



Arizona Association for the
Education of Young Children



ARIZONA
Early Childhood
Education Association



Southern Arizona Association for
the Education of Young Children



The 2020 Arizona Early Childhood Public Policy Forum

Saturday, March 7, 2020



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Welcome and Introductions

Thank you for investing in your professional
development.

Your voice matters. We want to help elevate it!



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Advancing #EquityinECE is a collaborative effort.

Eric Bucher, Vicki Balint, AzAEYC, azaeyc.org

Kelly Ann Larkin, Alicia Durbin, SAZAEYC, sazaeyc.org

Barbie Prinster, AECEA, azece.org

Michelle Saint Hilarie, Child & Family Resources,
childfamilyresources.org

Thank you to our grant partners.

This event is a collaboration between SAZAEYC, Arizona Early Childhood Education Association, Child & Family Resources, and AzAEYC and is sponsored by a grant from the **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** in partnership with **Child Care Aware of America** and **NAEYC**.

Opening Address



**Arizona Department of
Education Early Childhood
Policy & Legislative
Priorities**

Callie Kozlak, Associate
Superintendent for Policy &
Government Relations, ADE

Twitter: [@CallieKozlak](https://twitter.com/CallieKozlak) azed.gov



Your Voice Matters!

How to Develop Your Story as an Early Childhood Champion

- No one is born knowing how to do this.
- We all have to learn and practice.
- It pays to prepare – don't wing it!
- **YOU ARE SMART, POWERFUL LEADERS FOR CHILDREN!**

Adapted from **First Timers! How to have a successful meeting with policy makers**

by O'Leary & Cahill, NAEYC Public Policy Forum, 2020

We are all going to practice right now!

Introduce yourself to EVERYONE at your table:

- Hello.
- My name is (first and last name.)
- I work at (name of organization) as a (role) in (name of city /town / state.)
- I live in (name of city /town / state.)

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Consider a response to these questions.

What makes you you?

What is it like to be an ECE Professional?

What is your experience in early childhood?

How did your early years shape your current work?

Reflect.

1. What challenges have you faced or witnessed that shape your understanding of early education?
2. What choices have you made to get involved?

Guiding Questions

- Does it demonstrate impact? Who is your story about?
- Does it fit your organization? What do you want your audience to know?
- Is it emotional? What do you want your audience to feel?
- Does it have a purpose? What do you want your audience to do?

Share your Story.

First, share a challenge you've faced or witnessed related to early learning.

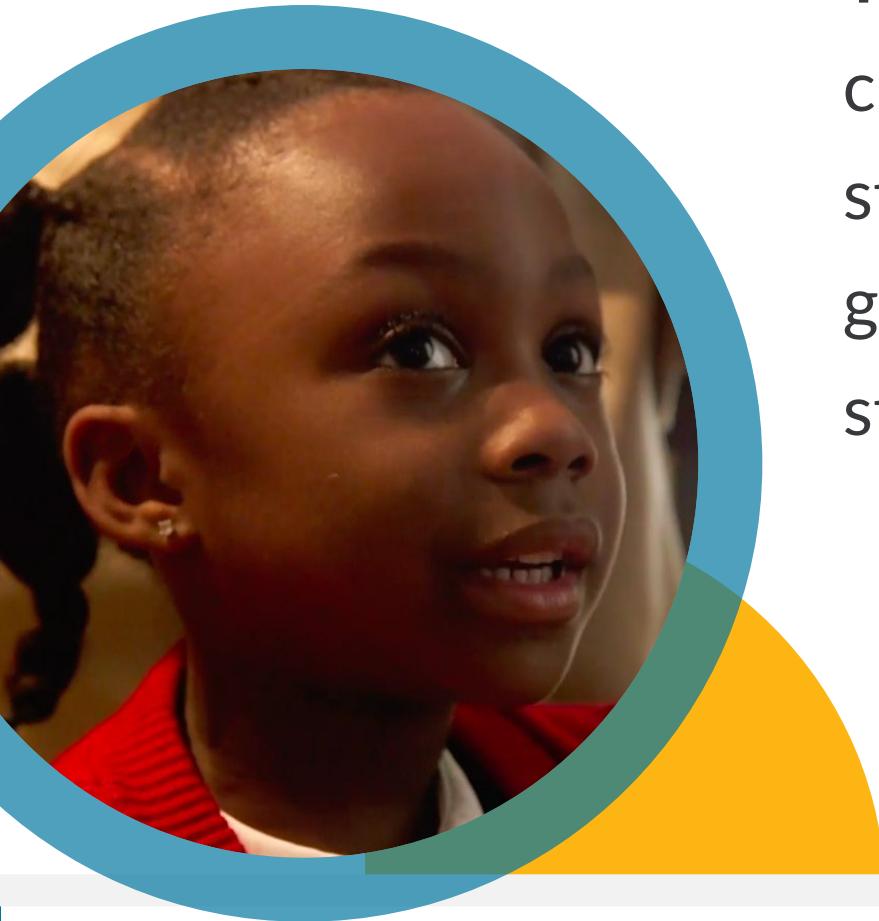
Then, pivot to the choices you've made to confront those challenges.

