

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS:

- \* ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE AUTOMATICALLY MUTED.
- \* PLEASE SHARE YOUR QUESTIONS FOR SPEAKERS IN THE CHAT BOX.
- \* THIS MEETING WILL BE RECORDED & AVAILABLE AT: <https://www.firstup.org/sepecc/>



# SEPECC Meeting

Tuesday, April 16, 2024



Meeting will begin at 12:30pm

## Agenda:

12:30 Welcome

12:35 Guest Legislator: Senator Katie Muth

12:45 Federal, State & Local Budget/Policy Updates

12:55 Advocacy Skill Building & Activities

1:15 OCDEL, ELRC & DHS Announcements

1:35 Public Policy Partners Collaboration

1:40 Special Presentation: Strengthening partnerships and improving access to early intervention resources

2:00 Community Partner Resources

2:15 Wrap Up



# Guest Legislator:

## Senator Katie Muth

Senate District 44

Serving parts of Berks, Chester and Montgomery Counties

SHIRLEE HOWE,  
CHILDREN FIRST

# BUDGET & POLICY UPDATES (FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL)

# FEDERAL: TAKE ACTION NOW!



- Congress is starting to put together their FY25 plan for funding child care and early learning programs.
- Click here to ask your Member of Congress to sign on to letters that support robust funding for the programs that educate and care for young children.  
<https://www.ffyf.org/actions/2024/email/>

# CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (CCDF) STATE PLAN - PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OPEN THROUGH APRIL 26

**Comment Period Now Open**

## **Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan for Pennsylvania FFY 2025 - 2027**

Learn more at  
<https://bit.ly/3x8yREu>



- Learn more about CCDF and how it currently impacts Pennsylvania, [here](#).
- Review the plan: [FFY 2025-2027 Child Care and Development Fund \(CCDF\) Plan for Pennsylvania](#)
- Register to virtually attend one of two CCDF State Plan Virtual Sessions, scheduled for April 15 or April 17, 2024. When registering, you can indicate if you'd like to comment during the session. You may attend the CCDF State Plan Virtual Sessions without providing a comment, but you must still register for one of the sessions.
  - [Click here to register to attend the CCDF State Plan Virtual Session on Monday, April 15, 2024, 5-7 PM](#)
  - [Click here to register to attend the CCDF State Plan Virtual Sessions on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 12 noon to 2 PM](#)
- Comments can also be submitted by April 26 here: [Submit a comment via the website](#) or mail to: OCDEL, Attention: Jessica Sands 607 South Drive 4th Floor Rotunda Harrisburg, PA 17120

# FEDERAL INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA) PART C APPLICATION FOR THE INFANT TODDLER EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM – PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OPEN THROUGH MAY 15

- Review the proposed grant application at: [Early Intervention Services \(pa.gov\)](#) or [Early Intervention \(pa.gov\)](#). You can find the document on the right side menu of the webpages. Hard copies can also be requested by emailing [ra-ocdintervention@pa.gov](mailto:ra-ocdintervention@pa.gov) or by calling 717-346-9320.
- Opportunities to provide public comment include:
  - Visit [Part C Grant Public Comment](#). This link will allow for online comment opportunity.
  - Submit written comments regarding the proposed grant application by mail to: OCDEL, Bureau of Early Intervention Services and Family Supports, ATTN: Public Comments for Part C Grant Application, 607 South Drive, 4th Floor Rotunda, Harrisburg, PA 17120 or at [ra-ocdintervention@pa.gov](mailto:ra-ocdintervention@pa.gov)
  - Attend the virtual Public Comment session to be held on April 15, 2024, from 1-2 PM. During this time, the Bureau of Early Intervention Services and Family Supports will be available to receive comments regarding the application. The Public Comment session will be held via Zoom using the following participation information:
    - <https://paiu.zoom.us/j/92055597686>
    - (877) 369-0926 (US Toll Free)
    - Meeting ID: 920 5559 7686

**Review & Comment Period**  
**Now Open**

**Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C Application for the Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program**

Learn more at  
[bit.ly/IDEAComments](https://bit.ly/IDEAComments)

**PA** pennsylvania  
OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
AND EARLY LEARNING

# STATE: TAKE ACTION NOW!

Email PA Lawmakers to tell the General Assembly and Governor Shapiro that they must FIX CHILD CARE in the 2024-25 state budget!

<https://startstrongpa.org/take-action>



**START  
STRONG  
PA**

## Take Action Today! Help Fix Child Care and Keep Classrooms Open!

Just over a month ago, Governor Josh Shapiro outlined his funding plan for the 2024-2025 budget.

While there were some positives for child care, his proposal does not directly address the ongoing child care teacher shortage. This staffing crisis— as many of you know all too well— is closing classrooms and programs, leaving thousands of families unable to find the care they need to go to work.

Help us! Send the General Assembly and Governor Shapiro a message today. Tell them they must FIX CHILD CARE in the 2024-2025 state budget!



Send an email to your officials with one click!

Title \* ▼

Full Name \*

Address \*

Zip \* city and state not required

Phone \*

Email \*



Child care teachers don't earn a livable wage. This is causing a historic teacher shortage that is closing classrooms - driving up waitlists for working families. Child care providers can't raise their rates to better compensate teachers because families already struggle to afford child care. Child care is broken and it must be fixed!

- Send me emails about this campaign
- Send me text messages about this campaign

Share with Others

 [Twitter](#)  [Facebook](#)



# WORKING TOGETHER WEBINAR - APRIL 29 AT 12PM

## Join us! Working Together Webinar

April 29, 2024  
12:00 p.m., Via Zoom  
Registration Required



### Learn about

- Early learning in the 2024-25 state budget
- Follow up and response to state policymakers
- Federal advocacy update & opportunities for child care

### Register Today!

<https://mailchi.mp/.../working-together-webinar-august-28...>

## ¡Acompáñanos! Webinar de Working Together

29 de abril de 2024  
12:00 p.m., Vía Zoom  
Es necesario registrarse.







