

# **Iowa AEYC**—2010 Public Policy Priorities

*A voice for young children and those who care for them*

The Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children (**Iowa AEYC**) – serving and acting on behalf of the early childhood education profession - is a nonprofit membership association of early childhood professionals working in Iowa.

We represent nearly 1500 **Iowa AEYC** members throughout our state, and support efforts to improve teaching and learning, promote leadership and professional development in our field, support accreditation and excellence in early childhood education programs, and build public awareness through advocacy and outreach. **Iowa AEYC**'s public policy priorities emphasize the importance of our voice, professionalism and quality, as we work with our early childhood partners throughout Iowa to create a comprehensive, integrated early care, health and education system that supports our goal, "Every Child, Beginning at Birth, Will Be Healthy and Successful".

## **2010 Public Policy Priorities:**

Iowa's infants and young children can't wait!

Iowa AEYC promotes prioritizing public funding to most impact the lives of children in our state, their families, and their early care and education providers.

- Funded projects must be research driven to positively impact services.

Increase public awareness about the importance of adequate compensation for all early care and education practitioners, to most impact quality.

- Child care assistance reimbursements must include a tiered reimbursement for quality
- A quality early care and education workforce requires an investment.

We encourage policy makers to address best practices of early childhood development, and consider the multiple systems that must successfully coordinate services.

- All programs and state created infrastructure should use NAEYC Developmentally Appropriate Practices or other best practices measures for their system/field.
- Funding must not create silos.
- We encourage respect for local decision making based on the needs and culture of the community.

**[www.iowaaeyc.org](http://www.iowaaeyc.org)**

