#### **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: <u>https://www.firstup.org/sepecc/</u>



## **SEPECC** Meeting

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

### Agenda:

12:30 Welcome

12:35 Federal, State & Local Budget/Policy Updates

12:50 ECE Advocacy in Action

1:15 DHS & ELRC Announcements

1:25 Special Presentation-Immigration & ICE: Impact on ECE

1:55 OCDEL Announcement

2:05 Community Partner Resources

Meeting will begin at 12:30pm

2:20 Wrap Up



Language Interpretation is available during this presentation. Interpretación de idiomas está disponible durante esta presentación.

- Select this icon the bottom of your screen AND choose your preferred language.
- Seleccione este ícono 🌐 en la parte inferior de su pantalla y elija su idioma preferido.

#### Please Note - Tenga en cuenta

- The Interpretation Feature can only be used on mobile phone using the zoom app. En los teléfonos móviles, solamente se puede acceder a la función de interpretación utilizando la aplicación de zoom.
- Select "mute original audio" if you do NOT want to hear other languages at a lower volume.
   Seleccione "mute original audio" (silenciar el audio original) si prefiere NO escuchar otros idiomas a un volumen más bajo.
- Please mute your sound to minimize interference.
   Por favor, apague su micrófono para disminuir las interferencias.
- 4. ALL participants MUST select one language, English or Spanish, for the feature to work properly. TODOS los participantes DEBEN seleccionar un idioma, inglés o español, para que la función trabaje apropiadamente.



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## PQAS HOURS FOR SEPECC

#### Sign in Sheet for SEPECC Meeting-PQAS Credit



EPECC	Sign in Sheet for SEPECC Meeting- PQAS Credit Thank you for joining the SEPECC Meeting. If you have attended the meeting and would like to receive PQAS credit, please fill out the information. Your credit will be on your PD PQAS credit, please do not fill out this form. * Required 1. First and Last Name as it is on the PD Registry * Enter your answer
	2. Email that links to your PD Registry account * Enter your answer
	3. PD Registry Number Enter your answer
	<ol> <li>Please comment if you have any suggestions or feedback.</li> <li>Enter your answer</li> </ol>
Please c	omplete sign in

within 24 hours of the meeting end if you would like to receive PQAS credit.

Here is the link and QR code: <u>https://forms.office.com/r/RfzSg97k7j</u>



#### DOMINIQUE COUNTEE, CHILDCARE CHANGEMAKERS

#### BUDGET & POLICY UPDATES - FEDERAL -

#### NO CUTS TO CHILD CARE!



https://act.communitychangeaction.org/a/no-cuts-child-carefeb-2025



#### Shirlee Howe, Children First PA

#### Budget & Policy updates - State & Local -



What's in Governor Shapiro's Proposed Budget for Early Childhood Education?



\$55 million for a child care teacher recruitment and retention initiative as a new and reoccurring budget line item. Plus \$2.7 million for minimum wage increases (\$55.7 million total)

\$16.2 million for Early Intervention Part C (infants and toddlers)

\$14.6 million for Early Intervention Part B (age three to five)

\$17 million in new state funding for Pre-K Counts
(\$15M to increase rates & \$2M to ensure no slot cuts)

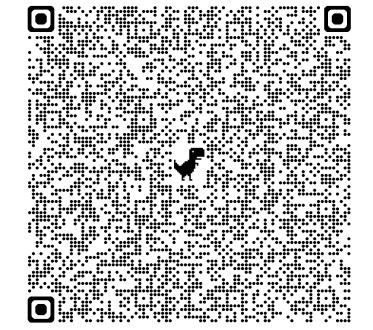
Level funding for Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program

> Level funding for home visiting

#### SHIRLEE HOWE, CHILDREN FIRST PA

#### BUDGET & POLICY UPDATES - STATE & LOCAL -







Contact your state legislators! Ask them to support Gov. Shapiro's proposed investments in ECE!