# ADVOCACY





# GET OUT THE VOTE

LAVERNE CHEESEBORO, HEAVENLY MADE CREATIONS



# ★ 2024 Primary Election ★ ★ Important Dates ★



Apr  
**8**

**Last day to register to vote  
in the primary election.**

[vote.pa.gov/Register](https://vote.pa.gov/Register)



Apr  
**16**

**Last day to apply  
for a mail ballot.**

[vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot](https://vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot)



Apr  
**23**

**Election Day. Polls are  
open from 7 AM to 8 PM.**

[vote.pa.gov/Polls](https://vote.pa.gov/Polls)



Apr  
**23**

**Completed mail ballots  
must be received by 8 PM.**

[vote.pa.gov/County](https://vote.pa.gov/County)

[vote.pa.gov](https://vote.pa.gov) 

# How can you help others cast their VOTE?

## RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES & STAFF:

- Learn who is on your ballot <https://www.vote411.org/ballot>
- Check registration status  
<https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/pages/voterregistrationstatus.aspx>
- Find your polling place  
<https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/PollingPlaceInfo.aspx>
- Voting information  
<https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/SurePortalHome.aspx>



## 2024 PA Elections - Important Dates Flyer

✓ Register to vote here.

Find your polling place here. ✓



www.vote.pa.gov



www.vote.pa.gov



☆ 2024 PA Elections: Important Dates ☆  
**GET OUT TO VOTE!**

### PRIMARY ELECTION

Apr. 8, 2024 Last day to REGISTER to vote in Primary Election

Apr. 16, 2024 Last day to REQUEST a mail-in or absentee ballot

Apr. 23, 2024 *Primary Election Day!*

### GENERAL ELECTION

Oct. 21, 2024 Last day to REGISTER to vote in General Election

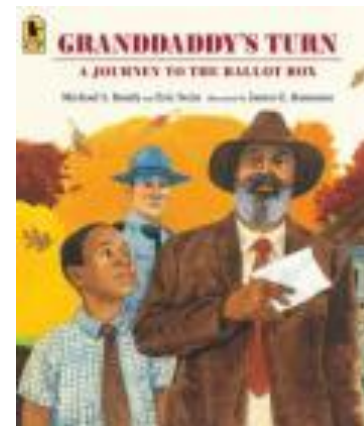
Oct. 29, 2024 Last day to REQUEST a mail-in or absentee ballot

Nov. 5, 2024 *General Election Day!*



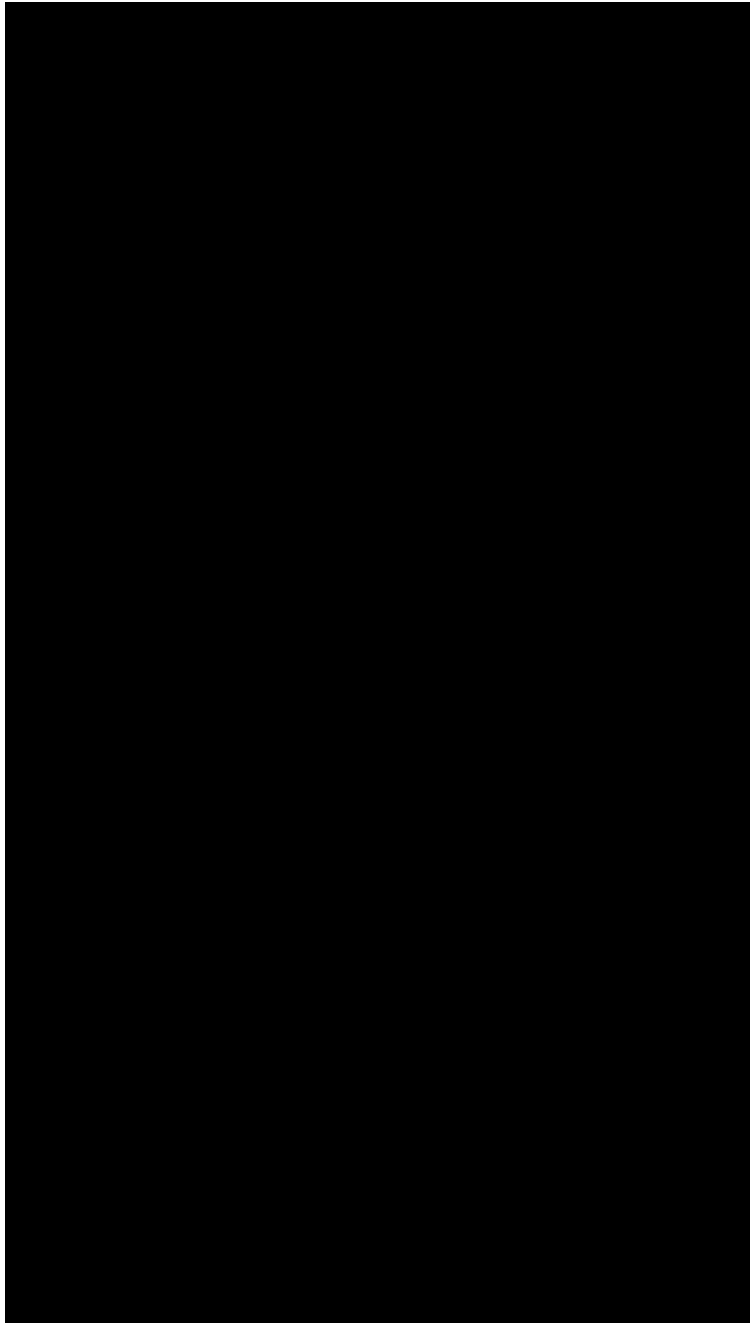
Kids Can't Vote But You Can  
Sticker Template

# Engaging Children in Democracy



Read books about voting & facilitate voting activities





Video created by:  
Heavenly Made Creations



# CAPITOL CARAVANS

ZAKIYYAH BOONE, WONDERSPRING EARLY EDUCATION



# CHILDREN FIRST, FIRST UP & WONDERSPRING AT CAPITOL – 4/9/24



Join an upcoming Capitol Caravan! April 30 ~ May 1, 7, 8 ~ June 4, 5, 11, 12, 25, 26, 27, 28  
Learn more & sign up here: <https://forms.gle/Mw6NVzeHJKUxELB38>



