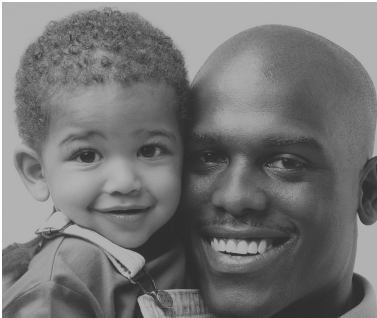



It's Our Business: Why New York State Business Leaders Support Early Childhood Education

- NYS business leaders, including the Business Council of New York State President Ken Adams, call for investment in Early Childhood Education in order to spur the New York economy.



- Investments in early childhood have short and long term economic benefits for our state, its families, and future workforce. Early childhood education is everyone's business!
 - Recognizing New York State's limited resources, the business leaders call for rigorous accountability and directing funds to early childhood programs with a proven track record of success.
 - Business has a clear economic stake in the future of our nation's children and should be an active partner in promoting policies that help young children succeed. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, early childhood education has a tremendous impact on the national economic security and viability of the American dream.
- The average working parent misses nearly two weeks of work each year because of child care problems. A report by Cornell University pegs the cost to companies at \$3 billion a year. Yet, when quality early care programs are available, businesses report less absenteeism and turnover, while enjoying greater worker retention and productivity.
 - Nationally, 63% of children under five are in some type of child care arrangement every week. On average, young children with working mothers spend 36 hours a week in child care. At Corning, Inc. executives discovered the attrition rate for female employees was twice that of men – and child care was often the culprit. They built a \$3.5 million world-class on-site child care facility and estimate they save close to that amount annually by retaining quality employees and improving productivity.
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- The Childcare Partnership Project has found that 85 percent of employers have improved employee recruitment by providing child care services.
 - Nobel laureate economist James Heckman asserts that policymakers should invest in young children, where the return on investment is strongest.
 - Over the past decade, research has shown that 75% of a child's brain growth occurs before age five. Furthermore, children who attend quality early learning programs are twice as likely to attend college. Birth to age five is a critical learning period.

Winning Beginning NY

an early care and education coalition