



June 17, 2021

“It is far past time that the State of California starts treating child care as essential to the economy and the future of our state. The Governor should rejuvenate the Early Care and Education Workforce to prevent more teachers from leaving the field for better pay. The Governor should also seriously consider adding incentives to the workforce, such as substantive student loan repayment programs for childhood educators taking child development courses. Ultimately, we must tap the best talent to care for our youngest and most vulnerable group in our community.

It is also necessary to secure an equitable TK program with a mixed delivery system that fits the needs of all families. Furthermore, the state should ensure that funding for Early Childhood Education (ECE) is constant and ensure that funding for any proposed investment is continuous.

Additionally, the budget should address the needs of under-resourced and underrepresented families by investing in wrap-around services to prevent instability in housing, expanding funding to accommodate special needs children, and increasing investments in resources to provide early screenings for development delays and support system navigation for families.

We are encouraged that President Biden’s American Families Plan includes a proposed \$15 billion to expand and improve child care, including raising rates for providers. The Biden administration recognizes that to create a thriving economy, high quality, affordable child care is critical. Pathways LA looks forward to continuing to work with legislators to ensure that child care providers in California receive the pay they deserve, and that all children, regardless of socio-economic status or ability, have access to high quality child care.”

Tamika Farr, CEO, Pathways LA

About Pathways LA

Pathways LA is committed to the healthy development and school readiness of young children from disadvantaged communities. Driven by data and innovation, our experts support the continuum of care that includes parents, childcare providers, community partners, and policymakers. Learn more at: <https://pathwaysla.org/>

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