# WEEK & MONTH OF THE YOUNG CHILD





# PROVIDER SPOTLIGHT: MONIQUE ROYE, BEANSTALK PRESCHOOL



Tasty Tuesday



Work Together Wednesday



Artsy Thursday



# PROGRAMS ACROSS SEPA CELEBRATE WOYC!



Warwick Learning Center  
hosted Rep. Paul Friel



Serena Spearman FCC  
visited Rep. McClinton



# PROGRAMS ACROSS SEPA CELEBRATE WOYC!



Rose Tree ELC hosted  
Councilwoman Reuther

Children's School at St. John  
created a WOYC video



## HOW DID YOUR PROGRAM CELEBRATE?



**You're invited to share a  
fun or special moment  
from your program's  
Week of the Young Child  
in the chat box**

WOYC24 activities you can  
use any day, any week, anytime!

Crafts + Advocacy =  
ATTENTION

from families and legislators

ELEANOR LEVIE

[ELEANORLEVIE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ELEANORLEVIE@GMAIL.COM)

VOLUNTEER FOR SEPECC,

ON THE ADVOCACY  
WORKGROUP AND THE SOCIAL  
MEDIA TEAM

REPRESENTING THE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH  
WOMEN

# MUSIC MONDAY



Make musical instruments with your kids, like these alligator canastas!

TELL YOUR LEGISLATORS:  
The funding we need and deserve for teacher salaries would be MUSIC TO OUR EARS.





# TASTY TUESDAY



Tell your legislators: Kids and families are hungry for quality childcare. And that requires a big, healthy serving of state funding.

# WORK TOGETHER WEDNESDAY

Build towers with your kids!

Tell Legislators: As childcare providers,  
**WE ARE THE WORKFORCE BEHIND THE  
WORKFORCE.**

It's our safe, stimulating, loving, quality care for children that allows their parents to go to work and be their most productive. You need to work together -- because this is a bipartisan issue! -- to get childcare the funding it needs and deserves.





# ARTSY THURSDAY

Make coffee filter flowers with your kids!



Tell your legislators: April showers bring May flowers. Shower us with ample funding so we can serve more children and grow our businesses!



# FAMILY FRIDAY



Parents: Talk with your child, sing with your child, read with your child, bake with your child (brownies, anyone?). And ask legislators to support us by funding childcare!



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# DAY WITHOUT CHILD CARE

SHINEAL HUNTER, FAMILY CIRCLE ACADEMY

**Day Without  
Child Care**

**MONDAY, MAY 13**

**2024**



**COMMUNITY  
CHANGE ACTION**





# JOIN OUR MOVEMENT OF PROVIDERS AND PARENTS!

Sign on today to pledge solidarity with parents and providers across the nation, demanding equitable wages, affordable childcare, and a brighter future for all children and families built on racial and gender justice on May 13, Day Without Child Care. Together, let's make our voices heard and demand the transformative funding and change our communities desperately need. **Sign on** to add your name to the movement and support our demands!

**We need an immediate public investment for:**

- **Thriving wages for child care providers**
- **Affordable child care for all families**
- **An equitable childcare system built on racial justice**

**Sign Pledge: <https://act.communitychangeaction.org/a/pledgeforchildcare2024>**

# WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER: CHILD CARE MATTERS IN PA!

**May 13, 2024 9:00 AM** - Philadelphia City Hall, 1400 John F Kennedy Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Join parents, childcare educators and community supporters for the 3rd annual Day Without Childcare at City Hall! We will kick off our rally event with a solidarity march around city hall then join at the main steps for a press conference to hear from directed impacted people from across Pennsylvania! Afterwards , connect with local organization committed to care at our community faire! Join our annual block party at a separate location at 12:00 pm! Light lunch, refreshments and activities to be determined. Sign up for more details below!

**Sign up here: <https://act.communitychangeaction.org/a/were-all-together-child-care-matters-pa>**



# CARE CAN'T WAIT CONGRESSIONAL TOWNHALL IN DC

SHINEAL HUNTER, FAMILY CIRCLE ACADEMY



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# OCDEL, ELRC & DHS Announcements

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JANETTA (NETTA) RADZINSKI - OCDEL  
[C-JRADZINS@PA.GOV](mailto:C-JRADZINS@PA.GOV)

SUSAN MOYLAN – ELRC 19 CHESTER  
[SANNACONE@PHMC.ORG](mailto:SANNACONE@PHMC.ORG)

ASIA M. SHEPPARD - DHS  
[ASSHEPPARD@PA.GOV](mailto:ASSHEPPARD@PA.GOV)

JAMILA DASHIELL - DHS  
[JDASHIELL@PA.GOV](mailto:JDASHIELL@PA.GOV)

## ELRC REMINDERS

*Contact your local ELRC for assistance or additional information*

- CQI final expense reports are due to your ELRC by 5/15/2024.
- No information available yet on FY24-25 CCW Provider Agreement Appendix B – Provider's Closed Days.

# ELRC 16 REMINDERS

*Contact ELRC 16 for assistance or additional information*

## **ELRC Provider Link**

ELRC 16's monthly provider newsletter. You will find STARS and CCW updates, OCDEL news, and regional events. To access this month's newsletter and to subscribe, go to:

<https://elrc-csc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Provider-Link-Region-16-April-2024.pdf>

## **Bucks County Directors' Network Meetings – NOW IN PERSON**

Providers are invited to join community partners and Quality Coaches at our monthly Bucks County Directors' Network meeting. Attendance is strongly recommended as there are important updates for all childcare providers. Each month focuses on a different topic chosen by directors and community partners share agency updates. Invitations can be found in the Provider Link Newsletter noted above. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM. This month's topic will address **Finding and Retaining Quality Staff**.

