

PUBLIC POLICY ACTION PRIORITIES

CHILD CARE

Early Care & Learning Council -

<http://www.earlycareandlearning.org/>, 518/690-4217,
230 Washington Ave, extension, Albany 12203

There are 41 units across the state. Visit their website for the location of the one nearest you. They provide a tremendous amount of information, services and advocacy for children and families. Their concern is early childhood. They train child care providers including health care, give licensing classes, administer food programs and much more. They are the backbone of the child care program. We are needed to help advocate legislatively and in other ways. You can go to their website or check the phone book. Contact the one in your area. They are glad to come and talk to your branch or at other venue. There are many ways that members can be of assistance. Also you are needed to spread the word about early childhood education in various ways.

The **Winning Beginnings NY Campaign** is a coalition of organizations. They have been effective in their goals of improving various aspects of child care in NYS.

The Child Care that Works campaign is a statewide coalition of parents, employers, children's advocates, child care providers, labor unions, union child care workers, educators, research and community groups, working toward the goal of high-quality, affordable and accessible child care and early education programs for all New York families.

New York Children's Action Network NY CAN Do More for Children and Families - <http://www.scaany.org/nycan/>,
518/403-1896, 150 State Street, Albany 12207.

This organization is comprised of agencies and organizations involving all children and their needs. A fabulous group concerned with advocacy. They are strongly motivated. They provide research, knowledge and a strong sense of the value of our

children. AAUW NYS is a member of this group. Formed two years ago they developed great advocacy agendas. Check this webpage for developments. I attended their Annual Meeting and was very impressed with the scope and dedication of the members and their organizations. The coalition's agenda begins: "Children: Strengthening Human Capital in Our Homes, Our Schools, and Our Communities. Investing in our young people is an investment in NY State".

Everyone is urged to join

(<http://www.scaany.org/nycan/newyorkcanjoin.php>) with or without a contribution. It will give them greater clout in their advocacy.