A Stronger, More Ambitious Future for Child Care:
A Policy Roadmap for Transforming our Nation's Child Care System

Early Childhood Investigations Webinar
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Albert Wat
Senior Policy Director
Twitter: @albert_wat

Poll

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Introduction to the Alliance for Early Success

How We Work:
• Cultivate a network of state and national allies
• Curate/Broker TA and consultation with experts
• Facilitate peer-to-peer learning
• Grants

The Alliance for Early Success is a national nonprofit that works with early childhood policy advocates at the state level to ensure that every child, birth through eight, has an equal opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed.
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The Roadmap to a Stronger Child Care System

Key Messages

• The vulnerabilities of the child care system are results of policy and investment choices.

• Normalize pandemic-era policy changes

• “Child care is essential”… “Child care is a public good”… How do we go beyond the rhetoric?

• This is the time to plan for the future and think big.

• This is NOT the time to compromise on quality. But we need to advance quality by putting equity at the center.

“Only a crisis – actual or perceived – produces real change. When that crisis occurs, the actions that are taken depend on the ideas that are lying around. That, I believe, is our basic function: to develop alternatives to existing policies, to keep them alive and available until the politically impossible becomes politically inevitable.”

- Milton Friedman

Building a Stronger Child Care System

Building a stronger foundation for success

• Continue pandemic-era policy adaptations and changes

• Support home-based settings more intentionally (both FCC and FFN)

• Invest in provider support networks and data/business technology

• More use of contracts

Working towards more transformational change

• Move away from market rate and towards cost of quality care

• Revisit expectations about who should get public assistance – decouple from work and/or income; broaden eligibility; revisit copayment

• Compensation and benefits for early childhood educators

• Advocate for revenue – equitable, durable, stable, robust

Bottom Line: Equitable, High-Quality Child Care as a Public Good
Connecting with Your State’s Advocates

Find Alliance’s state partners here: https://earlysuccess.org/our-allies/state-allies/

THE ALLIANCE FOR EARLY SUCCESS

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THE ALLIANCE FOR EARLY SUCCESS

The Raising Child Care Fund:

Building Muscle for a Movement

Rachel Schumacher
Project Manager
Raising Child Care Fund

Mica Whitfield
Georgia State Director
9to5, National Association of Working Women
How We Started

ECFC, a collaborative of 40+ funders committed to:

• Increasing effectiveness of philanthropic investment in systemic, equity-focused approaches to early childhood.
• Promoting federal, state, and local policies and practices that support young children, their families, and the early childhood community.

A Child Care Subcommittee began in 2017 to consider the following question:

If this is true...

Why is this also true?

Public Spending on Child Care & Early Childhood Education, $ spent per child

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Average $ Spent Per Child on ECE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EU Countries</td>
<td>$4.5K/child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>$2.4K/child</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Credit: The Conversation, OECD Social Expenditure Database, figures for 2013 or latest data available.
Maybe We Need More of This?

Our Goals

Lift Voices
- Parent, child care teacher, home-based child care provider, caregiver and ally voices and increase their participation in crafting policy solutions in states and/or communities.

Build Power
- Effective coordination among grassroots and advocacy groups, community groups, parents, child care teachers, home-based child care providers, caregivers, and allies.

Expand Equity
- Financial resources to secure increased and equitable access to quality child care, including through intentional strategies to reach and prioritize children and families most affected by injustice and inequality.

RCCF So Far

$3.1M Donated to Pool + 17 Matching State/Local Donors

12 Grantees
RCCF Grantees Take Action

Lift Voices
- Build base of parents, early educators, home based care providers, and allies
- Identify and nurture leaders
- Access elected officials and decision-makers

Build Power
- Build strong coalitions
- Align goals and actions

Expand Equity
- Expand resources available for child care
- Develop state vision and concrete ideas for more equitable access to quality child care

Parent Voices CA and Child Care Law Center praise budget action to stabilize child care in California

Minnesota Governor Walz announces Peacetime Emergency Grants for Child Care

New Mexico Launches Incentive Pay Program to Support Child Care Professionals

Georgia
- Listen to women
- Focus on more rural areas of the state and home based child care providers, both licensed and kith and kin
- Partner with state family child care association and networks
- Identity barriers to licensure and other policy challenges
- Build power and organize actions in Atlanta
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