# ELRC 17 UPCOMING MEETINGS

*Contact ELRC 17 for assistance or additional information*

## **Local Leadership Council**

- Date: Wednesday May 8<sup>th</sup> 1pm- 2:30pm

## **Health & Safety Regional Task Force Hybrid Meeting**

- Date: Tuesday May 29<sup>th</sup> 1pm-2:30pm

## **ELRC 17 Provider Meeting**

- Date: Wednesday June 5<sup>th</sup> 10am-11:30am
  - This meeting is for Montgomery County Child Care Providers only

# ELRC 18 UPDATES

*Contact ELRC 18 for assistance or additional information*

- **Children's Village Business Series** - For the HR and Advanced series, you must have completed the beginner series first. Providers from other regions are welcome, space permitting. These are the last opportunities this fiscal year! Don't miss out!!!
  - **Human Resources cohort #2 (funded by PNC Grow up Great)** - starts April 30th - 1:00 - 3:00  
<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/r0it64ocgayj9reggmpgz/CV-HR-Series-PNC.pdf?rlkey=mljjvv5dwemahlc0lpthqirtn&dl=0>
  - **Advanced Center cohort (funded by PHL PreK)** - starts May 1<sup>st</sup> - 9:30 - 12:00  
<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/v6d2j6tas4nvzljkrjd4/CV-Advanced-Series-CENTER.pdf?rlkey=hslq8g8gg6mr2stm3ro5mwcva&dl=0>
  - **Center Beginning series cohort #3** - starts May 9th - 12:30  
<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/ykpx09q44ca7zw3s0n6wi/CV-Center-Beginner-Series-final-cohort.pdf?rlkey=i5m8cx2qa9w2hkjq5wndhuwcs&dl=0>
  - **Family Beginning series cohort #3** - starts May 16th - 6:30 - 8:30  
<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/zig3u536tv4tz94dmcvjv/CV-FCCH-Beginner-Series-final-cohort.pdf?rlkey=0yqx9bbln55q44pzjmt2w8sg2&dl=0>

# ELRC 18 UPCOMING NETWORKING MEETINGS

*Contact ELRC 18 for assistance or additional information*

- **4/17/2024** – Third Wednesday at 1p – **Northwest Directors Meeting** – NOTE: This Zoom meeting is hosted by Childspace Centers and is open to all providers in the community. To RSVP and receive the meeting link, please e-mail [jfilante@childspacecenters.org](mailto:jfilante@childspacecenters.org).
- **4/18/2024** – Third Thursday – **ELRC 18 North Directors** from 1-3p. Click [HERE](#) to join the Zoom meeting.
- **4/25/2024** – Fourth Thursday – **ELRC 18 South/West Directors** from 1-3p. Click [HERE](#) to join the Zoom meeting.
- **5/9/2024** – Second Thursday – **ELRC 18 Northeast Directors** from 1-3p. Click [HERE](#) to join the Zoom meeting.
- **5/9/2024** – **ELRC 18 Proveedores de habla hispana** de 6p-8p ([Click HERE to join the Teams meeting at 6p](#)) – *Meeting on the second Thursday of the month for Spanish-speaking providers.*
- **5/11/2024** – Second Saturday at 9a – **Quality Influential Professionals (QIP)** family child care networking – open to all home-based providers. E-mail QIP Quality Influential Professionals at [qipforu@gmail.com](mailto:qipforu@gmail.com) for the Zoom link to the upcoming meeting.



# ELRC 19 REMINDERS

*Contact ELRC 19 for assistance or additional information*

- **ELRC Region 19 Weekly Early Education Newsletter**

ELRC 19's provider newsletter is delivered weekly to your inbox. You will find current announcements, OCDEL news, Keystone STARS and CCW updates, and information about regional services and events. To subscribe to the ELRC 19 weekly newsletter, go to our website: [www.elrc19chesco.org](http://www.elrc19chesco.org)

- **ELRC 19 Provider Chit Chat**

All providers are invited to join community partners and Quality Coaches at our bi-monthly virtual Provider Chit Chat meeting! Participation is strongly recommended as important information for all Chester County childcare providers is shared! Each meeting brings a different presenter and topic. Information and invitations can be found in our weekly newsletter. Next Meeting – June 4<sup>th</sup> and the topic is Suspension/Expulsion. Register by clicking on the link in our weekly newsletter! Subscribe by clicking on the green subscription box on our website: [www.elrc19chesco.org](http://www.elrc19chesco.org)

# ELRC REMINDER AND OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact your local ELRC for assistance or additional information

Region 15 Delaware County	Region 16 Bucks County	Region 17 Montgomery County	Region 18 Philadelphia	Region 19 Chester County
Delaware County <a href="mailto:Elrc15-email@delcohsa.org">Elrc15- email@delcohsa.org</a>	Community Services for Children <a href="mailto:ELRC16@cscinc.org">ELRC16@cscinc.org</a>	Montgomery County <a href="mailto:ELRCRegion17@pa.gov">ELRCRegion17@pa.gov</a>	Caring People Alliance <a href="mailto:info@philadelphiaelrc18.org">info@philadelphiaelrc18.org</a>	Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC) <a href="mailto:ELRC19@phmc.org">ELRC19@phmc.org</a>
Office Location	Office Location	Office Location	Office Location	Office Location
20 South 69 <sup>th</sup> St 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Upper Darby, PA 19082-2528 610-713-2115 1-800-831-3117 Fax: 610-713-2333	Fairless Hills 333 Oxford Rd, Suite 402-403 Fairless Hills, PA 19030-2624 833-229-6928 215-486-2524 Fax: 267-202-6517	Montgomery County P.O Box 311 1430 Dekalb Street Norristown, PA 19404 610-278-3707 1-800-281-1116 Fax: 610-278-5161	2361-2372 Welsh Road Philadelphia, PA 19114 (215) 382-4762 1-888-461-KIDS (5437) Hearing Impaired TTY Service 1-877-PA-Kids (1-877-472-5437) Fax: (215) 382-1199	Chester County Intermediate Unit 455 Boot Rd, Downingtown, PA 19335-3043 484-593-5050 1-866-262-8565 Fax: 610-343-1605
	Quakertown 136B Mill Rd Quakertown, PA 18951 833-229-6928 267-898-3980 Fax – 267-247-5122			



