

eAdvocate Newsletter - April



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In this Issue

In this month's issue of eAdvocate we provide ways to take action in support of an important Illinois early childhood workforce bill, give information about President Biden's American Jobs Plan, and share an opportunity to participate in vaccination advocacy!

Join us for Early Childhood Advocacy Week!

Advocacy Week starts today! Illinois Action for Children is partnering with Start Early and the Latino Policy Forum to celebrate the Week of the Young Child by letting our legislators know that **Early Education is Essential!** Check out our [social media toolkit](#) to get involved and learn more about [Advocacy Week](#).

Tell your legislators to support the Community College Baccalaureate Bill (SB1832/HB3619)!

We have an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of thousands of current or aspiring early childhood college students! These Illinoisans want to complete their degree in order to provide high quality child care to children and families across the state.

We heard from nearly 500 aspiring or current early childhood providers across Illinois, and they told us why a community college would better help them complete their degree. Now is our chance to help ensure those who want to educate and care for our youngest have an affordable, local, flexible option to reach this goal.

[Send a letter to your legislator](#) and tell them to support the Community College Baccalaureate Bill!

American Jobs Plan

On March 31, President Biden released his first major infrastructure proposal, [The American Jobs Plan](#). In addition to the items that would normally be found in an infrastructure proposal, the president outlines plans to “upgrade child care facilities and build new supply in high need areas.” It also proposes an expanded tax credit for businesses who want to build child care for employees on site, “employers will receive 50 percent of the first \$1 million of construction costs per facility so that employees can enjoy the peace of mind and convenience that comes with on-site child care.”

We have always recognized early childhood education and care to be a crucial piece of the nation’s infrastructure, and this proposal recognizes that investments in the field will help contribute to a successful economic recovery.

Trusted Messenger Campaign

We help keep our communities safe! Have you received your COVID-19 vaccine? We want to hear from you!

We are building a campaign of peer-to-peer story sharing of providers’ experiences receiving the vaccine. Our goal is to uplift the voices of trusted messengers to alleviate any fears around the vaccine. We want to collect and amplify stories on what the experience was like and why you think everyone should get vaccinated!

If you have received the COVID-19 vaccine, or are eager to receive it, [contact Stefi Hernández](#) to be a part of the campaign!

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