

Candidates Early Childhood Education Survey Results

The Children Matter Action Fund is surveying all candidates for Pennsylvania House and Senate seats to learn more about their views on childcare and early childhood education. We invite you to learn more by reviewing their responses below; by contacting their campaigns; and by following them on social media. Let them know your views on the importance of ensuring young children in Pennsylvania get the early education supports they need and deserve.

Name: **Robyn Colajezzi**

Website: <http://www.ElectRobynColajezzi.com>

Current Job: **Director of Marketing**

Social Media: **@RobynForPA**

Campaign Contact Person: **Janine Carroll**

You are running for election in which

Campaign Contact Cell Phone: **215-933-8209**

House or Senate District?: **House District 145**

Campaign Contact Email Address: Admin@electrobyncolajezzi.com

Q: What are your views on the benefits, or drawbacks, of allocating additional state funds for high-quality early learning education?

A: We need to invest in our children's early education to build a foundation for continued learning and ultimate success. All children deserve an equal opportunity to thrive in the classroom. Pennsylvania is a shameful 44th in this country in regards to state funding, in I intend to fight for public schools to get their fair share of the state pie.

Q: Will you support increasing annual investments in the Pre-K Counts and Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program line items?

A: Yes.

Q: How important, or unimportant, is expanding access to high-quality child care to working families in your district?

A: Extremely important. We need to do a better job guiding parents to the resources available and expanding on those resources to provide excellent care to toddlers and infants.

Q: If you support increased state investment in subsidized child care for infants and toddlers at the campaign's recommended levels, how will you help the campaign expand child care for working families? OR If you do not support the proposed increases in access to child care, please explain why.

A: I will vote to support an increase in state funding for subsidized child care.

Q: Improved parenting skills, increased family economic self-sufficiency, improved maternal and child health and reducing abuse and neglect are just a few of the key benefits realized through evidence-based home visiting services. How do you view the needs and benefits of home visiting to families?

A: The needs for home visiting services crosses all social-economic neighborhoods but for our lower-income communities, this is a vital and essential need that I will fight for.

Q: How will you support the expansion of state investment dollars to serve those in your district who can benefit from home visiting?

A: I will utilize the newest census data to create more jobs for skilled social workers and home visit professionals to increase availability.

Q: What would you do to increase payments to high-quality providers to improve their ability to retain qualified professionals?

A: As an advocate and fighter for raising the minimum wage, I will fight for providers to receive better benefits as well.

Q: How will you champion early care and early childhood education?

A: I will be a public voice for the voiceless, the children. I will advocate, and prioritize children's early education and make it a priority to bring awareness to the masses.