

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



idaeyc

Idaho Association for the
Education of Young Children

www.idahoaeYC.org

IMAGINE AN IDAHO WHERE EVERY CHILD THRIVES

Imagine an Idaho where every family has access to affordable, high-quality early childhood education so they can work. Imagine an Idaho where every child who enters kindergarten is ready to learn. Imagine an Idaho where our child care providers are valued as having a critical role in society. And imagine an Idaho where community members are coming together to support families with young children, where businesses can hire workers without the barrier of a lack of child care and where schools are thriving because children are coming to school ready to learn.

The work of the Idaho Association for the Education of Young children is to make all that we imagine a reality. Idaho AEYC is a statewide, nonprofit working to advance early childhood education throughout Idaho. Our passion and our work are driven by our vision that all children thrive. Our success is accomplished across the state, through both programs and advocacy.

Idaho AEYC collaborates with individuals, business leaders and communities statewide to work towards solutions to ensure that all children have access to early childhood education, working families have the information and resources they need to balance work and family and that our business leaders have a path to support their employees with better access to child care.

Read more about our work in this report and join us in building an Idaho where we all thrive. Your support will sustain and grow our impact in advancing early childhood education for Idaho's children, working families, early childhood educators and our business community.

When our families succeed, our children thrive and our communities flourish.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Leading Idaho's effort to ...



ADVANCE EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES.



SUPPORT EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS.



ADVOCATE FOR IDAHO'S CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

Professional Membership & Local Chapters

The Idaho AEYC Chapter model was reignited this year! Idaho AEYC Leadership organized Chapters in Idaho Falls, Rexburg/BYU-I, Twin Falls, Treasure Valley, and Southwest Idaho. Chapters are meeting on a regular basis and organizing events in their communities. The Southwest Chapter hosted a Make-and-Take Event for early learning professionals and families and the Idaho Falls Chapter is in the planning stage for a 2023 professional development conference for early childhood educators.



Creating an Idaho where every community has access to quality early learning opportunities.

READY IDAHO COALITION

The Ready Idaho Coalition was formed by Idaho AEYC to collectively develop policy, advocacy, and programmatic strategies in order to secure investments that improve access to quality early learning opportunities for Idaho's children.

Policy & Advocacy Update

This year our 40-member coalition collaborated to:

- **Advance awareness among decision makers about the importance of early education.**
- **Support early childhood providers by advocating for continued COVID-related program supports like wage subsidies and facilities grants.**
- **Support passage of the Child Care Workforce Development Grant program**
- **Advocate for legislation that provided landmark investment in literacy that enabled many school districts to offer no-cost, full-day kindergarten.**

Early Learning Day

In March, Idaho AEYC organized Early Learning Day at the Capitol to share the work being done to enhance early childhood education within our communities. Our presentation demonstrated the overwhelming benefits of investing in children early in their development. It was an opportunity for policymakers to see firsthand the impact of early learning resources and how they can support their local communities. Idaho AEYC will continue to be a resource for policymakers about our early childhood system and advocate for the children and families of Idaho.



Week of the Young Child

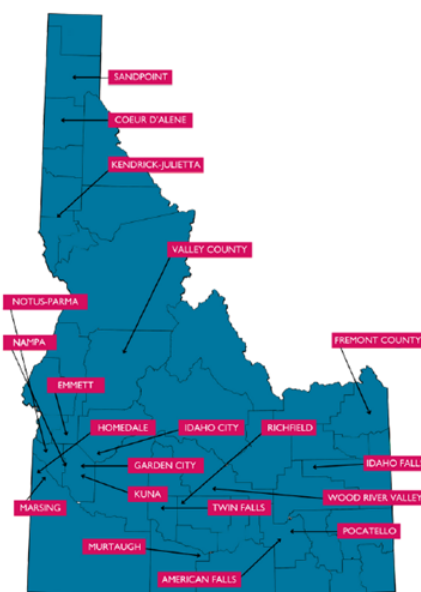
Governor Brad Little proclaimed April 2-8 the Week of the Young Child™. During the week, Idaho AEYC highlighted the significant role families and early child care educators play in a young child's most critical years of development. Idaho AEYC held its own Celebration of the Young Child event on April 16 in Julia Davis Park in Boise. This fun, free event offered booths and activities for the whole family including face painting, puppet shows, live entertainment and more. Numerous corporate and organizational sponsors make an event like this possible.



This past year Idaho AEYC expanded the Early Learning Collaborative Project from 16 to 22 communities. All 22 Early Learning Collaboratives were able to increase the number of students served, how often they are being served, professional development participation, community outreach, and family engagement!