https://secure.everyaction.com/PQG20AGAdEKhNjsOm7ZvQg2?contactdata=qJwVQLXQaaGa6SD6BWQQ3+fyyGRnXXtkdaot7 8wE5VOVybDIaG80PvH2Wi274CKJWDF4qk4T8sfr+6STKv4pITxT0ZHmL4q1SMdO2wTz8eLOfXu0fOz%2fnL9vRR3NsMdVqMcS WhPj8+gQ2a6wmDOcOWVPORBi8xv+XA%2fhOWZ2M8OR42q5QSnUCZ8Hyox98HsPwo3v2G8zk5J3nDV5ghMjpQypDGOS %2fCnX1SoffThy%2fnXci+VPw4NPm9tpeS4ojgJr6+xw6CWAJ%2fRucNGfTEiTPg%3d%3d&emci=d3072b43-9ce4-ef11-90cb-0022482a94f4&emdi=d8b4bed6-b0e4-ef11-90cb-0022482a94f4&ceid=7954780

## **ADVOCACY IN ACTION!**



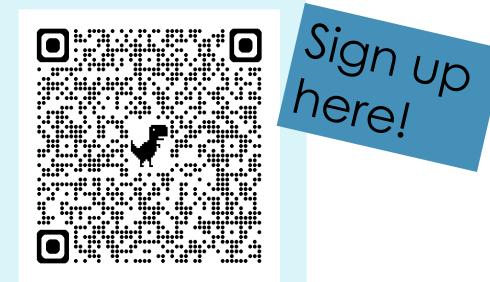


## **BUDGET SEASON**

Make YOUR Voice Heard! Join First Up & Children First for Capitol ECE Days!

#### First Up

- March 26
- April 2
- April 8
- May 5
- May 13
- June 3
- June 9
- June 26



#### **Children First**

- March 25
- May 7
- June 3
- June 11
- June 24

Sign up coming soon!

## LEADERSHIP IN ACTION



#### Leadership in Action Program

Start Strong PA and Pre-K for PA are excited Programs participating in Leadership in to offer the Leadership in Action program for early care and education programs. The the type and level of engagement chosen. Pre-K for PA and Start Strong PA campaigns Advocacy campaign staff will document were created because we understand the value and impact of your work. We know that issued on a monthly basis. While activities the care and education you provide makes will be coordinated with Start Strong PA or a lasting impact on the lives of the children. Pre-K for PA partners, you can conduct the their families, our communities and our economy. Our goal is to make quality early learning accessible and affordable through improved policies and increased fundingbut we need your help to do that!

Our Leadership in Action Program is designed to offer opportunities for early care and education programs to be advocates, whether you have been raising your voice for years or are considering it for the very first time. You know your story and the story of your families best. Our elected officials need to hear those stories and we want to help you share them.

Action will receive gift cards based on your participation and then cards will be activities with or without us.

Documentation will differ by type of activity. As program participants' engagement increases, gift card amounts increase.

If you have questions or need more information on how to participate in our Leadership in Action program please contact:

Keevan Merryman, **Program Assistant, PennAEYC** kmerryman@pennaeyc.org

Examples of activities are listed on the back and categorized by engagement level.

Program directors will receive gift cards from the Pennes/Vania Association for the Education of Young Children (DennAEYC), on behalf of the first Strong PA and Pro-K for PA comparisons, in the amounts indicated below for use in their programs as they complete the corresponding activities. In addition, participating families will be immed a separate gift card, in an equal amount. Families may be mailed gift cards directly or they may be sent to the program director for the family. Italiated activities may be conducted virtually (gift and amount reduced by \$15). Please note that PennAEYC will need to collect a W9 IR5 form from programs or families receiving more than 4509 in gift cards in a calondar year for tax compliance purposes.

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## Other Ways To Engage Your Legislators & Advocate for ECE

#### Nicole Fetherman, LifeSpan Child Care





Invite legislators to

celebrations

visit your program &

Find out who your legislators are? Share the information with your staff & parents. Adopt-A-Legislator: Cultivate relationship with your legislators by reaching out to them consistently.





