

COALITION FOR EARLY LEARNING

Facts:

- Approximately 50,000 Delaware children attend Birth-12 programs
- Quality of programs directly relates to children’s growth and development
- Approximately 66.2% of women with children under age 6 are in the DE workforce
- There are approximately 6,000 Early Care & Education professionals in the DE workforce
- Approximately \$8 million more is needed to bring Purchase of Care (POC) reimbursement rates for all programs up to 75% of the Fair Market Rate based on the 2005 Market Rate Study

You can be part of the solution!

There is a great need to have an advocate who will keep the issue of quality early care and education at the forefront of the legislature. The Family & Workplace Connection has formed the *Coalition for Early Learning* to advocate for quality early care and education. Ellan Wharton, our Governmental Affairs Representative, and advocates from across the state, were successful in FY 2006, by attaining a \$3.5 million increase in Purchase of Care reimbursement rates. Even as we celebrate the first statewide increase in nine years, we must remind ourselves that this increase is only one third of what is required to reach a fair market rate for all programs throughout the state. We need your help to continue the work we began in 2005 and to continue to contract with Ellan Wharton. Ellan is well respected, enthusiastic, and passionate about children and families. Her dynamic presence, skills and experience will guide us through the next legislative session. Ellan will promote awareness of the issues with legislators. Delaware’s children, as citizens, need a genuine voice.

Public Support:

The goals of the Coalition are to:

- Increase funding of the early care and education system by providing T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarships; establishing a facilities improvement fund; addressing health insurance and benefits to the workforce; and increasing POC reimbursement rates
- Inform professionals in the field and their supporters about future regulation revisions
- Inform professionals in the field and their supporters about legislation affecting programs and the children and families served

Become an Advocate:

Ellan Wharton needs you to make a strong statement in Dover! **Add your name to the *Coalition* support list below. Feel free to make additional copies as needed and distribute to your staff and parents.** For more information, contact: Evelyn Keating at (302) 479-1674 or ekeating@familyandworkplace.org



Last Name _____ First Name _____

Daytime Phone Number _____ Evening Phone Number _____

Email _____

Street Address _____

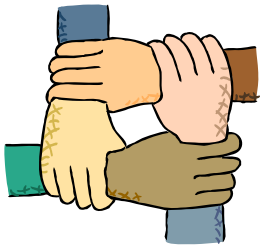
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

- Please contact me with legislative updates: _____ yes _____ no

◆ To donate (optional) use the reverse side of this form ◆

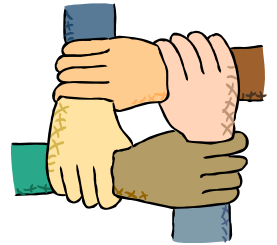
The Family & Workplace Connection
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100 Wilson Building
Wilmington, DE 19810

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A.C.T.

Advocate for Children Today!



If you would like to help sustain the effort, please enclose a tax-deductible donation toward these efforts:

_____ \$5 _____ \$10 _____ \$20 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other

Check made payable to **The Family & Workplace Connection** 3511 Silverside Rd., 100 Wilson Bldg. Wilmington, DE 19810 Attn: Evelyn Keating or donate by credit card:

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We thank you for your support in advocating for quality early care and education in Delaware!