



While the COVID-19 pandemic has changed our lives in many ways, it hasn't changed the need to celebrate and support children and the adults who love, care for, and educate them. With this America for Early Ed toolkit, we encourage you to take time during #WOYC23 to lift up your advocacy voice on behalf of the children, families, and educators in your community to make sure we can #SolveChildCare together!

APRIL 3: MUSIC MONDAY!

**JOIN THE CHORUS
FOR CHANGE!**

Every year, thanks to the great work of NAEYC Affiliates, partners, and friends, Week of the Young Child proclamations and resolutions are signed by Governors, Mayors, City Councils and more, all across America! This year, kicking off on #MusicMonday, we want all of your state and local elected officials to be singing from the same songbook, and joining the chorus to advance the early childhood education profession.



TAKE ACTION

1. Work with your [states' Affiliates](#) and advocates to [help policymakers sign state and local proclamations](#) that honor and advance the early childhood education profession as part of the WOYC®.
2. [Put your proclamation on the map](#) once you've secured a proclamation, make sure to share it on social media using the #WOYC23. Tag the elected officials who signed them and thank them for being champions and supporters of early childhood education and educators.

Need inspiration?

[See more from NAEYC's Affiliate leaders and partners during WOYC in 2022.](#)

If you don't have proclamations to share, you can use these sample social media posts instead:



I'm joining the chorus for change to advance the #earlychildhood education profession! The time is NOW for elected officials to value, support, and compensate early childhood educators for the complex and important work they do! #SolveChildCare #ChildCareisEssential #WOYC23



I'm celebrating Music Monday by joining the chorus for change! We are past the point where elected officials must value, support, and compensate early childhood educators for the complex and important work they do! #SolveChildCare #ChildCareisEssential #WOYC23

APRIL 4: TASTY TUESDAY

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS DESERVE A THRIVING WAGE.

Low wages for early childhood educators make it hard for them to make ends meet, and put food on the table for their own families. As of February 2022, [one in three child care providers reported experiences of hunger and 29% reported not being able to afford nutritious food.](#)



TAKE ACTION

1. Read [NAEYC's Federal Agenda](#), which includes recommendations for how Congress can invest in the early childhood education workforce - including by increasing compensation.
2. Show support on social media for increased wages for early childhood educators on [Worthy Wage Day](#), coming up on May 1st.
3. Learn more about the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and how it supports the health and nutrition of early childhood educators and children from our partners at [FRAC](#).

APRIL 5: WORK TOGETHER WEDNESDAY

LEARN TOGETHER, WORK TOGETHER, BUILD TOGETHER.

The fight for child care and early learning is a collective one. Whether you're a parent, an educator, or someone who cares about creating a better future for younger generations, there is a place for all of us in this movement.



TAKE ACTION

1. If you're new to ECE advocacy, here are some common [myths](#) about child care and advocacy. Busting these myths can be the first step to getting involved in advocating for child care and early learning!
2. Stories and experiences from educators help to illuminate the realities of the child care system for policymakers, the media and the country. Share your story with NAEYC's Policy Team [here!](#)
3. Get connected to your states' NAEYC Affiliate and advocates to center the voices of educators and families. Stay persistent, engaged, and make your voice heard!



APRIL 6: ARTSY THURSDAY

**TOGETHER, WE CAN PAINT
 AN EQUITABLE FUTURE.**

Our goal is to nurture a more diverse and inclusive generation of young children who thrive through their experiences of equitable learning opportunities in early learning programs. Thus, all early childhood educators have a professional obligation to advance equity as part of their work alongside, and in partnership with, young children and their families.



TAKE ACTION

1. Read (or revisit) NAEYC's [Advancing Equity in Early Childhood Education position statement](#) and learn more about living out the Advancing Equity position statement by exploring our [equity resources webpage](#), a collection primarily focused on elevating resources that support educators in teaching for equity.
2. As we stand together for equity and justice, we ask you to share how you are advancing equity in your own practice. Post your responses and reflections on social media using #EquityInECE!

APRIL 7: FAMILY FRIDAY

**FINDING
 BALANCE.**

Family members' are young children's first and most important teachers. But they can be advocates too, having seen firsthand the importance of affordable, high-quality child care and preschool provided by early childhood educators who are prepared, supported, and compensated for the skilled, valuable, and essential work they do each day.



TAKE ACTION

1. [Raise your voice](#) as a parent or family member by telling Congress it's time to #SolveChildCare. Join educators, allies, and advocates around the country in urging Congress to make the significant, sustainable and long-term investments in affordable, high-quality child care and preschool that are urgently needed.
2. Engaging and celebrating families is at the heart of supporting our youngest learners. Share pictures and stories on NAEYC's Facebook page or post to Twitter using the hashtag #WOYC23 as we celebrate the unique role families play in their children's learning and development.