



We are looking for a few good people to join our effort to prepare Westchester's children for success in school and life.

Want to make a real difference in Westchester? Talk to us about joining the Child Care Council of Westchester Board of Directors.

Safe, reliable, quality early care and education not only changes the trajectory of children's lives, it increases workforce participation and productivity, reduces costly public expenditures, and builds a more skilled workforce for tomorrow.

What is the Child Care Council of Westchester?

The Child Care Council is a private, nonprofit resource organization that champions the healthy development of children, families and communities by promoting quality early care and education. A unique, "one stop" agency for child care, the Council provides parents, child care providers, employers, and government and community leaders with education, resources, data and advocacy. Since its inception in 1968, the Council has grown to become the premier authority on early care and education throughout Westchester County, and recently attained Quality Assurance, establishing it as one of the nation's leading Child Care Resource and Referral agencies (CCR&Rs). This national recognition was awarded by Child Care Aware® of America.

We want to see:

- Every child's potential maximized from birth, through access to affordable, high-quality education-based early care
- Working parents able to focus on their jobs, confident their children are safe, loved and learning
- Businesses succeed and grow because employees are present and productive
- Public dollars invested in child care to increase access and quality

Why this matters:

- We don't yet have affordable, quality early learning for all our children, and we pay the price for that over and over:
 - In a comparison of 60 countries, American 15 year olds ranked 24th in reading, 28th in science and 36th in math
 - Less than ½ of graduating students countywide are academically "college ready"
 - Low high school graduation rates in some Westchester communities limit opportunities for those young people; consider that lifetime earnings for drop-outs can be nearly \$400k less than those of high school grads

How we are making a difference:

Services for Parents: Help them understand the standards of quality child care, find and evaluate child care programs, explore financial resources so they make the best child care decisions for their families

Services for Child Care Providers: Startup assistance, technical assistance, workshops and training, staff credential programs, quality improvement initiatives on early literacy and science, medication administration certification so services meet the needs of children and working parents

Services for Employers: Guidance regarding parent-friendly benefits, and resources for employees to find reliable quality care or resolve child care issues or challenges to promote workforce participation and productivity

Advocacy: Information and data that educates our elected officials about the importance of quality early care and education so they will increase funding and make child care more affordable and higher quality

A few of our recent “impacts”:

- Secured an additional \$1M in funding so Westchester children will be in safe child care while their parents work
- Launched a new Brain Building Initiative to bring exciting learning opportunities to hundreds of low-income children funded by successful Giving Tuesday effort
- Fought successfully for a subsidy specialist position at the Council to help parents obtain child care financial assistance

As a Board member, you have the opportunity to:

- Provide overall direction to the Council’s efforts and resources
- Act as an ambassador for the Council to spread our message and expand our connections
- Help secure financial and other resources to support our programs
- Share your special talents to deepen our organizational capacity and effectiveness
- Work as part of a team with others who care about children, families and our future

Interested?

- Contact Kathy Halas, Executive Director, at kathyh@cccwny.org or 914-761-3456 ext. 102