Share your expertise! Be a panelist, a presenter, provide a testimony, etc. 

Engage other

stakeholders and

raise awareness

importance of

about the

ECE!





TOPS IN PHILLY

Request in-district meeting or virtual meeting



## Provider Spotlight

## Melanie Brennan, KenCrest





**Champions for Early Education** 

of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia

Legislative Forum: Childcare Solutions for a Changing Workplace & Workforce





Sign on to add your name to the movement and support our demands! <u>Day Without Child Care - Community Change Action</u>

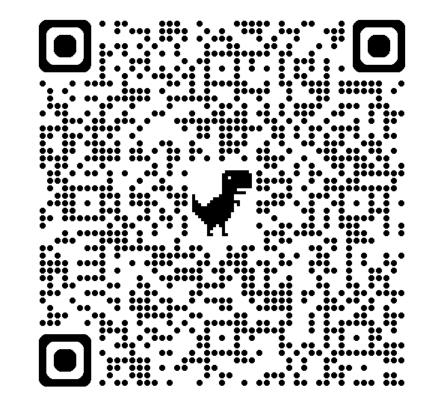
### BECOME AN ECE ADVOCATE IN 2025!

Ready to Make a Difference? 🢪

Flex your advocacy muscles and let your voice be heard!

Take a minute to fill out the Advocacy Interest Microsoft Form and get involved!  $\rightarrow$ 





## DHS & ELRC Announcements

ASIA M. SHEPPARD - DHS ASSHEPPARD@PA.GOV

JAMILA DASHIELL - DHS JDASHIELL@PA.GOV

ANGELA SOMOGYI ASOMOGYI@CSCINC.ORG

#### ASIA M. SHEPPARD - DHS ASSHEPPARD@PA.GOV

#### JAMILA DASHIELL -DHS JDASHIELL@PA.GOV



## ANGELA SMOGYI

REGIONAL DIRECTOR, ELRC REGION 16 COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

ASOMOGYI@CSCINC.ORG

# EARLY LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

#### KEYSTONE STARS CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT

- Award funds can be applied to eligible expenses incurred from July 1, 2024-Feb 28, 2025
- Final Expense reports were distributed in January to providers who received funds
- All Expense reports must be received by no later then March 28th, 2025.
- Retain all original receipts and documentation of all expenses and purchases made with award funds.

#### FREE TRAUMA INFORMED TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

#### FREE Professional Development Opportunity Becoming Trauma-Informed Early Childhood Education Leaders

**Becoming Trauma-Informed Early Childhood Education Leaders** begins in March (cohort 1) and June (cohort 2). This no-cost training will equip early childhood education (ECE) leaders with foundational knowledge about the prevalence and impact of trauma. It will also cover what it means to be "trauma-informed" and how leaders can apply and integrate this knowledge into their organizational structures. Please see the flyer below for more information and registration details.

**Becoming Trauma-Informed Early Childhood Education Leaders** 

#### CHILD CARE WORKS - MCCA RATE INCREASE

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL), Bureau of Policy and Professional Development has released the <u>Announcement ELRC #24-04,</u> <u>Increase to Child Care Works (CCW) Base Payment Rates for Department of Human</u> <u>Services (DHS) Certified Providers</u>. This Announcement provides information regarding an increase to base rates paid by DHS to certified child care providers participating in CCW. Base payment rates are also known as the Maximum Child Care Allowance (MCCA). This Announcement replaces ELRC Announcement 23 #01- Increase to Child Care Works Base Payment Rates.

Effective January 1, 2025, there has been an increase to the MCCA rates.

For full details, including the new MCCA chart, Instructions for DHS Certified Child Care Providers Updating Private Pay Rates, Processing Rate Updates, and next steps, please see the <u>Announcement ELRC #24-04</u>, Increase to Child Care Works (CCW) Base Payment Rates for Department of Human Services (DHS) Certified Providers.

