

Professional Organizations That Inform & Support the Field

Academy for Education Development: <http://www.aed.org>

Alliance for Childhood: www.allianceforchildhood.org: Funded by grants & donations, this organization/alliance promotes policies and practices that support children's healthy development, love of learning, and joy in living; funds public education campaigns and research grants.

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association: <http://www.asha.org>

Association for Childhood Education International: <http://acei.org>: A non-governmental organization focused on sharing knowledge for innovative practices and advocacy for education and children's rights internationally. Sponsors the Global Summit on Childhood, has consultative status with the United Nations, & publishes the journal, *Childhood Education*.

Alliance for Early Success: earlysuccess.org: Formally known as (Birth to Five Policy Alliance) An independent organization funded by Buffet, Gates, Kellogg and 4 other investors to promote state policies, public support, and private investments that result in positive early learning, strong families, and good health for children birth to age five who are at risk for poor outcomes.

Brookings Institution: <http://www.brookings.edu/research/topics/education> : A nonprofit public policy organization/'think tank' based in Washington, DC that conducts research with the intent of providing recommendations for a variety of issues including The Center on Children and Families focused on policies on the well-being of America's children and their parents, especially children in less-advantaged families, and seeks a more effective means of addressing poverty, inequality and lack of opportunity in the United States.

California Tomorrow: <http://www.californiatomorrow.org>: No longer in operation, this site continues to provide resources related to their mission: "mission is to help create a just and inclusive multiracial, multicultural and multilingual society by promoting equal access to social, economic and educational resources and equal participation in major institutions, and by embracing diversity as a great strength" & is often referenced as a resource on cultural and linguistic diversity.

Center for the Childcare Workforce (project of American Federation of Teachers Educational Foundation): www.ccw.org: This project of the American Federation of Teachers Educational Foundation is a nonprofit research, education and advocacy organization committed to improving early care and education quality by ensuring that the ECE workforce is well-educated, receives better compensation and a voice in their workplace.

Center for the Study of Child Care Employment: University of California, Berkeley: www.irle.berkeley.edu/cscce: Directed by Marcy Whitebrook (*National Child Care Staffing Study*), this center conducts research & proposes policy solutions aimed at improving how our nation prepares, supports and rewards the early care and education workforce to ensure young children's optimal development.

Center on the Developing Child: <http://developingchild.harvard.edu/>: In collaboration with a large number of independent organizations, this center is designed to bring the science of early childhood and early brain development to bear on public decision-making. Other major activities include implementing a research, public engagement, and leadership development agenda in child health and development, informing policy & practice, & leadership development.

Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning:

<http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/index.html>.

Children's Defense Fund: www.childrensdefense.org: This organization grew out of the Civil Rights Movement under the leadership of Marian Wright Edelman. They are well known for careful research & analysis of how federal and state policies affect children, families, and their communities. Their mission is to enact laws that have helped millions of children fulfill their potential and escape poverty because they received the health care, child care, nurturing, proper nutrition and education they deserve.

Children, Youth, and Family Consortium: www.cyfc.umn.edu University of Minnesota research center.

Columbia University Clearinghouse on International Developments in Child, Youth, and Family Policies: www.childpolicyintl.org: This policy center provides cross-national, comparative information about the policies, programs, benefits and services available in the advanced industrialized countries to address child, youth, and family needs. Coverage focuses on 23 advanced industrialized countries. This is an excellent source of comparative information for those interested in policies for children and families around the world.

Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services Early Childhood Research Institute:

<http://www.clas.uiuc.edu/> : This federally funded institute identifies, evaluates, and promotes effective and appropriate early intervention practices and preschool practices that are sensitive and respectful to children and families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. It is an excellent resource for reviews, catalogs, abstracts, and materials and practices developed for children and families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Clearinghouse on Early Childhood and Parenting: <http://ecap.crc.illinois.edu/> Merged with

University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign: The Early Childhood and Parenting Collaborative (ECAP) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is home to a number of projects that focus on educating and raising young children. It consists of professors, academic professionals, and research assistants who collaborate on a variety of projects under the direction of faculty in early childhood education and special education. Pooling their expertise and experience enables these professionals to articulate, clarify, and enhance the cooperative relationships among these projects and strengthen their contributions to the state of Illinois and beyond.

Council for Exceptional Children: <http://www.cec.sped.org/> Known as the 'voice and vision' of special education & a leading advocate for legislation, this international professional organization advocates for appropriate governmental policies, sets professional standards, provides professional development, & advocates for individuals with exceptionalities.

Department of Early Learning, Washington State: <http://www.del.wa.gov/> : This state organization provides licensing to child care settings, information for parents, providers, and educators, updates and advocacy for legislative issues & initiatives, & publications & research on issues in early childhood. Good source for rules, regulations, laws, & standards for both state and federal areas.

Early Childhood Education On Line Listserv: www.umaine.edu/eceol

Early Childhood & Parenting Collaborative: <http://ecap.crc.uiuc.edu/>: Home to more than a dozen projects that focus on educating and raising young children. ECAP hosts research, technical assistance, and service projects. It is an excellent resource for listservs [and more] on topics such as men working in ECE, policy issues relating to children & families, the Reggio Emilia and the Project Approach.

Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center: <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc>: Providing training and technical assistance in the areas of Cultural & Linguistic Responsiveness, Early Head Start, Health, Parent & Community Engagement, & Quality Teaching and Learning, this Center in the Administration for Children & Families also provides extensive information on Head Start.

Exchange Everyday: www.childcareexchange.com/eed

Foundation for Child Development: www.fcd-us.org: A national, private philanthropy that seeks to understand children, particularly the disadvantaged, and to promote their well-being. Currently, it promotes research, policy development, & advocacy on P-3 education, the Child Well-Being Index, & on the well-being of children (birth to age ten) living in low-income immigrant families.

