



Southern Arizona Association for
the Education of Young Children

A WELCOME LETTER FROM AMY MORALES BAUM

January 2022

I am honored to begin my time as the president of the Southern Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children. Southern Arizona has a long history of a deeply connected and active early childhood community. Our current board stands on the shoulders of so many who helped create this robust community.

The field of early childhood continues to face challenges in light of COVID. Staffing constraints, quarantines, and budget deficits are just some of the difficulties we are experiencing. Yet, each day dedicated early childhood educators, administrators, and professionals are showing up to serve children and families. THANK YOU to everyone who has and continues to persevere through it all.

SAZAEYC is committed to:

- Promoting high-quality early learning for all children, birth through age 8 in Southern Arizona.
- Connecting practice, policy, and research.
- Advancing a diverse, dynamic early childhood profession and support all who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children

We do this work through hosting professional development, advocacy, and partnership with local agencies. We take pride in the events that we host including our annual brunch that celebrates early childhood champions in our community, Week of the Young Child events, our annual meeting, and organizing the largest early childhood conference in Southern Arizona.

We are excited to add many new board members who bring energy and expertise to our team. As we look forward, we are eager to dive into a new year of supporting young children and creating a society dedicated to ensuring they reach their full potential.

Sincerely,
Amy Morales Baum
President