

YOU CAN BE A PART OF THE EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

What is the role of the Early Care and Education (ECE) Committee?

The ECE is a group of individuals interested in the quality of child care and early education in Fayette County. It consists of members from Child Care Information Services, Head Start, Early Head Start, Fayette County Office of Human and Community Services, Communities in Schools, Penn State Fayette-the Eberly campus, Connellsville Area School District, local day care providers, businesses and parents. It works with child care centers, resources for children, businesses and parents to promote high standards of care and education.

What is the ECE's Mission and Vision?

Mission Statement: To build a better future for Fayette County Children, their families and neighborhoods.

Vision Statement: The Early Care and Education Committee is dedicated to assuring quality child care and early education that is accessible, affordable and available to all Fayette County families in need of such services inclusive of all children; embracing individual differences, while acknowledging the importance of well trained and adequately compensated child care workers.



What has the ECE accomplished?

The ECE has held two successful conferences focused on providing training opportunities for child care providers. It has provided outreach through the Fayette County Fun Fest, and is striving to reach more community members with participation in the Fayette County Chamber of Commerce and Human Service Council. It has recognized providers with a Providers Appreciation Day where child care providers received training and books for their centers.

What will the ECE be doing this year?

The focus of the ECE will be to promote awareness of and participation in Keystone Stars. Keystone Stars is a quality improvement program that recognizes child care providers who exceed state health and safety licensing requirements.

To complement this, the committee will also be working to provide training to parents encouraging them to continue their child's learning experience into the home.

The committee will also be working with local businesses to help them understand the benefits of ensuring quality child care for their employees.

Interest Form

____ Yes, I am interested in improving quality child care and early education in Fayette County. Please contact me with information on how I can become involved in the ECE of Fayette County.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Type of member

Parent #of children _____ Ages _____

Business/Profession
Organization _____

Child care provider
Name of provider _____

Educator Position _____
School District _____

Other

Signature _____

Mail this form to:

EARLY CARE & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Fayette County Office of Human
and Community Services
137 N. Beeson Ave. Ste. 104
Uniontown, PA 15401

Phone: 724-425-1818

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E-mail:

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Why does Quality Child Care matter?

- A study by the National Academy of Sciences notes that much of the human brain develops in the first five years of life and that stimulation from the environment during this stage changes the very physiology of the brain.
- It is commonly accepted that children who attend preschool are more likely to succeed in kindergarten than those who do not.
- According to the 2000 Census, 65% of mothers with children under six are in the labor force.
- High-quality early care leads to the development of more advanced learning skills such as language and math abilities, as well as social skills.
- A child who has the benefit of good developmental experiences before entering kindergarten will be less likely to need special education services in the primary grades.



What is High Quality Care?

- ♥ A safe environment
- ♥ Well-prepared teachers
- ♥ Small class size
- ♥ Interactive relationship among teachers and children
- ♥ Emphasis on both social and learning skills
- ♥ Involvement of parents
- ♥ Development of early literacy skills through early experiences with books and stories

Early Care
& Education 
Building a better future for children

EARLY CARE &
EDUCATION
COMMITTEE

Because...

Everyone
CAN
Educate



...even YOU!

Look inside for more information

The Early Care and Education Committee of Fayette County is funded in part through a grant from the Department of Public Welfare and matching support from Fayette County

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www.fayettekids.org