physics, and Chemistry", and a "License "(Bachelor of Science) in Chemistry.

Along with parallel careers, I have been working with children for most of my adult life, that is over thirty years, as a flight nurse for children, a teacher at different levels, a volunteer for summer camps, language and reading groups, a babysitter, a nanny, a children's tour guide, a children's entertainer, to name a few.

**"Why did you choose Early Childhood Education as your career?"**

Children are the DNA, the fabric, the building blocks of our society. No matter the word to describe them, there is nothing more fulfilling than helping children and their families.

**Linda**

**Administrative Coordinator**



I am the Administrative Coordinator for the World Bank Children's Center. I have an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education from Central Texas College. I began my journey as an educator working on military installations. I have worked with age infant to pre-kindergarten. I found it then and still find it now rewarding to observe children as they learn and grow. I made the decision to come out of the classroom more than 10 years ago, but still wanted to stay in education. I have the best of both worlds, I am in a position I really enjoy and have the pleasure of meeting families from around the country.

**Why did I choose Early Childhood Education as my career?**

At the beginning, I chose this field to be closer to my children. As time went by I found myself more and more interested in the education of children in the early stages of development therefore, I registered in college to further my interest. It became so natural to me to engage myself with children. I feel as if I have come full circle in my life and consider it a blessing to be here at WB Children's Center.