

# 8 Must-Know Information Sources for Early Learning Advocacy

# 1. Child Care Aware of America

Action for Children's national agency, Child Care Aware of America (CCAoA) works with a national network of more than 400 Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&Rs) agencies and other partners to ensure that all families have access to quality, affordable child care. They report on current public policies and provide training and resources to help effectively communicate with policy makers.

# 2. Head Start Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center

This federal program partners with local early childhood organizations and shares research demonstrating trends and strategies in the field. Their focus is on high-quality early learning experiences and how they promote young children's development and parents' ability to facilitate their children's learning. They also discuss the impact of quality practices on children, families, staff, and programs. Their research provides models for successful home-based and family child care program options and supports partnerships between child care and Head Start and Early Head Start programs.

# 3. Center for the Study of Child Care Employment (CSCCE)

Founded in 1999, the Center for the Study of Child Care Employment is a national leader in early care and education workforce research and policy. They develop policy solutions and create spaces for teaching, learning, and educator activism. Their vision is an effective public early care and education system that secures racial, gender, and economic justice for the women whose labor is the linchpin of stable, quality services. CSCCE is widely cited and appeared in over 656 news articles in 2021. At least two-thirds reference data from their 2020 Early Childhood Workforce Index, which is well worth the read!

#### 4. Alliance for Early Success

The Alliance for Early Success works with allies across the country to achieve equitable state early childhood policy that supports young children and their families. They also provide policy resources on several topics including revenue and early childhood finance, rescue and relief implementation, family economic security and more.

#### 5. Groundwork Ohio

Groundwork Ohio is a nonpartisan organization that solely focuses on representing the needs of young children. Their work and research ensures that every baby, toddler, and young child in Ohio has the resources and opportunities for a strong start. Their Early Childhood Dashboard of data is a tool to advance equity and catalyze advocacy and action needed to lay a strong foundation for Ohio kids (prenatal to age 5), families, and communities.

## 6. Policy Matters Ohio

Policy Matters Ohio, a non-profit policy research institute, seeks to create a more vibrant, equitable, sustainable and inclusive Ohio through research, strategic communications, coalition building and policy advocacy. They weigh in on the current political landscape regarding legislation, policies and more.

### 7. Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy

The Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy is a multidisciplinary research center dedicated to conducting high-quality research that improves children's learning and development at home, in school and in the community. They provide free literacy resources for early childhood educators, and continuously publish peer reviewed research on all things related to early childhood education. Plus, they hail from The Ohio State University, just minutes from Action for Children's home office!

# 8. Action for Children

Action for Children collects a wide range of information on child care in central Ohio. Our Central Ohio Child Care Provider Survey is the only continuing study of its kind in Ohio, and our official reports based on findings from the surveys provide regular insight into the state of child care in central Ohio.

Action for Children is the local child care resource and referral agency for Central Ohio, and is committed to assuring quality early learning experiences for all children. Our services focus on transforming the lives of children by supporting the everyday heroes who most influence our children's early growth; care givers, educators, parents, and guardians. Learn More.

Support Action for Children by making a donation today.