# Public Policy Partners (3P) Collaboration

**Essence Allen-Presley**, Education Institute for Early Intervention (EIEI)

**Jen Fischer**, Philadelphia Interagency Coordinating Council (PICC)





# Special Presentation: Strengthening partnerships and improving access to early intervention resources

**Essence Allen-Presley**, Education Institute for Early Intervention (EIEI)

**Jen Fischer**, Philadelphia Interagency Coordinating Council (PICC)





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**DR. ESSENCE ALLEN-PRESLEY**

[EPRESLEY@EIFOREI.ORG](mailto:EPRESLEY@EIFOREI.ORG)

FOUNDER/CEO- THE  
EDUCATION INSTITUTE FOR  
EARLY INTERVENTION (EIEI)



# OVERVIEW OF THE CURRENT EI SYSTEM

- Children from birth to age five suspected of having developmental delays or disabilities may be eligible for Early Intervention services.
- Early Intervention is Development, not Behavior.
- Behavior Services is through Behavior Support Services

# CONCERNS RELATING TO EARLY INTERVENTION

- Cultural factors, language barriers, and stigma associated with disabilities can also prevent families from seeking help early.
- Shortage of qualified professionals in urban areas like Philadelphia leads to high caseloads for existing staff, which may impact the quality of care and the amount of attention each child receives.
- High turnover and burnout rates among professionals can exacerbate these issues.
- Access to EI services in Philadelphia can vary significantly based on socioeconomic status, race, and geographic location. Families in lower-income neighborhoods or those with limited transportation options might have more difficulty accessing services.
- Disparities in service quality and outcomes, with some groups not receiving the same level of support as others.

# EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS AND EARLY INTERVENTION

## Services Provided

- Special Instruction: Educational services tailored to the child's needs.
- Speech Therapy: Services to address difficulties with speech and language.
- Physical and Occupational Therapy: Services to improve motor skills, coordination, and daily living activities.
- Hearing and Vision Services: Support for children with sensory impairments.
- Nutritional Services: Guidance and support for dietary needs.
- Social Work Services: Assistance with accessing community resources and support for the family.

# SUPPORTING CHILDREN IN YOUR ECE PROGRAM

- Be Sensitive and Empathetic
- Build a Relationship with the Family
- Have intentional meetings with the family (Not at Arrival and Pick Up)
- Read the IEP/IFSP
- Highlight the LEA or Service Coordinator's Name, Email, Phone Number
- Ask for the Review Meetings with the IEP team if things are unclear or you need additional information.
- Talk to the Related Service Staff
- Send written input to be included in the IEP/IFSP
- DOCUMENT/DOCUMENT/DOCUMENT

# ADVOCATE-GET INVOLVED

- Contact your OCDEL Rapid Response Team
- Join the County Interagency Council
- Join the Council for Exceptional Children (PA Division for Early Childcare)
- Join The Education Institute for Early Intervention (EIEI) Family Empowerment program.
- Research local support agency and SHARE SHARE SHARE!!





## **Jen Fischer**

Program Assistant  
Philadelphia Interagency  
Coordinating  
Council (PICCC)

[philadelphiaicc@yahoo.com](mailto:philadelphiaicc@yahoo.com)  
215-338-7775

# UPCOMING TRAININGS/EVENTS

Autism Expo

April 19, 2024

9am – 1pm School District of Philadelphia

Ditch the Diapers Workshop

April 20, 2024 10am – Noon via Microsoft Teams. Email Melissa Modesti with questions

[melissa.modesti@elwyn.org](mailto:melissa.modesti@elwyn.org)

Autism Acceptance Day at the Philadelphia Zoo

April 21, 2024 10am – 4pm

[Autism Acceptance Day at the Philadelphia Zoo Tickets, Sun, Apr 21, 2024 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)



### Resources From:

- Helping Hands Family
- Philadelphia Family Voices
- Laila Way Behavioral Services
- The Arc of Philadelphia
- AJ Drexel Autism Institute
- Many more!

**9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**  
**Friday, April 19th, 2024**

**at 440 North Broad Street**  
**Philadelphia, PA 19130**

**Free Entry!**



# Autism Society

Greater Philadelphia

**25th Annual**

# AUTISM ACCEPTANCE DAY

**Philadelphia Zoo**

**Sunday, April 21, 2024**

**10 am - 4 pm**

MEET IN THE PEACOCK PAVILLION FOR:

- \*AUTISM RESOURCE FAIR
  - \*AUTISM MERCHANDISE
  - \*ADVOCACY MEET UP
  - \*WEIGHTED BLANKET DEMO'S
  - \*SENSORY STATIONS
  - \*CRAFT AREAS
  - \*QUIET AREAS
  - \*GIVE & TAKE JUGGLERS
  - \*STEVE PULLARA & HIS COOL BEANS
  - \*PRINCESSES
  - \*CHARACTERS
  - \*MAGIC
  - \*RAFFLES
  - \*GIVE AWAYS!
- THIS IS A FREE EVENT. BUT YOU NEED TO GET INTO THE ZOO!  
TIX! [HTTPS://AUTISMACCEPTANCE2024PHILADELPHIAZOO.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://autismacceptance2024philadelphiazoo.eventbrite.com) ( IF YOU ARE A ZOO MEMBER NO TIX NEEDED)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Email: [AutismSocietyPhila@verizon.net](mailto:AutismSocietyPhila@verizon.net)

Autism Society Greater Philadelphia - ASAPhilly

on Facebook

# RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES AND PROVIDERS

- The Arc of Philadelphia – Advocacy  
Bonita McCabe – [bmccabe@arcphila.org](mailto:bmccabe@arcphila.org)
- Family Resource Guide  
[BR0130\\_ELS\\_Family\\_Resource\\_Guide\\_2022.pdf](#) (elwyn.org)
- PA Families Inc  
<http://www.pafamiliesinc.org> (statewide resource)
- PATTAN  
<http://www.pattan.net> (educational resources)
- Parent 2 Parent of PA – Peer Support for families



# RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES AND PROVIDERS

- PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

[PaTTAN - Procedural Safeguards Notice - Preschool Early Intervention](#)

- Temple Institute on Disabilities – Recorded Trainings

[Families First | Temple University College of Education and Human Development, Institute on Disabilities](#)

Vision for Equality – Birth to 5 Program and Navigation Project

[Philly Family Support Projects - Vision For Equality](#)

# CONTACTS: EARLY INTERVENTION/LICC

## ■ Bucks County

Birth to Three: 215-444-2828

Preschool: <https://www.bucksiu.org/>

BCICC: Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC)  
| Bucks IU-Bucks County Intermediate Unit-BCIU

## ■ Chester County

Birth to three: 610-344-5948

Preschool: 484-237-5150

CICC: Chester County early intervention Connections  
(LICC) (chesco.org)

## ■ Delaware County

Birth to Three: 610-713-2406

Preschool: 610-938-2830 x6502

DCICC: [licc@dciu.org](mailto:licc@dciu.org)

## ■ Montgomery County

Birth to Three: 610-277-7176

Preschool: [www.mciu.org](http://www.mciu.org)

MCICC: Montgomery County Family Partnership  
(facebook)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/255257621673064/>

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# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Michelle Smithman  
Parent to Parent PA

Jocelyn Hoffman  
SMG Clubhouse

Minnette Taylor  
Mini Montessori Academy

Jackie Groetsch  
First Up



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Michelle Smithman  
Parent to Parent of PA

(215) 260-1618

[mesmithman@parenttoparent.org](mailto:mesmithman@parenttoparent.org)

[www.parenttoparent.org](http://www.parenttoparent.org)





# PARENT TO PARENT OF PENNSYLVANIA

***Home***

***Matches*** ▼

***Sharing Our Journey***

***Events***

***Communications*** ▼



# PARENT TO PARENT PA – NEW MATCH INTAKE FORM

## New Match Intake

If you are interested in a parent match, please complete and submit the information below. Once your form is submitted, a Regional Coordinator will contact you by phone to personally explain our free and confidential services. This call helps to ensure the most appropriate peer supporter match based on your needs. Please be aware that the matching process will not begin until a Parent to Parent of PA Regional Coordinator has spoken to you directly.

Are you an agency filling this out? [click here](#)

## Demographics

**Prefix**

**First Name**

**Middle Name**

**Last Name**

## Contact Details

**Primary Phone**

**Other Phone**

**Line1**

**Line2**

**City, State**

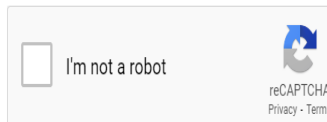
**Other Phone**

**Email**

**P2P E-mail List**  Yes  No

**Preferred contact method**

**How can we help?**



By submitting this form you are agreeing to allow your information to be released to the Parent to Parent of PA program for further contact.

**City, State**

**ZIP**

**County**

**P2P Mailing List**  Yes  No



JOCELYN HOFFMAN

CO-DIRECTOR

[SMGCLUBHOUSE2@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SMGCLUBHOUSE2@GMAIL.COM)

