

# 2019 Early Childhood Advocacy Groups

There are many business and community leaders advocating on the behalf of early childhood education. Do you want to join their efforts? The following list highlights resources at the local/regional, state, and national level. Please reach out to these organizations to learn how you can become engaged in their advocacy work!

## Local/Regional Level

- **Early childhood coalitions** are active in over 30 counties across the state and growing in number.
- **Indiana United Ways**, with over 50 member United Ways and United Fund organizations, includes early childhood among its statewide priorities. Several local United Ways do advocacy work in their served communities.
- **The Regional Chamber of Northeast Indiana**, representing 11 counties, has consistently supported early childhood education, especially for children in low-income households.
- **The Southwest Indiana Business Roundtable for Early Childhood Development** has been supportive of efforts to expand and improve early learning in the greater Evansville area.
- **Local Chambers of Commerce** sometimes support early childhood coalitions, and some include investment in early learning as part of their public policy agenda.
- **Some Local Economic Development Organization (LEDO) Councils** take an active role in promoting early childhood education.
- **Nonprofit board members** often reflect a diverse cross-section of business and community leaders who can be powerful advocates for early learning policies if engaged.

## State Level

- **The Indiana Chamber**, which partners with 25,000 members and investors, includes early childhood education in its public policy work and in its “IndianaVision 2025 Plan for Hoosier Prosperity.”
- **Indiana All IN4PreK Coalition** is led by United Way of Central Indiana. It includes business and community leaders from across the state and has been focused on improving and expanding the Indiana’s On My Way Pre-K Program.
- **The Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children**, a statewide, nonprofit organization with 15 chapters, engages its over 2,000 members in public policy work.
- **Early Learning Indiana**, based in Indianapolis, has staff that focuses on public policy.

## National Level

- **ReadyNation** leverages the experience, influence, and expertise of over 2,000 business executives working to build a skilled workforce by promoting solutions that prepare children to succeed in education, work, and life, including investments in home visiting and early learning programs.
- **The U.S. Chamber of Commerce** is focused on fixing shortcomings in our education system so that students emerge prepared for college or a career. The Chamber Foundation’s Center for Education and Workforce mobilizes the business community to be more engaged partners in improving early childhood education and other segments of the education pipeline.

For additional resources, visit [indianaearlylearningsummit.org](http://indianaearlylearningsummit.org).

