

and community leaders are engaged to take on Arizona early childhood issues that impact workforce development and the economy; **Government officials** receive useful resources to improve early childhood policy; and **Constituents** are informed and engaged by AZECA members.

AZECA partners welcome your support and interest. For more information or to get involved, please contact Kelley Murphy at <u>kmurphy@azchildren.org</u>.

Visit our website at www.azeca.org

And our collective efforts are driving results.

- More working families are receiving affordable child care
- Streamlined renewal process for child care assistance
- Improved quality and continuity of child care assistance
- Set the foundation for financing reforms that will target taxpayer dollars to higher quality child care.
- Continued federal funding for preschool and child care assistance.
- New and stronger partnerships between stakeholders along the entire education spectrum, and a shared set of goals for early learning success on the Arizona Education Progress Meter.

Arizona Early Childhood Facts and Figures

- Number of children aged 0-8 years of age: 796,093
- Children with ALL parents in the workforce, who may need child care services: 65%
- Number of families on the state's waiting list for child care assistance: 4,347
- Number of children involved with Department of Child Safety (DCS) living in foster care: 15,744 (December 2017)
- Percentage of children enrolled in quality early learning settings: 21%
- Percentage of children who are uninsured: 7.3%
- Percentage of Arizona 3rd graders reading at or above grade level 44%
- Arizona children who are living in poverty: 1 in 5.

