



## 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: **Judy Schwank**

Website: <http://www.judyschwank2020.com>

Current Job: **State Senator**

Social Media: @Judy Schwank for State Senate

Campaign Contact Person: **Judy Schwank**

You are running for election in which

Campaign Contact Cell Phone: **717-364-9585**

House or Senate District?: **Senate District 11**

Campaign Contact Email Address: **jschwank731@aol.com**

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

**A:** Additional state funds for early learning will pay significant dividends to not only children, preparing them to learn when they enter primary school, but also society as these children have a much better opportunity to succeed in school and employment but also allowing them to be happier more productive adults.

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

**A:** Yes as I always have done.

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

**A:** One of the most pressing needs in the Greater Reading community is high quality affordable childcare. Our poverty and educational attainment levels while improving are low. This is an urgent need.

**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 have been a vocal advocate for supplemental funding for child care and in fact wrote the legislation that allocated funding from the Cares Act for child care centers.

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 have seen first hand the many benefits of home visiting programs in my community. I am a strong supporter.

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 sponsor legislation and as Minority Vice Chair of Senate Appropriations Committee will use my influence to increase funding.

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

A: I assisted United Way and Reading Area Community College in receiving \$200,000 in state grant to help provide training and supplements to child care providers.

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

A: I believe in the power of early care and early childhood education to improve life outcomes for our children. I have been a strong advocate for these programs since I have been in public service and will continue to do so.