Listen.

- What was particularly vivid or moving about that story?
- What values do you see reflected in that story?
- What pieces of their story did you want to hear more about?

- **YOU ARE SMART POWERFUL LEADERS FOR CHILDREN.**
- You are the content expert. Be a reliable source.
- You don't have to cover every single thing.
- Break down the research – one pagers and key findings.
- Local data is key, makes the issue relevant for elected officials.
- Stay current and share new research with elected officials.

Our Goals for **NO SMALL MATTER**



To motivate action: Gather current and future advocates for strategic conversations that can galvanize change at the city, state, county, and federal levels.

nosmallmatter.com

Facebook: [@nosmallmatter](#)

Twitter: [@nosmallmatter](#)

Reflect.

- What **feelings, thoughts, or memories** does the film evoke for you?
- What's something that you heard or saw that touched you?
- What moments in the film made fixing our early learning crisis feel **most urgent** or necessary? Why did they resonate with you?



DEVELOPING YOUR MESSAGE

Let's practice!

In one sentence, answer this question:

What is the most important thing to know about early childhood education in Arizona?

Now, write your answer as a headline.



Lunch Session



2019 Strong Families Thriving Children Town Hall Discussion & Action Planning (Tucson)

Heath Vescovi-Chiordi,
Economic Development and
Assistant to the Town
Manager, Town of Marana,
Marana

aztownhall.org

Facebook: [@ArizonaTownHall](https://www.facebook.com/ArizonaTownHall)

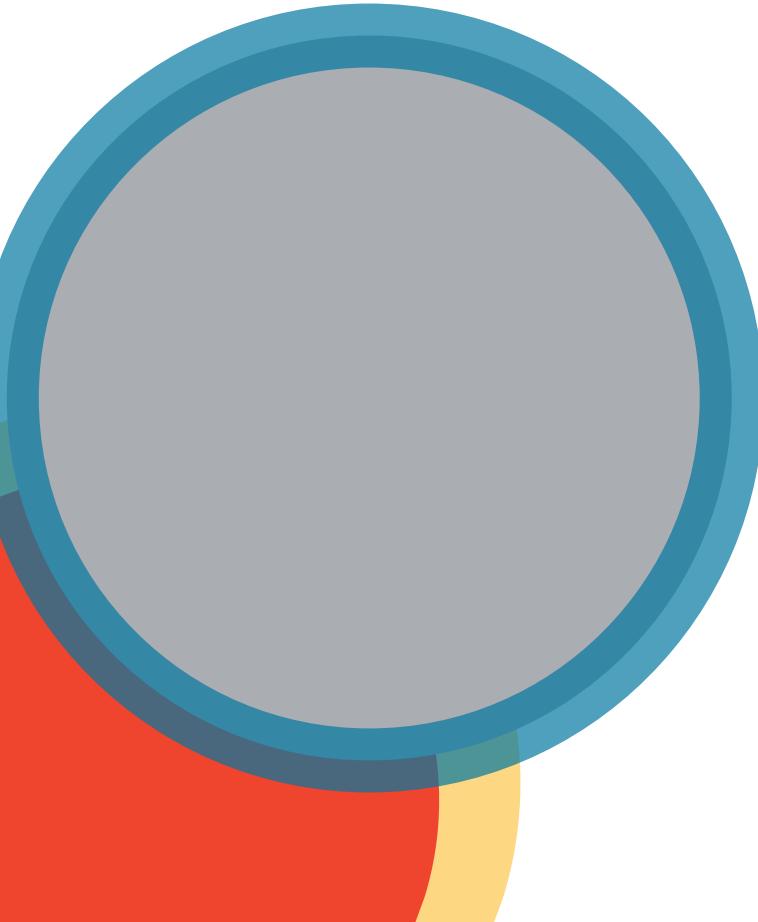
Twitter: [@AZTownHall](https://twitter.com/AZTownHall)

Arizona Town Hall



Kathy Kitagawa, Tucson
Steering Committee
Chair, Arizona Town Hall

Arizona Town Hall



Sasha Brown, Owner,
Sasha's Enterprises, LLC

Next Steps

- Post on social media - tag us and NSM. Hash tag with #AZPPF #ECEwins #EquityinECE #ECEadvocacy
- Participate in follow up advocacy training and sessions across Arizona - *we will send dates and info soon*
- Tell 3 other people your story and why investing in quality ECE is important to you



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Professional Development Certificate

4 hours of professional development are available in the **Arizona ECE Workforce Registry**. Include your Registry # on the sign in sheet.

If you'd prefer an **emailed copy** of your certificate, please let Linda at the registration table know.



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sazaeyc

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Your story is important.
Your voice matters.
Stay connected with us
for future #ECEadvocacy
opportunities.
Thank you!