



2020 Policy Platform

We advocate for quality child care options that are *accessible, affordable, equitable*, and meet the needs of California's diverse families and communities. We support policies that ensure:

- Every child has access to quality, affordable child care and early learning opportunities when and where they need it
- Child care meets the needs of children experiencing trauma, behavioral concerns, and/or other at-risk indicators is funded, accessible and available
- All child care and early learning providers have equitable, easy access to professional development opportunities and Quality Counts California
- CCR&Rs are adequately funded as the primary source of professional development to support home-based professionals in providing high-quality care
- Early educators and child care providers are paid enough to provide quality care, make ends meet and thrive
- Child care is recognized as an integral part of California's infrastructure for economic growth, workforce development, employer support, and school readiness

Background

The Network is a membership organization of every agency that administers child care resource and referral (CCR&R) programs in California. CCR&Rs are multi-service, community-based agencies that serve as the coordinating hub of a variety of child care and early education services.

Located in every county in California, CCR&R agencies:

- Support all families with child care planning: We listen to the stories of families' struggles with finding and paying for child care
- Recruit and train home-based child care providers, helping mostly low-income women establish, sustain, and expand their business providing quality child care to working families;
- Train early education professionals on trauma-informed care and other topics and tools to enhance quality
- Collect, analyze and communicate data on comprehensive local child care supply and demand while knowing and understanding the stories behind the numbers.

We are the only statewide organization focusing on strengthening the home-based child care system to ensure that sufficient, quality infant and toddler care, and care during non-traditional hours is available to families when and where they need it.