#### ELRC 15 UPDATES

- ELRC 15 welcomes Nicole Fisher as the new Provider Service Manager.
- ELRC 15 is hosting Continuing Conversations Provider Meetings on critical issues facing the Early Childhood Community email: <u>ELRC15STARS@phmc.org</u> for additional information.
- Final expense reports have been emailed. If you have not received your copy, please contact ELRC15STARS@phmc.org.

#### ELRC 15 Contact Information:

- Ongoing Family Case Needs: <u>ELRC15Family@phmc.org</u>
- Provider Needs: <u>ELRC15Provider@phmc.org</u>
- ✓ Quality Supports: <u>ELRC15STARS@phmc.org</u>
- ✓ New APPLICATION submissions and updates: <u>ELRC15Intake@phmc.org</u>

#### ELRC 16 UPDATES – BUCKS COUNTY

Email: <u>elrc16@cscinc.org</u> Website: <u>https://elrc-csc.org</u> Phone: 215-486-2524 or Toll Free: 833-229-6928

#### Open Provider Manager Position

- ELRC 16 is seeking qualified candidates for the open Provider Manager position Candidates must have 4 year, related degree and experience with Keystone STARS and/or eligibility. Visit <u>Careers Community</u> <u>Services for Children</u> to learn more.
- Providers with CCW attendance, invoicing, or payment questions should reach out to Angie Somogyi at <u>asomogyi@cscinc.org</u>. For STARS related questions, please reach out to your Quality Coach.

#### Rapid Response Team

- Supports child care providers and families in efforts to reduce suspension and expulsion of children with challenging behaviors. To date, 37 children in Bucks County have been referred for RRT supports. Includes onsite classroom observations and supports provided by Quality Coach and Behavior Specialists
- Collaborative approach, includes provider staff, parents, and observers in developing strategies and providing referrals to outside services when appropriate
- Ongoing Communities of Practice convened to support directors and classroom staff
- To make a referral go to: <u>RRT Referral Form</u>
- In-Person Monthly Directors' Network Meetings
  - All providers are invited to join community partners and Quality Coaches for networking, news and important updates. Next meeting – March 16<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 PM at Children's Village at Doylestown Hospital
- Monthly Provider Link Newsletter: <u>Region 16 Provider Link Newsletter</u>

#### ELRC 17 UPDATES

- ELRC 17 is hosting Parent Café Events at Child Care Providers in Montgomery County. This is a great Family Engagement Opportunity. Reach out to your Quality Coach to schedule an event at your center.
- ELRC 17 next Local Leadership Council Meeting will be on Wednesday, April 9th from 1-3pm. This meeting is held in a hybrid format. All Community Partners, Stakeholders and Child Care Providers in Montgomery County are encouraged to attend. To Register: <u>Click Here</u>
- ELRC 17 next Health & Safety Regional Taskforce Meeting will be on Wednesday, May 14th from 1-2:30pm. This meeting is held in a hybrid format. All Community Partners, and Child Care Providers in Montgomery County are encouraged to attend. To Register: <u>Click Here</u>
- ELRC 17 Monthly Newsletter is sent via our Quality Coaches each month. Our newsletter is posted on our website: <u>www.montcopa.org/elrc</u>

#### ELRC 18 UPDATES

#### Upcoming: ELRC 18 Provider Network Meetings

- Virtual Provider Network Meetings offer access to information related to quality improvement, to discuss a variety of topics related to Keystone STARS and Child Care Works, and to connect with ELRC 18 staff and community partners.
- Content is the same for each of the 3 quarterly meetings, so register for the event that best matches your schedule: 3/13 1-2:30pm, 3/19 7-8:30pm, 3/20 10-11:30am.
- Registration links will be distributed via the ELRC 18 Bi-Weekly Newsletter

