

## In May 2024, Jeanette Garcia, Good Shepherd Preschool's Director of Operations, was honored as the OC Child Advocate of the Year by the Orange County Child Care and Development Planning Council.

For over 35 years, Jeanette has been a beacon of light in Early Childhood Education, tirelessly advocating for the needs of children and families at Good Shepherd Preschool. She has an unwavering commitment to going above and beyond and a passion for connecting families to vital services in Tustin and Irvine Unified School Districts. Her advocacy knows no bounds; she is an inspiration.

Jeanette has been instrumental in connecting families to specialized services such as <u>Help Me Grow</u> and the <u>Regional Center of Orange County</u>, making a significant impact on children's growth while bridging the gap between home and school.

Her steadfast dedication to promoting social and emotional competence among children is a vibrant part of her work, including implementing a partnership with <u>Start Well</u> to expand the teaching staff's skills (at Good Shepherd Preschool). She understands that fostering solid and respectful relationships is essential for a child's holistic development and embodies this belief in everything she does.

With her countless hours in the classroom, she encourages and supports every child and trains teachers to teach with the same professional excellence, genuine compassion, and care.

As a preschool, Good Shepherd holds these same values: striving to preserve childhood and plant faith through being safe, kind, and respectful.