

Washington's most trusted child care resource



ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 2017 - JUNE 2018

Who We Are

Child Care Aware of Washington has been helping children, families and child care providers in Washington since 1989. We are Washington's most trusted child care resource.

We are a nonprofit network working with six child care resource and referral programs across Washington that provide local services to child care providers, including technical assistance, training and coaching. CCA of WA helps implement Early Achievers, Washington's quality rating and improvement system. Our Family Center connects thousands of families seeking child care to licensed child care programs in their areas. Our scholarships program, Child Care Aware of Washington Scholarships, provides scholarships to child care and early learning professionals.

CCA of WA also provides important child care supply and demand data to inform the state's entire child care and early learning system. We also advocate on both the state and national levels for policies that benefit all families and children.



Advocacy

FY 2018 was an eventful year for public policy and advocacy in child care. Demand for child care reached unprecedented levels nationwide, stretching an already strained industry nearly to the breaking point. The cost of care continued to increase and child care educators continued to struggle with poverty wages. Child care for infants became significantly harder to find, with some regions having little to no capacity for infant care. The silver lining was that child care and early learning remained a bi-partisan public issue with strong support from a wide variety of partners, businesses and organizations.

Washington continued to make progress in improving the quality of child care across the state with Early Achievers, our state's quality improvement framework, and we pursued the following policy victories:

- Worked with partners and advocates on the state and federal level to successfully double federal Child Care Development Block Grant funding, the nation's primary funding for child care. This will increase the reimbursement rates programs serving low-income children receive.
- Worked with the state legislature to create two critical legislative work groups:
 - The Governor's Child Care Collaborative Task
 Force, which will make recommendations about
 how employers can play a role in supporting
 increased access to child care for their employees
 - The Compensation Technical Work Group, which will make recommendations to the legislature regarding how to increase child care educator compensation

https://childcareawarewa.org/advocacy/

Letter from the Board of Trustees

Fiscal year 2018 has been an amazing year of growth and preparation for the future at Child Care Aware of Washington. We began the important work of upgrading our technology infrastructure to better serve families searching for child care, as well as our scholars and Early Achievers participants. We launched a new initiative to better support Family, Friend and Neighbor caregivers. And we increased our efforts in reaching out to Washington's business community for their support of high-quality child care.

Child Care Aware of Washington staff also served as key members of multiple statewide committees, workgroups and task forces that are all working to expand access to high-quality child care, increase the earnings of child care early educators, improve the quality of child care and raise awareness of the importance of child care to our overall economy.

Looking to the future, we are excited about our 30th anniversary next year. We know we would not be Washington's most trusted child care resource without the strong partnerships we share with our six regional agencies across Washington and our early learning stakeholders who help us reach the providers, children and families who need us most.

Data

Child Care Aware of Washington's data on child care supply, demand, costs and trends are frequently used by government agencies, lawmakers, our early learning partners, researchers from around the country, the media and others who want a clear understanding of the state of child care in Washington.

https://childcareawarewa.org/advocacy/#layout-accordion-1

Early Achievers

Early Achievers is Washington's quality rating and improvement system - a framework for improving the quality of child care and early learning programs across the state. Designed, administered and implemented by the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families, the University of Washington and Child Care Aware of Washington, Early Achievers is now serving more than 74,000 young children. At the end of FY18, 71% of Washington's licensed child care providers were participating in Early Achievers.



Child Care Business Edge

One of Child Care Aware of Washington's main efforts in FY 2018 was the creation of new business support shared services for child care providers. We will begin FY 2019 with the launch of Washington Child Care Business Edge, a new online portal that will streamline child care providers' business tasks, and save them time and money. The new online resource will provide Early Achievers participants with free, one-stop shop access to a wide range of tools, tips, discounts, templates and more.



The Elevate Early Learning Conference

Child Care Aware of Washington's Elevate Early Learning Conference has become the premiere state conference for Washington's child care and early learning leaders. The annual conference attracts approximately 400 attendees from across Washington to engage in cross-system conversations, skill-building sessions, trainings and leadership presentations designed to equip and empower Washington's early learning leaders to build an equitable child care and early learning system. At Elevate, everyone learns to "Inspire every provider. Reach every child." ©



Training – Professional Development Academy

Child Care Aware of Washington's Professional Development Academy provides continuing education on a variety of early learning topics. We are dedicated to building new knowledge and skills through a collaborative and interactive approach to learning. Our expert trainers offer participants research-based information and practical tools they need to stay informed of best practices, overcome challenges and better serve children and families.

4,779 Early Achievers Level 2 Series training completions

11,050 Additional training completions



Child Care Aware of Washington is a nonprofit dedicated to ensuring that every child in Washington has access to high-quality child care and early learning programs. We advocate for child care and early learning policies that benefit all families, while also delivering the means to make a positive difference for all children, including those furthest from opportunity.

Revenue Contract Service Revenue \$23,544,750 **Foundations** \$145,000 Memberships & Other Revenue \$38,084 Contributions \$16,627 \$23,744,461 Expenses Programs for Child Care Providers \$19,949,054 **Programs for Families** \$1,330,610 CCA of WA Scholarships \$1,444,914 Membership and Administration \$930,028 **Fundraising** \$2,761 \$23,657,367

Child Care Aware of Washington Scholarships

Child Care Aware of Washington Scholarships offers scholarships to early learning professionals to enrich their expertise. Our goal is to advance the early learning field by increasing educational achievement and helping child care and early learning professionals achieve their goals.



459



5,226



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Connecting families to high-quality child care for over 29 years



13,945
families seeking care



19,946 Children needing care



19,344 referral searches