

CAAEYC

***Capital Area Association for the Education of Young Children***

***CAAEYC Mission***

*The purpose of the Capital Area Association for the Education of Young Children (CAAEYC) is to enhance the lives of children by providing support for adults working with or on behalf of young children. CAAEYC expresses its mission in terms of three broad goals:*

* *Facilitating improvements in the professional practice of early childhood development and education.*
* *Increasing public understanding and support for high quality programs for young children and their families.*
* *Fostering collaboration and building a cohesive community of early childhood professionals.*

Public Policy

**Advocacy for Young Children**

**Do you have an interest in public policy?**

**Do you enjoy meeting new people, keeping up to date on pending legislation and new trends/research in the Early Childhood field and sharing this information with others in an effort to influence policy change that positively impacts young children?**

**If so, CAAEYC has a committee for you!**

 *Responsibilities– Support Advocacy Co-chairs by:*

* Helping create and maintain productive professional relationships with public policy officials (local, state, regional, and national level)
* Helping create and maintain professional relationships with other allied groups (ex. PennAEYC, Success by Six, Capital Beginnings, Pennsylvania Child Care Association, Intermediate Units etc.)
* Disseminating information on public policy through the CAAEYC newsletter, website, e-mail, Facebook page, PennAEYC newsletter, and other forums.
* Fostering advocacy in others, i.e. teaching members and allied groups skills to proactively and positively influence public policy
* Monitoring pending local, state and national legislative issues related to Early Childhood Education
* Helping in the organization of an annual gathering; bringing together early childhood educators, political representatives and community leaders to discuss common goals and ways to achieve them
* Registering as a Children’s Champion on the NAEYC Website
* Maintaining a Political Activities Log and promoting activities members may engage in to help positively influence public policy as it relates to children 

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 ***“The VOICE of Early Childhood in the Capital Area”***