#### **REGION 19 - UPDATES**

- ELRC 19 Provider Chit Chat All Chester County providers are invited to join our 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. March 18th at 10 am and our topic will be Chester Counties Rapid Response Team (RRT). Information and invitations can be found in our weekly newsletter. Subscribe to our newsletter by clicking on the subscription box on our website: www.elrc19chesco.org
- Chester County early Childhood Collaborative Connections Meeting March 18, I-3p via zoom. We're professionals and parents working together to enrich the lives of families and enhance the quality of services by collaborating with agencies, families, and the community. Our mission is to ensure that young children in Chester County of all needs have access to high quality early care, supports and education to support their growth and development.
- ELRC 19 Weekly Newsletter This provider newsletter is delivered weekly to your inbox with current announcements, OCDEL news, Keystone STARS and CCW updates and information about regional services and events. To subscribe please contact your Quality Coach or email directly the Director, Susan Moylan @ smoylan@phmc.org

## <u>Special</u> Presentation

## Immigration & ICE: Impact on ECE

### ROSE WEHRMAN, ESQ.

EQUAL JUSTICE WORKS FELLOW, EDUCATION LAW CENTER

## **KEITH ARMSTRONG**

FELLOWSHIP ATTORNEY, IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS, ACLU PA

#### **ZAKIYYAH BOONE** CEO, WONDERSPRING

CO-CHAIR, SEPECC



## LEGAL RIGHTS OF YOUNG IMMIGRANT STUDENTS IN EARLY LEARNING CENTERS

#### FEBRUARY 25, 2025 FIRST UP - SOUTHEASTERN PA EARLY CHILDHOOD COALITION

Thank you to HIAS-PA for collaboration to provide this important information.

## AGENDA

- 1. Presenters: About ELC & ACLU
- 2. Context: Immigrant children in PA, and recent Executive Orders
- 3. ICE Enforcement at Early Learning Centers

Warrant Required for Non-Public Space

Student Records

- 4. Protocol Suggestions for Early Learning Centers
- 5. Resources for Families







### EDUCATION LAW CENTER

Keith Armstrong Fellowship Attorney, Immigrants' Rights Rose Wehrman EJW Legal Fellow 1 in 14 Pennsylvania residents is an immigrant.

Estimated 19% of the immigrant population in PA is undocumented.

Unaccompanied Children released to PA: 1,985 in FY 2024 (Oct 2023 - Sept 2024) 294 in FY 2025 (Oct 2024 - Dec 2024)

> Sources: ORR Administration for Children & Families & 2020 Census

## Philadelphia: Out of 1.6 million residents, 15% of the population are immigrants.

30% of Pennsylvania's immigrants live in Montgomery, Chester and Delaware counties

## NONDISCRIMINATION PROTECTIONS

#### <u>Title VI</u>

- "No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."
- Title VI applies to programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance

#### Pennsylvania Human Relations Act

- Prohibits discrimination in child care and early learning centers based on race, color, sex, religion, disability, ancestry, and national origin.
- Under both Title VI and the PHRA, children cannot be suspended or expelled from programs based on immigration status.



# ICE ENFORCEMENT AT EARLY LEARNING CENTERS



#### **RESCINDED:** SENSITIVE LOCATIONS / PROTECTED AREAS POLICY

#### **Previously**

Since 2011, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) had maintained standing guidance requiring Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to refrain from immigration enforcement actions in certain areas - including preschools JANUARY 2025: policy rescinded

4<sup>th</sup> Amendment remains:

warrant required for areas where people have a "reasonable expectation of privacy"



## PUBLIC & NONPUBLIC SPACES

## **PUBLIC**

- ICE has the authority to approach and question people in public spaces without a warrant.
- People still have the right to remain silent and to contact an attorney.

### NONPUBLIC

- For immigration enforcement to search or enter a private area within a school, the 4th Amendment requires a valid judicial warrant signed by a federal or state judge, unless staff consent to the search.
- If ICE agents enter a public area or gain access to a private area through a warrant or consent—they can arrest people if they have a valid administrative warrant for that person or if they have probable cause to believe that the person is "removable" from the United States



## WARRANT DISTINCTIONS

While longstanding law requires schools to comply with valid *judicial* warrants and subpoenas, immigration agents often serve what are known as *administrative* warrants, which do not have the same legal force.