EARLY LEARNING COLLABORATIVES (ELC)

Leaders in local communities collaborate to increase early education opportunities in Idaho's child care deserts. IDAEYC staff provide support through instructional courses, on-site training, learning materials, and stipends to increase workforce compensation.



22

Collaboratives supported

450+

Children impacted

nearly
100%

of ELC students scored above benchmark
in Kindergarten Assessments

Building an Idaho where early care and education professionals are valued.

We support over
1,500 FUTURE & CURRENT EDUCATORS
with scholarships and grants.

Academic Scholarships & Grants

Our IdahoSTARS Project (implemented in partnership with University of Idaho) helps students invest in their future in Early Childhood Education.

438
Students

818
Awards

2+ Mil
Awarded



Program Grants

- IdahoSTARS Business Grants - \$693,360 distributed to 180 programs
- IdahoSTARS Safe Sleep Grants - \$559,680 distributed to 255 programs
- Steps to Quality Accreditation Grants - \$18,503 distributed to 3 programs
- Steps to Quality Successful Start Grants - \$39,769 distributed to 39 programs
- Steps to Quality Improvement Grants - \$101,748 distributed to 57 programs

City of Boise Early Educator Grant

This summer, Idaho AEYC partnered with the City of Boise to deliver the City of Boise Child Care Incentive Pay Program. A one-time payment of \$1,500 was awarded to all City of Boise licensed child care providers. We supported this program by assisting with application completion and by spreading the word to all relevant providers.

\$1.9 Mil
Distributed

Over
1,278
Professionals
Awarded

"This is one small way for us to recognize [child care providers] for the service [they] continue to provide."

- Mayor McClean

Professional Training for Early Educators

IDAHOSTARS CHILD CARE RESOURCES

Through the IdahoSTARS project (implemented in partnership with the University of Idaho) Early Care and Education Professionals participate in these learning opportunities and grow in their understanding and use of quality practices in child care.



12,423
**Coaching &
Assistance
Hours**



50,331
**Trainings
Hours**



8,231
**Professionals
Trained**



2022 Professional Development Institute

In June, IDAEYC provided 275 early learning educators with current best practices, educational training sessions and a variety of tools and educational materials to take with them. A focal point of the conference was the weaving of English and Spanish sessions, giving participants greater opportunities to gain experience and explore. The keynote speaker, Esteban Morales, shared information about brain and language development. Additional conference trainings addressed the importance of sensory integration in the early years, strategies to create engaging spaces for children, and the importance of establishing strong relationships with families.



Supporting families with young children to engage in quality early learning.

CHILD & FAMILY CONNECTIONS RESOURCES

Child and Family Connections projects provide professional development, family resources, and educational materials for early care and education programs, families, and communities statewide.

15,000

Kids of Idaho Activity Kits

450+

Children Impacted

3,200

Active Learning Kits

27

Kids of Idaho Story Walk sites

105

Family Workshops & Training Events

1,059

Storytelling & Literacy Session participants

Meridian Child Care Scholarship Program

Idaho AEYC and the City of Meridian partnered to create a program to provide scholarships to cover child care costs for those families in need. The program covers a portion of a Meridian resident's child care tuition costs for a three-month period for families that qualify. This is an example of municipal and non-profit collaboration in addressing the rising cost of care that families require to remain in the workforce at the community level. The scholarship awards go directly to licensed early care or school-age care programs. To date, 24 Meridian families have benefitted from this scholarship.



Child Care Referrals

701 families were supported in finding child care through the IdahoSTARS Project.



Sharing Stories Program

In local Idaho birthing hospitals, kits are distributed to new parents that include books, a onesie, and literacy focused materials.

6,000

Babies recieved Story Kits

READY FOR KINDERGARTEN PARENT WORKSHOPS

Children learn best through engagement with people they love and trust. READY! For Kindergarten provides workshops for parents that show them different ways to foster pre-literacy, math, and social skills through songs, activities, and reading.

Through the mixed-delivery system of virtual and in-person workshops, parents could choose to access the programming that best met the need of their family.

This year, READY! for Kindergarten introduced two new family workshops to Idaho, READY! for Math and READY! for Kindergarten Social and Emotional Learning.

14,000
+

Families participated in workshops

500

Early Educators trained

59

Local workshop locations

9,000

Books distributed

Growing our Impact

Our work has made measurable, positive impacts on children and families, but there is still so much to be done to ensure every child in Idaho has the opportunity to thrive.

