

# Child Care/Early Care & Education Alliance



## *Why is this important?*

California has long faced a serious shortage of affordable, quality child care and early childhood education programs. Public investment is insufficient to provide quality services for all of California's children.

As a field, we must come together as a coalition and take advantage of the opportunities to make vital changes to child care and early education policy. If we continue to work in isolation or, worse, at cross purposes, we won't have a voice in the critical decisions that impact our work.

## *Who we are...*

Child care coordinators, resource and referral agencies, professional associations, researchers, academics, advocacy organizations, intermediary organizations, service providers, educators, and caregivers uniting around common principles (see reverse) that will guide our policy work.

- CAEYC
- California Child Care Coordinators Association
- Center for the Study of Child Care Employment
- Low Income Investment Fund *and growing....*

## *Will you commit to joining us too?* (please check all that apply)

- Yes! Please list my organization as an Alliance member.
- My organization is in the process of securing approval to be a member of the Alliance. Anticipated decision by (date) \_\_\_\_\_.
- My organization cannot officially endorse the platform or be a formal member of the Alliance, but we would like to stay informed and be engaged in the work.
- My organization would like to be more actively involved and be on the Alliance Steering Committee.

Organization																			
Contact Name and Title																			
Preferred Phone					E-Mail														
Business Address																			
City															State		Zip		

Please return form by June 27<sup>th</sup> to: [mardi@dcyf.org](mailto:mardi@dcyf.org) OR fax to: 415-554-8965 (ATTN: Mardi)

# CHILD CARE/ECE ALLIANCE PLATFORM

## Quality

- To ensure the best outcomes for all young children and their families birth to 13, we support a sufficiently funded system that ensures high quality programs -including developmentally appropriate curriculum, environments conducive to learning and development, knowledgeable, well-trained, educated and well-compensated staff, robust parental engagement and comprehensive services- all of which are culturally and linguistically appropriate and that respect and support diversity.

## Health and Safety

- To ensure all children are cared for and educated in safe and healthy environments, we must have a sufficiently-funded and staffed Community Care Licensing system and other supports to monitor and provide technical assistance and resources to current and future licensed child care/ECE programs.

## Workforce

- To ensure that a qualified workforce cares for and educates our diverse population of young children and families, we promote public and private efforts and systems that recruit, retain and support a diverse, well-trained, well-educated, well-compensated child care/ECE workforce that is recognized as professional. This workforce must have access to high quality, coordinated educational and professional development systems that address their cultural, linguistic, and literacy needs on a continuum from entry-level through degree attainment.

## Availability, Accessibility and Affordability

- To ensure all families and their children benefit from high quality child care/ECE services, including those that face challenges such as language, socio-economics, disability and special health care needs, we support investments and strategies that increase the availability, accessibility and affordability of high quality services and preserve our diverse delivery system, inclusive of direct funding to all types of legal entities in both the public and private spheres.

## Facilities

- To ensure that all children are cared for and educated in high quality, inclusive environments within a diverse delivery system, we support equitable strategies at the state and local levels that improve and expand the public and private capital resources and technical expertise available to develop, finance, and maintain needed new and existing high quality child care/ECE facilities.

## Systems, Financing and Administration

- To ensure and sufficiently support a comprehensive, high quality child care/ECE system, we promote streamlined and efficient administration, including well-financed and coordinated regulatory, contracting and reimbursement processes. This child care/ECE system will require coordination between and integration within state agencies that provide physical health, mental health, prevention and early intervention, K-12 and higher education, community and economic development, family support, food/nutrition, social services and recreation services.