215-999-3811

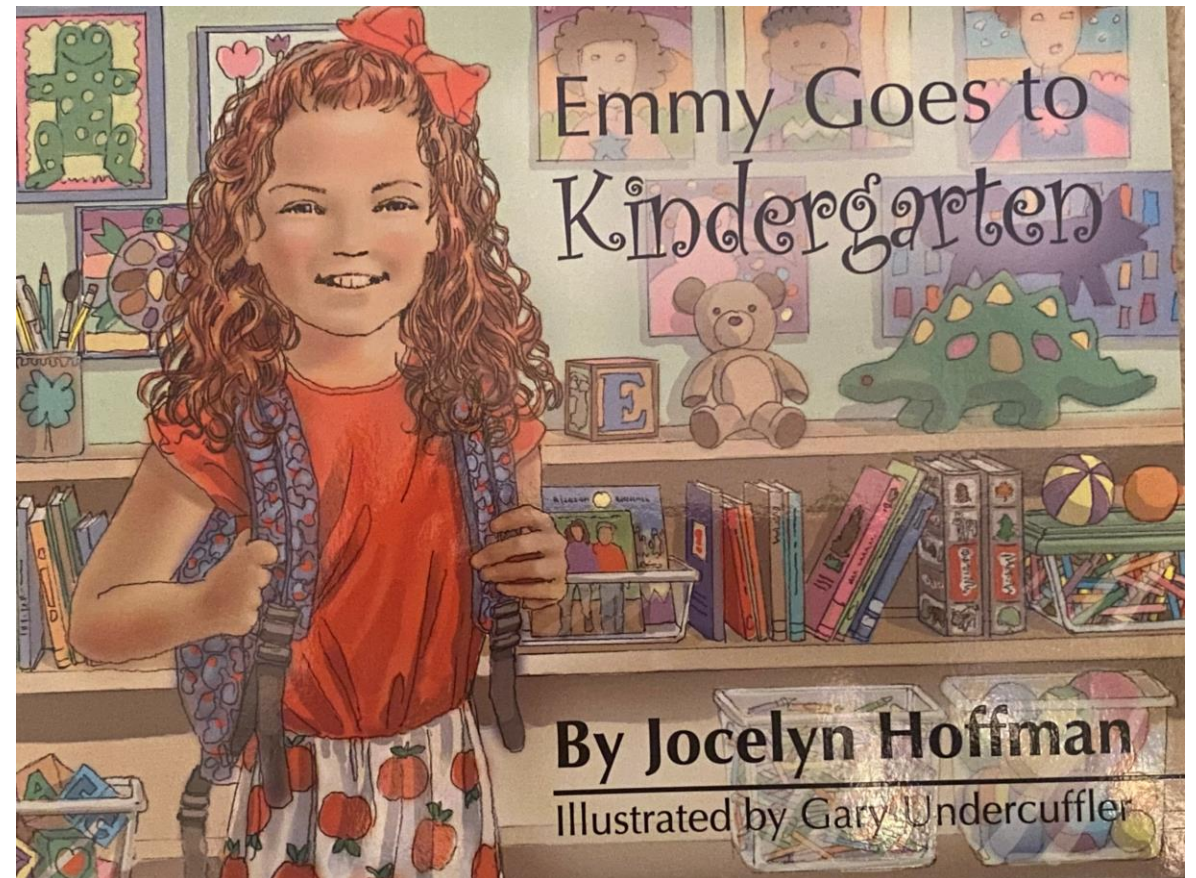
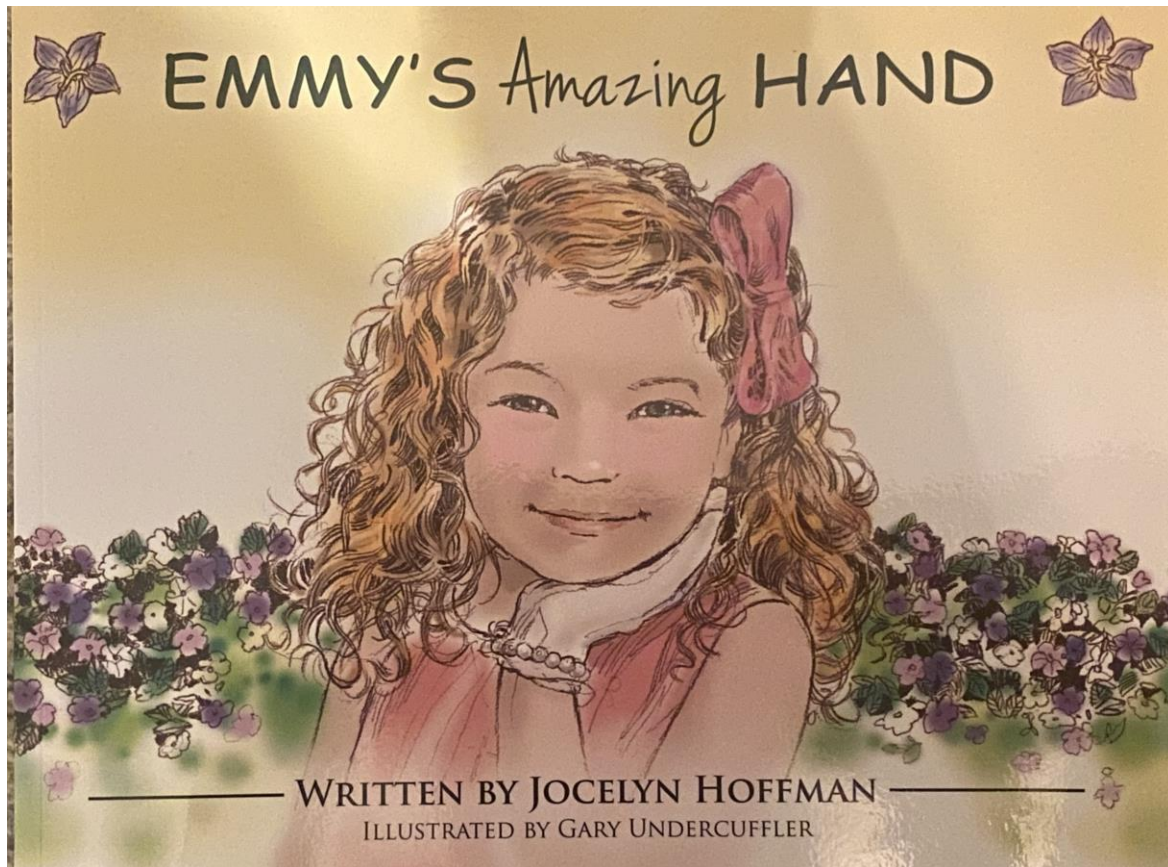
HORSHAM, PA

# MY DAUGHTER: EMMY





# CHILDRENS BOOK AUTHOR





# DISABILITY ADVOCACY

## A Totally UNIQUE Experience!

Author, Teacher, and Disability Advocate, Jocelyn Hoffman, creates a **UNIQUE** educational experience that is interactive and engaging for students and faculty alike! Her children's books and various prosthetics are the tools she uses in her hands-on approach to teach and challenge audiences to accept and celebrate one another's **UNIQUENESS!**



Jocelyn Hoffman

### What Teachers are Saying...

"Mrs. Hoffman was amazing and the kindergarten presentation was one of the best I have ever been part of in my tenure here."  
- George, Slackwood Elementary School

"One of the best assemblies we've ever had. She was a wonderful speaker. The kids really enjoyed her presentation."  
- Danielle, Wyncote Elementary School

"Your presentation was truly inspirational and gave a valuable message to our students!"  
- Kim, Benjamin Franklin Elementary School

FEATURED on...



Call Jocelyn to setup your assembly! 215-605-7279  
jocelynhoffman@live.com

Facebook: Emmysamazinghand Instagram: Jocelynhoffman  
Twitter: jocelynhoffma16



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- 1. **C**onversation with parents.
- 2. **C**ollect books which feature children with disabilities.
- 3. **C**reate activities and experiences to meet their needs.
- 4. **C**oach other children how to interact with children who have differences.

## RESOURCES

- Shriners Children's Hospital
  - <https://www.shrinerschildrens.org/en/locations/philadelphia>
- Lucky Fin Project
  - <https://luckyfinproject.org/>
- NubAbility
  - <https://nubability.org/>
- Emmy's Amazing Hand
  - <https://www.facebook.com/emmysamazinghand/about>



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MINNETTE TAYLOR, M.ED.

