

The Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles is a partnership of 10 community-based organizations working together to ensure the delivery of seamless, consistent, quality child care throughout Los Angeles County. Member agencies provide child care Alternative Payment (AP) and/or Resource & Referral (R&R) services. We support the State’s ongoing investment in the early care and education delivery system. We recommend these priorities to build a quality child care and early learning system for young children and their families in California:

1. **Accessibility:** Increase funding for more child care spaces.
 - a. Preserve and increase subsidies in flexible child care spaces, through the **Alternative Payment Program (AP)**. Prioritize these investment for families with infants and toddlers but ensure language is included to allow them to serve all income eligible children (birth to 12) once that need is exhausted.
 - b. Seek new and expanded funding options to increase access for children engaged in the **child welfare system** to child care services while preserving services to children from working families.
 - c. Support the maintenance of current California **State Preschool** dollars as part of the state’s investment in early childhood programs. As four-year-old children begin to shift to Transitional Kindergarten, advocate for dollars to shift to caring for infants and toddlers through the Alternative Payment Program.
 - d. Prioritize funding toward programs which meet the needs of California’s families.

2. **Affordability:** Continue to increase rates to allow parents access to most child care options
 - a. Simplify reimbursement rates for all subsidized care and move toward a single reimbursement structure based on market forces and tiered to support higher quality of care.
 - b. Continue and expand investments in provider Reimbursement Rates for all types of providers to reflect the current cost of care and increasing minimum wage in California. Support the legislative intent to move to the 85th percentile of the current **Regional Market Rate Survey**.

3. **Quality:** Invest in the development of high quality care
 - a. Support the expansion of the **role of Resource and Referral Programs** in recruitment and training of child care providers. Advocate for expanded funding for **training, apprenticeship and mentor-coaching models**, including for Family Friend and Neighbor (license exempt) providers.
 - b. Support the development of a single center based license and **licensing visits** and oversight for all licensed child care programs.
 - c. Support the further development of **Family Child Care Home Education Networks** in California to expand quality care options for families, especially those with children birth through three years.
 - d. Expand Quality Improvement Program efforts that enhance the practice of all providers in all settings.

4. **Family Engagement:** Ensure consumers are informed of their options for care
 - a. Invest in the **Resource and Referral infrastructure** in California to expand the availability of **community based support for families**.
 - b. Continue and expand state investment in Child Care Resource and Referral Programs and the California Child Care Resource and Referral Network to support the development of systems to facilitate data collection, analysis and consumer education.
 - c. Advocate for efforts to engage with at risk families in local communities through programs including **child welfare, home visiting** and expansion of services to **homeless families**.

Child Care Alliance Member Agencies:

