RIGHT TO CARE Campaign

The Right To Care Campaign, powered by We, the Village coalition, exists to ensure every Illinois child receives the child care and early education they need and parents want, from birth.

#RightToCarelL #SmartStartNow



What does the Right To Care Campaign Seek?

- The campaign seeks to galvanize support for Governor Pritzker's Smart Start Illinois plan, a comprehensive, multi-year initiative that would invest an initial \$250 million in early childhood programs and services in the state.
- The campaign also seeks to influence the Child Care Contracts Ad Hoc Committee at the Illinois Department of Human Services – Department of Early Childhood so that the contracts for child care providers currently being designed provide a robust salary for child care providers, including increased pay for bilingual and specialized skills.

Why Smart Start Illinois?

- Smart Start Illinois would bring much-needed investments to Illinois' early childhood providers and educators and the children and families they serve.
- Smart Start Illinois promises to:
 - Create more than **5,000 new pre-k slots** in the first year alone
 - Support the creation of Child Care Workforce Compensation Contracts, which will increase funding
 - Increase funding for Early Intervention by 35% over FY23 and address coordination issues and a growing caseload
 - Increase funding for Home Visiting by 28% over FY23, serving an additional 500-650 families

How Can I Join?

Sign up to join the Right To Care campaign AND share your story at <u>www.righttocareil.com</u>. Get social: Follow the We, the Village <u>Facebook</u> page and our <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Twitter</u> profiles!

Contact Angela Farwig at <u>angela.farwig@actforchildren.org</u> if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the campaign or coalition!

Who We Are: We, the Village Coalition

We are advocates, non-profit organizations, child care and early education providers, school districts, parents, and others who have come together to fight for Illinois' youngest children.

- We want adequate, equitable, sustainable, and reliable funding for children's services from birth.
- We want to ensure all children can access quality education and care, as their parents choose.
- We want resources to be invested in the children and communities that need it most, in order to eliminate racial, socio-economic, and other disparities.

