



While the COVID-19 pandemic has changed our lives in many ways, it hasn't changed the need to celebrate and support children and the adults who love, care for, and educate them. With this [America for Early Ed](#) toolkit, we encourage you to take time during #WOYC22 to lift up your advocacy voice on behalf of the children, families, and educators in your community to make sure #SolveChildCare!

APRIL 4: MUSIC MONDAY!

JOIN THE CHORUS
FOR CHANGE!

Every year, thanks to the great work of NAEYC Affiliates, partners, and friends, Week of the Young Child proclamations and resolutions are signed by Governors, Mayors, City Councils and more, all across America! This year, kicking off on #MusicMonday, we want all of your state and local elected officials to be singing from the same songbook, and joining the chorus to advance the early childhood education profession.



TAKE ACTION

1. Work with your [states' Affiliates](#) and advocates to [help policymakers sign state and local proclamations](#) that honor and advance the early childhood education profession as part of the WOYC®.
2. [Put your proclamation on the map](#) once you've secured a proclamation and share pictures on social media of your proclamations using #WOYC22. Tag the elected officials who signed them and thank them for being champions and supporters of early childhood education and educators!

Need inspiration?

[Check out this blog post to see what NAEYC's Affiliate leaders and partners did for WOYC proclamations in 2021.](#)

If you don't have proclamations to share, you can use these sample social media posts instead:



I'm joining the chorus for change to advance the #earlychildhood education profession! The time is NOW for elected officials to value, support, and compensate early childhood educators for the complex and important work they do! #SolveChildCare #ChildCareisEssential #WOYC22



I'm celebrating Music Monday by joining the chorus for change! We are past the point where elected officials must value, support, and compensate early childhood educators for the complex and important work they do! #SolveChildCare #ChildCareisEssential #WOYC22

APRIL 5: TASTY TUESDAY

TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD A
RECIPE FOR EQUITABLE SUCCESS

Our goal is to nurture a more diverse and inclusive generation of young children who thrive through their experiences of equitable learning opportunities in early learning programs. Thus, all early childhood educators have a professional obligation to advance equity as part of their work alongside, and in partnership with, young children and their families.



TAKE ACTION

1. Read (or revisit) NAEYC's [Advancing Equity in Early Childhood Education position statement](#) and learn more about living out the Advancing Equity position statement by exploring our [equity resources webpage](#), a collection primarily focused on elevating resources that support educators in teaching for equity.
2. As we stand together for equity and justice, we ask you to share how you are advancing equity in your own practice. Post your responses and reflections on social media using #EquityInECE!

APRIL 6: WORK TOGETHER WEDNESDAY

LEARN TOGETHER, WORK
TOGETHER, BUILD TOGETHER

Since March 2020, there have been multiple rounds of federal funding to help child care providers respond to the challenges of COVID-19, including \$39 billion in the American Rescue Plan. Together, these funds have saved and stabilized child care - but they haven't solved the fundamental crisis.



TAKE ACTION

1. Review (and share with a colleague) these resources on the current status of ARP Act implementation and how you can use federal relief funds to support your child care center or family child care program.
 - [ARP Act Implementation Update](#): This resource from Child Care Aware shows how states are using their funding.
 - [Map with stabilization grant applications](#): States are in the process of making subgrant applications available to child care providers. This map provides information on stabilization subgrants and applications for each state.
 - [Supporting Your Child Care Business with Federal Relief Funds](#): This resource is available to help child care providers as you plan and use federal relief grants to support the viability of your child care business.
2. Work with your states' Affiliates and advocates to [center the voices of educators](#) and families. Stay persistent, engaged, and vocal!



APRIL 7: ARTSY THURSDAY

DESIGN WITH PURPOSE: A FRAMEWORK BY THE FIELD FOR THE FIELD

“By design, the Unifying Framework for the Early Childhood Education Profession was created by the field for the field, and it holds the promise, if systematically implemented, to upend the structural inequities that lead to lack of access to higher education and chronically low compensation with limited health insurance and retirement benefits for the early childhood education profession.” — Rhian Evans Allin, NAEYC CEO



TAKE ACTION

1. Learn more about the [Unifying Framework for the Early Childhood Education Profession](#) and make sure your state is [taking action to increase compensation](#) for the early childhood education workforce.
2. [Watch & Talk: Hold a Virtual or In-Person Gathering](#) in your community to review the Unifying Framework’s recommendations and make a plan for action!

APRIL 8: FAMILY FRIDAY

FINDING BALANCE

Family members’ are young children’s first and most important teachers. But they can be advocates too, having seen firsthand the importance of affordable, high-quality child care and preschool provided by early childhood educators who are prepared, supported, and compensated for the skilled, valuable, and essential work they do each day.



TAKE ACTION

1. [Raise your voice](#) as a parent or family member by telling Congress it’s time to #SolveChildCare. Join educators, allies, and advocates around the country in urging Congress to make the significant, sustainable and long-term investments in affordable, high-quality child care and preschool that are urgently needed.
2. Engaging and celebrating families is at the heart of supporting our youngest learners. Share pictures and stories on NAEYC’s Facebook page or post to Twitter using the hashtag #WOYC22 as we celebrate the unique role families play in their children’s learning and development.