Future of Children: www.futureofchildren.org

Harvard Family Research Project: <http://www.hfrp.org>: This research and resource/evaluation center works primarily within three areas that support children's learning and development—early childhood education, out-of-school time programming, and family and community support in education, and on the idea of 'complementary learning'.

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC): <http://www.naeyc.org/> : The world's largest professional organization (80,000) for those working with and on behalf of children from birth to age 8. Frequently referenced for their publications, public policy & advocacy, position statements, standards for programs for both children and professional preparation, and conferences.

National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies: <http://www.naccrra.org/>: Working with more than 700 state and local agencies, this group works to ensure that families have access to high-quality, affordable child care. They lead projects that increase the quality and availability of child care professionals, undertake research, and advocate child care policies that positively impact the lives of children and families.

NAEYC Center for Applied Research: <http://www.naeyc.org/research>: This center provides practitioners with access to high-quality research and supports the development and number of researchers entering the field of early childhood. Offers research related resources, criteria for good research, links to national data sets, up-to-date statistics, and lists of Graduate Schools in early childhood.

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS): <http://www.nbpts.org/>

National Center for Children in Poverty: www.nccp.org: Extensive, comprehensive, leading policy center working to promote the economic security, health, and well-being of America's low-income families and children. This center uses research to inform policy and practice with the goal of ensuring positive outcomes for the next generation; includes state profiles, data tools & publications.

National Center for Early Development & Learning: Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill: www.fpg.unc.edu/NCEDL: Situated at a 40 year old research center (200 researchers, students, & staff; famous for the longitudinal study, the [Abecedarian Project](#)), this group is engaged in a number of research projects on the development of children, birth to age 8, and has a number of important online publications including an award winning magazine.

National Center on Quality Teaching and Learning: <http://ncqtl.org/>: Located at the University of Washington, this center supports Head Start with effective resources and training to improve classroom practices. It will develop and distribute curriculum, instruction, & assessment tools along with coaching,

feedback, and professional development to teachers. NCQTL works in collaboration with six additional university centers.

National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition: <http://www.ncelaus>: This group's mission is to gather and conduct research that informs an inclusive approach to high-quality education for English Language Learners. Publications, webinars, technical assistance, access to national conversations.

National Council of Family Relations: <http://www.ncfr.org/>: With members in 35 countries and all 50 states, this professional organization focuses on family research, practice, and education and publishes 3 scholarly journals. In addition, this group interprets and disseminates information on families to inform legislators and decision-makers about the possible impact of policy of families.

National Head Start Association: <http://www.nhsa.org/>: The mission of this organization is to work for policy and institutional changes that will ensure all vulnerable children and families have what they need to succeed. Providing legislative updates, research, and a wide variety of services to its members, this association has been in existence since the early 1970s.

National Institute for Early Education Research: <http://nieer.org>: This group conducts and communicates research to support high quality, effective, early childhood education for all young children. It offers independent research-based advice and technical assistance to policy makers, journalists, researchers, and educators. Extensive resource for research, statewide information, publications, and facts and figures related to early childhood.

National Network for Child Care:

http://www.nifa.usda.gov/nea/family/in_focus/childcare_if_network.html: Through many universities and the County Extension network, this organization provides information, publications, and a reference for child care resources by state to share knowledge about children and child care to parents, professionals, practitioners, and the general public.

New America Foundation: www.newamerica.net/issues/education: A nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy institute, this foundation (prohibited from political activity), this is an source for policy papers, events, and blogs on both domestic and global issues, ie., early education [Early Education Initiative], children & families, immigration, poverty and welfare.

North American Reggio Emilia Alliance: <http://www.reggioalliance.org/>: THE go-to website and organization for those interested in this approach to early childhood education which emphasizes the philosophy and experiences in which all children are honored and respected for their potential, their capabilities, and their humanity.

Pre-K Now: www.preknow.org: The mission of this organization is to re-imagine public education as beginning with quality early childhood education (earlier than kindergarten); includes research on the topic, updates on states' work in this area, etc.; extensive website on this area of interest in early childhood as part of a larger educational system.

RAND Corporation: www.rand.org/education: With a staff from over 50 countries, this global organization works to help improve policy and decision making through research and analysis. In existence since 1948, this independent, nonprofit organization engages in research to benefit the public good. Extensive resource for research on children & families.

Reading Is Fundamental: <http://www.rif.org>: With a mission of a literate America where all children have access to books, this organization's highest priority is reaching underserved children birth to 8 and

their families. Supported by multiple sources, having over 400,000, and in communities all over America, also provides a wide variety of literacy resources.

Stand for Children: www.stand.org ; Stand for Children is an American education advocacy group. Founded in 1996 following a Children's Defense Fund rally the non-profit helps organize around changes in public education

Thrive by Five, Washington State: <http://www.thrivebyfivewa.org/> Thrive by Five Washington is the state's nonprofit public-private partnership for early learning.

UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund: <http://www.unicef.org/about/>: Upholding the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Millennium Development Goals and active in more than 190 countries around the world, this organization had its beginnings in 1946 after WWII. Focusing on child survival & development, education, gender equality, and policy advocacy & partnerships, excellent website resource for these issues.

World Forum on Early Care and Education: www.worldforumfoundation.org: A partner in the Campaign for the Rights of the Child, this group's mission is to impact children globally by strengthening the quality of services to children and families. Sponsoring gatherings of early childhood professionals around the globe, they also have a number of initiatives from men working in early childhood, working with children with AIDS, and indigenous people, etc.

For additional organizations that support children and families see list at NAEYC of collaborations: <http://www.naeyc.org/collaborations>