

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: **Regina Young**

Current Job: **Community Organizer**

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You are running for election in which

House or Senate District?: **House District 185**

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

A: I believe in equal opportunity and education should be affordable and quality for all, regardless of the families social economic and/or educational background.

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

A: Absolutely. It is evident that children who are in an learning environment early, thrives. Legislators should be advocates for early learners.

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

A: Expanding access to high quality child care is a priority. Early exposure to learning environments increases the child's ability to thrive.

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: Conversations build communities. I have been working to become more familiar with the needs of my constituents, so in my experience, especially while campaigning, information is power. I will continue to educate the stakeholders to ensure that we reach the recommended levels.

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: I'm bias, I worked in social services and early intervention learning, so I see a need. However, I would also need to know if the approaches to these interactions are revisited. I believe this could speak to truth if check points are had.

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 support recommended and proposed policies and bills that are directed to funding these type of programs.

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

A: I would advocate for higher wages.

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

A: I will continue to keep this subject alive within the district and when in Harrisburg.