



## 2017 Legislative Agenda

Every child deserves the opportunity to succeed in school and in life, regardless of their race, ethnicity, geography, ability, or family economics. High-quality early learning is a strategy proven to give kids what they need to thrive. Investing in a great start for children yields returns for all of us: more successful schools, stronger families, and more self-reliant adults prepared to contribute to a robust economy.

### **Expand access to high-quality prekindergarten (ECEAP)**

ECEAP helps kids furthest from opportunity arrive at Kindergarten ready to succeed. Grow access with new slots and make the investments in facilities and the rate-per-child necessary for a successful expansion.

### **Invest in the value that quality delivers in Working Connections Child Care**

- ✓ Increase reimbursement rates for center based child care providers.
- ✓ Pass the collective bargaining agreement for family child care providers.
- ✓ Invest to maintain access by providing funding for all eligible families who apply.

### **Grow and retain a highly competent early learning professional workforce**

Establish a stakeholder workgroup to develop recommendations to the legislature for addressing insufficient early learning educator compensation.

### **Support parents as their child's first teacher**

- ✓ Sustain and expand home visiting.
- ✓ Enact Paid Family and Medical Leave.

### **Raise Revenue**

New revenue is necessary to ensure a great start for our kids. New revenue for education should include new investments in early learning.

The Early Learning Action Alliance is convened by the Children's Alliance.

Learn more by contacting: Jennifer Jennings-Shaffer at (206) 324.0340 x21 or [jennifer@childrensalliance.org](mailto:jennifer@childrensalliance.org)