Owner, G & T Daycare, Montessori Program  
Founder & CEO, Mini Montessori Academy  
NAFCC Pennsylvania State Representative

858-751-9116



# A Day of Harmonizing Your Body and Mind! 🍷

## MINI MONTESSORI ACADEMY SE REGION EDUCATORS

**We Love Our TEACHERS!**

8TH ANNUAL EVENT

Teacher Appreciation Presented By  
**Mini Montessori Academy**  
"Offering More In 2024"  
Honoring Our Community Trailblazers

**AISSIA RICHARDSON**  
Deputy Chief of Staff for State Senator Sharif Street

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PEDRO ROSARIO**  
guest speaker

**SHERILYNN KIMBLE**  
The Kimble Group LLC

**DR. OBIOMA MARTIN**  
OMAX Institute

**STEPHEN KINSEY**  
Pennsylvania State Representative

**SATURDAY MAY 4TH, 2024**  
10AM-4 PM

**Bustleton Learning Center**  
6600 Bustleton Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19143

Breakfast  
Lunch  
3PQAS  
Award

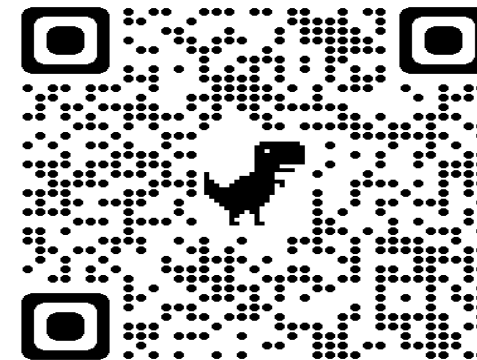
Celebrating educators who sow seeds of wisdom and foster life-long learners!  
Register and Sponsor a Teacher

858-751-9116  
www.minimontessoriacademy.com

Join us on **Saturday, May 4th, 2024**, for the **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Teacher's Appreciation** event, where we honor the individuals who have sowed seeds of wisdom and supported educators in early childhood for centuries. At the same time, If you have a teacher you would like to acknowledge in your program, please let us know!



**Bustleton Learning Center**  
6600 Bustleton Ave  
10 am -12pm (relax on us!)  
1pm - 4 pm (Ceremony)







**Champions for Early Education**

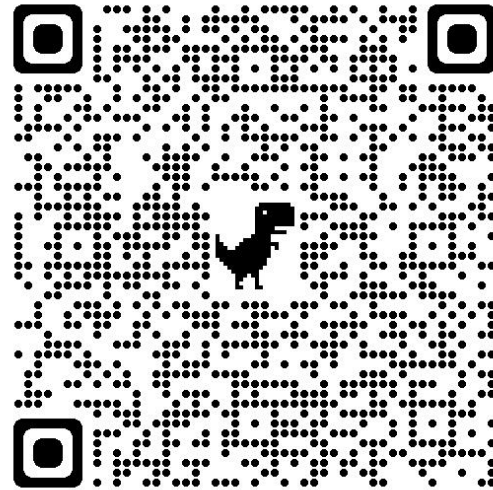
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JACKIE GROETSCH  
PUBLIC POLICY MANAGER  
[JACKIE.GROETSCH@FIRSTUP.ORG](mailto:JACKIE.GROETSCH@FIRSTUP.ORG)  
215-450-7361

# FREE ADVOCACY PD SESSION W/ 2 PQAS HOURS FROM FIRST UP

Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> 6:30—8:30PM

Advocacy: The Key to Impacting  
Change in Early Learning



To register, scan QR code or click here:

<https://www.papdregistry.org/register.aspx?evid=365007&ReturnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.papdregistry.org%2Fv7%2Ftrainings%2Fsearch>



**VOICE OF ECE**

An Advocacy Organization  
Partnering with ECE Stakeholders

The **VOICE OF ECE** Liability Insurance Survey



**DID YOU COMPLETE  
THE LIABILITY  
INSURANCE SURVEY  
YET???**

**SURVEY DEADLINE  
IS EXTENDED TO  
APRIL 30, 2024**

Has your liability insurance skyrocketed lately? Facing cancellation? You're not alone! We're gathering stories from impacted childcare business owners across the state to understand the scope of this issue and advocate for change. Your voice matters! Together, we can make a difference! The more voices we hear, the stronger our message will be.

**SURVEY DEADLINE  
IS EXTENDED TO  
APRIL 30, 2024**



To access the survey,  
scan the QR code or  
go to:  
[https://forms.gle/tdqe\\_oSMHCGwWuV9W6](https://forms.gle/tdqe_oSMHCGwWuV9W6)



**SEPECC**

Advancing quality early care  
and education in Bucks, Chester,  
Delaware, Montgomery and  
Philadelphia Counties

## 2024 SEPECC COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

### **Steering Committee**

Zakiyyah Boone (Co-Chair)  
Laverne Cheeseboro  
Latonta Godboldt  
Mary Graham  
Jackie Groetsch  
Kim Heuschkel  
Shineal Hunter  
Sim Loh  
Sharon McClafferty  
Minette Taylor

### **Advocacy Workgroup**

Laverne Cheeseboro  
Nicole Dyson  
Jowanna Gordon  
Shirlee Howe  
Shineal Hunter  
Jacob Kurtz  
Eleanor Levie  
Elizabeth Ozer  
Monique Roye  
Shawn Towey

### **Advisory Council**

Norma Finkelstein  
Diane Getzinger  
Pamela Haines  
MaryKay Mahar  
Maddy Malis  
Elizabeth Ozer  
Khadijah Sabir

### **Social Media Workgroup**

Eleanor Levie  
Sim Loh  
Jowanna Gordon  
Shawn Towey

**THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!**

April 2024

- **30-Second Exit Survey:**  
<https://forms.gle/zLnD8vSeL8TMKtCB8>



- **Upcoming Meetings: May 21**  
**(12:30 – 2:30pm) June 18**

- **Meeting Registration Links** on First Up/SEPECC  
Webpage: <https://www.firstup.org/sepecc/>

MEETING  
WRAP UP



## Q&A TIME

You are welcome to stay on for Q&A time  
if you have any questions!