### ADMINISTRATIVE WARRANT

- Commonly relied upon by ICE
- Signed by an immigration officer or immigration judge
- However, these warrants <u>do not</u>:
  - Authorize ICE agents to enter areas of school property that are not otherwise open to the public
  - To enter these places (absent of a judicial warrant), ICE would need the school's consent, which school officials have no legal obligation to give

### JUDICIAL WARRANT

- To be valid:
  - Issued by a judicial court;
  - Signed by a state or federal judge or magistrate (not merely authorized by an immigration judge or agent within the Department of Homeland Security or ICE);
  - State the address of the premises to be searched (check for your school's exact address); and
  - Executed within the limited time period specified on the warrant



## **JUDICIAL WARRANTS v. IMMIGRATION WARRANTS**

AC 93. (Rev. 1209) Search and Second Warner UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT for the Eastern District of California In the Matter of the Search of (Briefly describe the property to be searched or identify the property is the searched or identify the property is	DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement WARRANT OF REMOVAL/DEPORTATION File No: Date: To any immigration officer of the United States Department of Homeland Security:
Note: only the person property, & areas specified may       Of UARE COMMANDED to execute this warrant on or before <b>Set Still current</b> <ul> <li>Mote: only the person person for the daytime 6:00 a.m. to 10 p.m.</li> <li>In the daytime 6:00 a.m. to 10 p.m.</li> <li>In the daytime form whose premises, the property was taken, or leave the copy and receipt at the state state the person of decipied below, you must give a copy of the warrant, must prepare an inventory an copied by law and prompily return this warrant and inventory to United States Magistrate Judge</li></ul>	<pre>(Full name of alien) who entered the United States at</pre>
I find that immediate notification may have an adverse result listed in 18 U.S.C. § 2705 (except for delay of trial), and authorize the officer executing this warrant to delay notice to the person who, or whose property, will be searched or seized ( <i>check the appropriate basy</i> ) for	THESE ARE VISUAL CUES THAT THIS         IS AN IMMIGRATION WARRANT         (Signature of immigration officer)         (Title of immigration officer)

## IF A JUDICIAL WARRANT IS VALID

#### To be valid:

- Issued by a judicial court;
- Signed by a state or federal judge or magistrate (not merely authorized by an immigrations judge or agent within the Department of Homeland Security or ICE);
- State the address of the premises to be searched (check for your school's exact address); and
- Executed within the limited time period specified on the warrant

## Staff must comply

Staff should contact parent of child identified

Provide support for children & school climate



2

3

## STUDENT RECORDS AND FERPA PROTECTIONS

### General Rule:

Schools are prohibited from releasing personal information in student's education records without written consent of parent/guardian or eligible/adult student

### **Exceptions include:**

- Schools may disclose to LEO only IF they have a valid court order or subpoena
  - Attorney review for valid judicial order
  - Right to challenge Inform parent/guardian or eligible student before release of info
- Health or safety emergency
  - Extremely limited: actual imminent, specific to particular school



# RECOMMENDED PROTOCOL FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD **EDUCATION PROVIDERS**



### SUGGESTED SCHOOL PROTOCOLS FOR ICE CONTACT school prep and process

Identify and consult with legal counsel to prepare for immigration enforcement	Create Welcoming policy & protocol; Train all staff and determine which staff are authorized to speak with agents	Clearly mark public and non-public areas
<ul> <li>If ICE agents come to school,</li> <li>take/copy papers,</li> <li>tell agent to wait outside,</li> <li>immediately inform [Director] who consults with Attorney</li> </ul>	Attorney reviews any requests from ICE, and holds agents to limits in warrant/subpoena	Observe and <u>document</u> <u>any actions by agents</u> on school property. Make copies of officer ID and warrants/subpoenas

### SUGGESTED SCHOOL PROTOCOLS FOR ICE CONTACT supports for parent and student

Communicate with all families in multiple languages: policy, protocol, commitment

Determine process for communicating urgent information to staff and parents Provide forms to update Emergency Contact & Permissions to Pick Up Children

