



WEPCO AMONG CONFERENCE SPONSORS – WEPCO Federal Credit Union is among the corporate sponsors of the Early Childhood Connections conference, which will be hosted by Garrett College this spring. Above, Connie Meyers, director of professional development and contract training for GC's Continuing Education and Workforce Development Division, accepts a check from Heather Fleming, Oakland branch manager of WEPCO Federal Credit Union. See story for details.

WEPCO Named Corporate Sponsor For GC Conference

WEPCO Federal Credit Union has been named a corporate sponsor of the Early Childhood Connections conference, which will be held at GC this spring.

According to Connie Meyers, director of professional development and contract training at GC, Early Childhood Connections is an annual professional development conference designed to provide local child-care providers and early-childhood educators with current, specialized training.

This year's conference is scheduled for Saturday, April 1, from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. on the McHenry campus. While aimed at local and regional educators, the conference is open to anyone "who touches the life of a child" – including preschool and Head Start instructors, daycare providers, and board of education staff. Participants also have the opportunity to choose from various workshops to attend throughout the day.

This collaborative effort is planned and executed by Garrett College, the Garrett County Community Action Commit-

tee Child & Family, Maryland EXCELS, the Maryland State Department of Education, AP- PLES for Children, and the Garrett County Early Childhood Professional Association.

"Early childhood education is more critical today than ever before," said Meyers. "Without engaged and educated instructors and mentors in these early years, we cannot hope for our children to be successful. Our hope in providing this annual conference is to bring high-quality professional development to our local and regional educators."

Meyers added that opportunities still exist for sponsorship of the conference, including keynote speaker, participant educational resource bags, participant scholarships, and others.

For more information on the Early Childhood Connections conference, or for additional information on sponsorships available, persons are invited to contact Meyers at 301-387-3084 or connie.meyers@garrettcollege.edu.