Donations Report

197 donors

\$37,547 in donations

Financial Report

\$6,549 Professional Membership

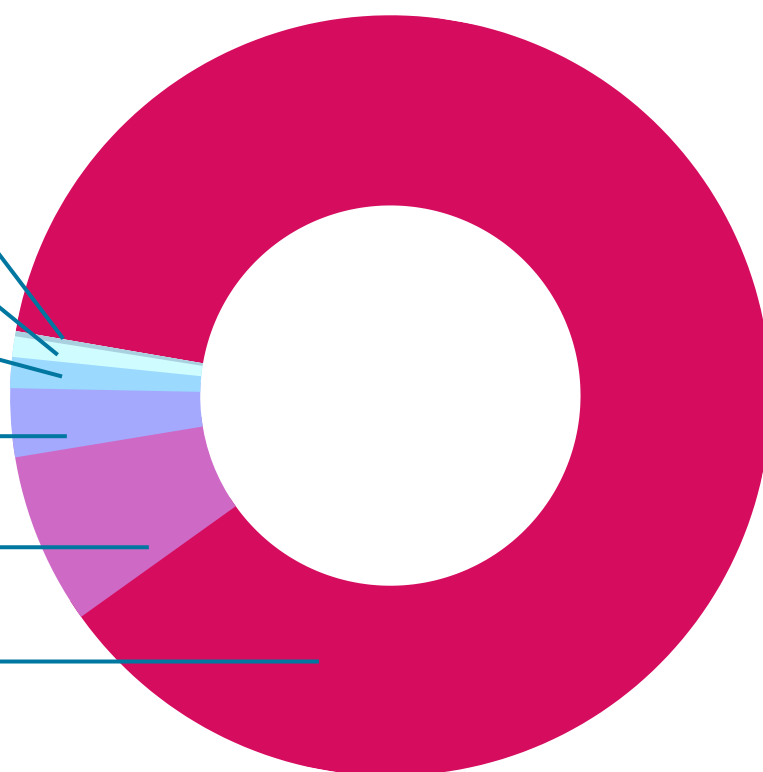
\$37,547 Donations

\$69,577 Events

\$207,483 Misc. & In-Kind

\$426,540 Other Grants

\$12,791,768 Federal Grants



Join our CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Visionary Circle:	Contribute \$5,000+ annually
Advocate Circle:	Contribute \$1,000-\$4,999 annually
Community Circle:	Contribute \$500-\$999 annually
Family Circle:	Contribute \$100-\$499 annually
Young Child Circle:	Contribute up to \$99 annually

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Idaho AEYC is creating a system across our state that gives every child an equal opportunity for quality early learning and the building blocks needed for early development. Investing Idaho's children is an investment for the future of our communities.

OFFICERS

TONYA SEARS, PRESIDENT
KEVIN BAILEY, PRESIDENT-ELECT
ANNA WOLFENBARGER, TREASURER
CHASE ROPELATO, PAST-PRESIDENT

North Idaho College Head Start
 Idaho Nonprofit Center
 Severn, Winkle, LLP
 Idaho Power Company

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

DENISE OHRT, NORTH IDAHO
MEGAN ROBISON, NORTH CENTRAL
PHYLLIS VERNON, SOUTHWEST IDAHO
MELISSA BUCK, TREASURE VALLEY
MAURA GOLDSTEIN, TREASURE VALLEY
JANET SALVONI, MAGIC VALLEY
KELSEY W. SKINNER, MAGIC VALLEY
SHERYL GITTINGS, EASTERN IDAHO

North Idaho College Head Start
 University of Idaho Children's Center
 WICAP Head Start
 Vista Montessori Schools, Inc.
 Roots Forest School
 Sun Valley Community School
 College of Southern Idaho
 Maggie's Place, LLC

APPOINTED DIRECTORS

KAYLA BURNIM
NICHOLE BILLETZ
CRISTINA DACCARETT
KATIE DOWNS
TRINA DYKAS-DILLMAN
ERIN ERKINS
DALYNN HAMMER
REBECCA LEMMONS
KRYSTAL MCFARLANE
ELLEN NEFF
ALICIA ROBERTSON
CAMMRA WAKAGAWA
BETH OPPENHEIMER

Prairie Learning Center
 Boise State University Children's Center
 St. Luke's Health System
 Middleton School District
 Huntington Learning Center, East Boise
 Erkins Commercial Real Estate
 Idaho National Laboratory
 Saint Alphonsus
 TLC for Tots
 Retired, College of Southern Idaho
 Lewis-Clark State College
 New Horizon Academy
 Idaho AEYC Executive Director



idaeyc

Idaho Association for the
Education of Young Children



CONNECT WITH US

Visit our website to sign up for our newsletters,
become a member, or join our Circle of Friends.

idahoaeyc.org