Reconsider data maintained; Provide all families Directory Opt Out forms

Share community resources & rights information Provide more staff in areas of concern (school perimeter at open/release times)

Support those with attendance concerns to identify solutions

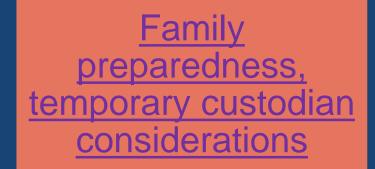
Minimize potential disruptions to children & visibility of children to agents

# **RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES**



## Additional resources

Form to update emergency contacts, permission to pick up



Individual's rights when engaging with ICE

\*If family member is detained, seek legal advice from reputable immigration attorney

<u>CLASP Safe Spaces</u> <u>Guide</u>

## **MORE QUESTIONS?**

EDUCATION LAW CENTER PA

215-238-6970 (Philadelphia) 412-258-2120 (Pittsburgh) intake@elc-pa.org

HIAS PENNSYLVANIA

215-832-0900 www.hiaspa.org

ACLU OF PENNSYLVANIA

Intakes/Referrals (statewide): <u>https://complaints.aclupa.org/</u>

Are you interested in participating in a SEPECC special meeting to ask questions and get answers on immigration issues?



## JANETTA (NETTA) RADZINSKI

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST, OCDEL C-JRADZINS@PA.GOV



## Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning





## KAREN BUSTARD SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER, REINVESTMENT FUND

<u>KAREN.BUSTARD@REINVESTMEN</u> <u>T.COM</u> 215-574-5859

### PHILADELPHIA CHILD CARE PROVIDER SURVEY - 2024

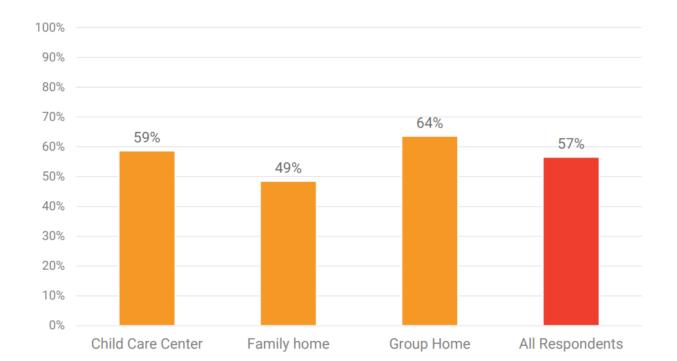
## Find insights from 24% of OCDEL sites

More than half (57%) of all respondents struggled to maintain full enrollment at their locations.

Group homes reported more difficulty maintaining full enrollment (64%) while family home providers and respondents reporting Other types of organizational structures had lower shares.

Thank you to all who participated!

## Over the last 6 months, have you had difficulty maintaining full enrollment at any of your locations?



## **CAREN OZER** BUCKS COUNTY CHAPTER PENNAEYC

The DECOME COUNTY CHAPTER PERSONNE COUNTY CHAPTER PERSONNE COUNTY CHAPTER requests your presence at the ANNUAL CHILD ADVOCACY BREAKFAST Friday April 4, 2025 ~ 8:30-10:30am Mill Spring Mill Country Club B0 Jacksonville Road

Ivyland, PA 18974



Pieese join us at this year's Annual Advocacy Breakfast and hear from a teacher, a parent and a director about the importance of childcare. This forum will share their stories regarding what it means to provide high quality early learning experiences, and the impact of the challenges faced by professionals and families when funding and resources are not available.

The forum will be moderated by Corol Austin, First Up Executive Director

For more information and to register please visit the QR code



https://www.eventcreate.com/e/advocacybreakfast

# **First Up**

**Champions for Early Education** 

## Jackie Groetsch

Public Policy Manager

jackie.groetsch@firstup.org

#### **GETTING READY FOR KINDERGARTEN**

#### WILL YOUR CHILD BE 5 BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2025?

This Getting Ready for Kindergarten session will focus on the registration process for the school districts in **Bucks County**. Families of PreK children who will be entering Kindergarten in Fall 2025 and ECE staff that assist families in this process are welcome to attend. This 45-minute session will help families in planning ahead for the PreK to Kindergarten transition and with ways families can be advocates of their children during this process. The Session will be in English with the option for Spanish interpretation.

