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MAP* to Inclusion & Belonging News Brief

*Making Access Possible

September 2013

[Reminder! DEC Conference in San Francisco, October 16-18, 2013](#)



MAP to Inclusion and Belonging Project Team is proud to support and promote the [Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children's 29th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families](#) in San Francisco, CA, October 16-18, 2013. This year's theme is *Bridging Research, Policy and Practice...Every Day, Every Chance, Every Child*. You will be inspired by top researchers, leading policymakers, practitioners and families as they share evidence-

based innovative approaches that demonstrate meaningful, effective and sustainable collaborations across research, policy and practice.

Who Should Attend?

Plan now to join child care providers, early interventionists, special educators, home visitors, training and technical assistance providers, college students and families to enjoy this high quality early education conference.

Here are some highlights!

- **Preconference sessions** by some of the biggest names in our field including Carl Dunst, Robin McWilliam, Mary Beth Bruder, Dathan Rush, M'Lisa Shelden, Deb Bruns, Stacy Thompson and many more!
- **Wednesday Opening Session** with musical performance by Jarrett Heartsman, performance by [Angels on Stage](#), DEC Award Winners, Keynote Presentation by Barbara Smith "Ask not what your field can do for you!" followed by a lively reception.
- **Thursday's Spotlight Session: Preparing for Poverty's Pain**
 - Ten things families want professionals to know
 - Special Evening Poster Session, Project Connect, Conversations with DEC
- **Friday Spotlight Session: Pathways of Influences of Early Intervention on Family, Parent and Child Outcomes** with Carl Dunst, Carol M. Trivette and Melinda Raab
- What's Happening In Washington
- **Closing Session: Ignite Your Leadership to Improve Outcomes for Children and Families!** by

Christy Chambers, CEC President

There's Still Time to Get Involved!

California only hosts the DEC conference once every 10 years. You have the opportunity to not only attend, but to get involved. It's not too late to sign up to be a volunteer and get 50% off your registration email Amy at dec2013volunteer@gmail.com to get the details. In addition you can be a sponsor, exhibitor, or share information about your agency at a resource table. The deadline for applications to be an exhibitor or to have a resource table is September 12th. Visit the [California DEC website](#) for details or contact the local co-chairs Linda Brault or Craig Zercher at info@cal-dec.org. Visit the [DEC website](#) to see the program and for the latest registration and hotel information. Please forward this news brief on to your colleagues. Hope to see you at the conference!

Last day to sign up for an Exhibit Booth or Resource Table is September 12th! Sign up to be a Volunteer and get 50% off registration.

[MAP to Inclusion and Belonging](#)! *Making Access Possible Project, funded by the Child Development Division of the California Department of Education, provides information, resources, supports and training to help child care providers, educators, specialists and families include children and youth with disabilities and other special needs in child care, after school and community settings. MAP New Briefs alert you to newly identified resources, practices and educational opportunities that support optimal development and well being in high quality environments where children with and without disabilities and special needs can thrive together.*

Visit the [MAP website](#) to learn more about the MAP Project and resources for inclusion! For questions about this news brief or about MAP email map@wested.org.



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