



Public Policy Agenda 2010

"Working to meet child care needs throughout California"

The California Child Care Resource & Referral Network and our member agencies are an integral force for quality child care in California. We are dedicated to addressing unmet child care needs and improving access to services for all children, especially infants & toddlers and children with disabilities/special needs while preserving and protecting the integrity of the existing child care delivery system.

1. Promote Family Economic Stability through Accessible and Affordable Child Care and Related Services

Advocate for comprehensive services to promote family economic security and financial sustainability, including TANF reauthorization, securing full funding for all families eligible for child care subsidies, and ensuring that family fees are fair and reasonable. Advocate for the restoration of funding for children and families lost through the 2009 State budget process. Promote the use and expansion of Paid Family Leave, Earned Income Tax Credits, availability of Paid Sick Days and accessible/affordable health care.

2. Foster the Health & Safety of Children Through a Fully-Funded Child Care Licensing System

Seek reform of California's child care licensing system, including revision of current regulations, providing sufficient resources and staff for annual inspections, and vigorous monitoring. Recognize that a healthy and fully-funded licensing system is the foundation for quality care in all settings.

3. Ensure the Availability of Quality Child Care Options for All Families

Develop a comprehensive, integrated system of early childhood education with a strong infrastructure of licensing, child care resource & referral services, training, technical assistance, a diverse and appropriately compensated workforce, and subsidy management that provides for a continuum of care and services.

4. Promote Immediate & Long Term Budget & Policy Solutions that Invest in Quality Early Care & Education for All Children

Advocate for State and National budget and policy decisions that ensure a continuum of services that are responsive to the needs of working families, and address the needs of children birth through 12 years. Support State budget reform efforts. Advocate for permanent funding for the support of children with special needs/disabilities in child care and their families. Educate State and National policy makers and the general public on key child development issues and trends. This includes support for the reauthorization of the Child Care and Development Block Grant, Child and Adult Care Food Program and maintaining the Federal investments made in early childhood in 2009-10.

5. Ensure the Maintenance and Promote the Expansion of Child Care Resource & Referral Services

Ensure all families have access to information to make the best child care choices to meet their family needs. Expand the funding of child care resource and referral services that supports the diversity of families and children in every community in California. Ensure the integration of child care resource & referral services in the development & implementation of any quality improvement system. Work with CDE/CDD to address and update Resource & Referral statutes and regulations.

Child Care Resource & Referral (R&R) programs serve all families regardless of income and all providers regardless of the type of care offered. R&Rs play a pivotal role in promoting high quality, accessible, affordable child care for all families.