First Up

**Champions for Early Education** 

SCAN HERE

Monday, March 10, 2025 6:30 PM-7:15 PM REGISTER TODAY https://shorturl.at/kx6yv

**Bucks County** 

irst Up is a 501c3 nonprofit organization

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/X AfdBMK4QX2JIrQteAp-OA#/registration

# **First Up**

**Champions for Early Education** 

## **Alix Lauren Cozen**

Senior Instructor alix.cozen@firstup.org

# **2025 First Up Conference** Beyond the Classroom: Inspiring Lifelong Learning and Development

APRIL 25-26, 2025 8:00AM - 4:30PM EST I THE HILTON PHILADELPHIA CITY AVENUE I (REGISTRATION OPENS AT 7:00AM EST)

Where & When | Participants are invited to attend a 2-day, in-person conference at The Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue on Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025. This year's conference is titled **Beyond the** Classroom: Inspiring Lifelong Learning and Development.

### **Keynote Speakers**



## Dr. Denisha Jones

Executive Director of Defending the Early Years



Josh Robinson Percussionist and Educator

## **Featured Presenters**



**Dr. Veirdre Jackson** Founder/ CEO at Living Strong Consulting, LLC



Dr. Essence Allen Presley Owner of I.C.U. STEM Academy

## SCAN HERE TO REGISTER



## **2025 First Up Conference**

**Conference Growth Pathways** | 1–2-hour sessions

- Learning about me
- Learning about my classroom
- Learning about others
- Learning about leadership
- Learning to take action

The First Up Conference is more than professional development, it's a chance to invest in your own growth!

## **2025 First Up Conference** Conference Intention

Think of this time as a gift—a chance to expand your perspective, deepen your skills, and spark ideas that will stay with you long after the conference is over. By focusing on your personal and professional growth, you're not just impacting yourself—you're creating ripples that will inspire the children, the families, your colleagues, and your community.

So, lean in. Be curious. Reflect. Connect. And know that every moment you invest in yourself today will empower you to make a greater impact tomorrow.

Let's go beyond the classroom together!

## 2025 First Up Conference Conference | Mentions & Extras

We will be holding a tribute to Adam Wolf from Lakeshore.

Adam passed this past Fall and Lakeshore will be giving away environmental materials to create a new classroom.

We will also be holding a space for you to build, discover and wonder in our Playroom, lots of materials to be innovative with and something you can take and bring into your classrooms on Monday!



### 2025 SEPECC COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

#### **Steering Committee**

Zakiyyah Boone(Co-Chair) Jackie Groetsch Melody Connell Kia Douglass Latonta Godboldt Laverne Cheeseboro Mary Graham Melanie Brennan Minette Taylor Sharon McClafferty Shineal Hunter Tracey Davis

### Advocacy Workgroup

Eleanor Levie Jowanna Gordon Laverne Cheeseboro Lisa Iliopoulos Monique Roye Nicole Dyson Nicole Fetherman Shineal Hunter Sim Loh Shirlee Howe Velda Wilson

#### Advisory Council

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



#### Social Media Workgroup

Shar'ron Brown Carroll Eleanor Levie Sim Loh Jowanna Gordon



https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/IFAIpQLSeoLbBfst0Q7zxrLB v8rH66p3akSjXG75\_QPFOQpeum6zUCKg/viewform

Feb. 2025

• **30-Second Exit Survey:** <u>https://forms.gle/4FXBKRfQ9gt2oJd86</u>



- Upcoming Meetings: (12:30 2:30pm)
   March 25. Aprill 22, May 27 & June 24
- **Meeting Registration Links** on First Up/SEPECC Webpage: <u>https://www.firstup.org/sepecc/</u>



THANK YO

