



Gearing up for Advocacy: The Basics

Dr. Shayna Cook

Bainum Family Foundation



DC EARLY EDX



Address the problem



Work in collaboration to
develop solutions



Understand D.C.'s
power structure





Step 1: Make sure you are registered to vote

Important things to keep in mind:

- ✓ State and local elections are just as important as the presidential election
- ✓ If you live in D.C., know what Ward you live in
- ✓ Live outside of the District? Register to vote in your state but know which Ward you work in so that you can advocate for yourself as an educator



Step 2: Know your Councilmember

Important things to know:

- ✓ Know all the Councilmembers who are a part of the D.C. Council
- ✓ Know all the Commissioners who are a part of your Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) within your Ward
- ✓ They are your locally elected officials who represent you, and are accountable to the community





Mayor

Deputy Mayor for Education

Deputy Mayor for HHS

- ✓ How funding is dispersed
- ✓ How programs are implemented.



OSSE

- ✓ How programs and services are regulated
- ✓ Supports with quality implementation to better serve children and families



**State Board of
Education**

- ✓ Advises the State Superintendent of Education

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(has an oversight role)"] --- OSSE["OSSE"]; DC_Council --- DM["Deputy Major  
for Education"]; DC_Council --- DCPS["D.C. Public  
Schools"]; DC_Council --- DCPCSB["D.C. Public  
Charter School  
Board"];
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D.C. Council
(has an oversight role)

OSSE

**Deputy Major
for Education**

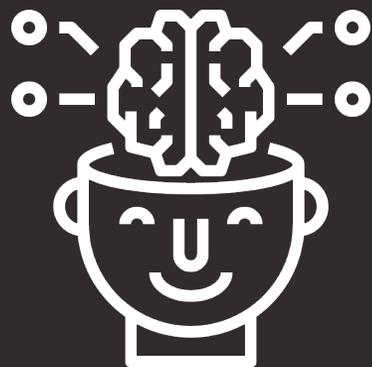
**D.C. Public
Schools**

**D.C. Public
Charter School
Board**



3 Takeaways

1. Know how your school or program is regulated
2. Know how your school or program is funded
3. Know who you can speak with to make change



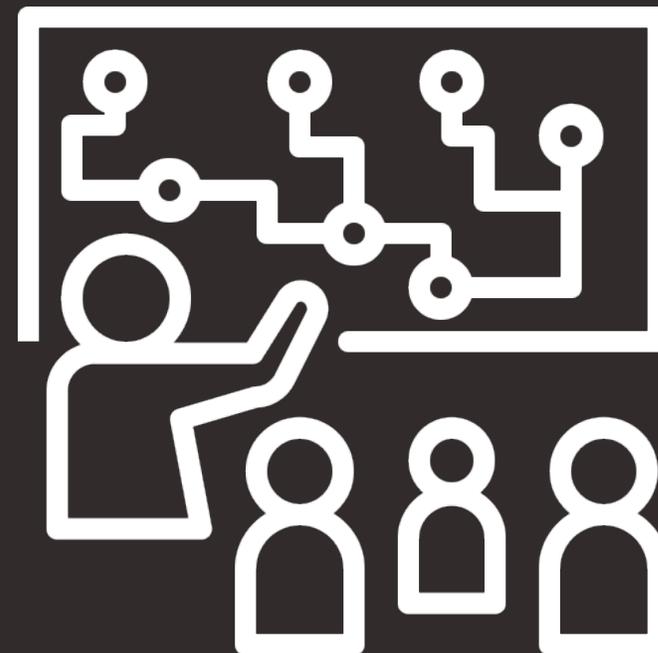
D.C. Childhood Landscape

Pre-natal and Birth → 3rd Grade

School-based
programs

Center-based
programs

Home-based
programs





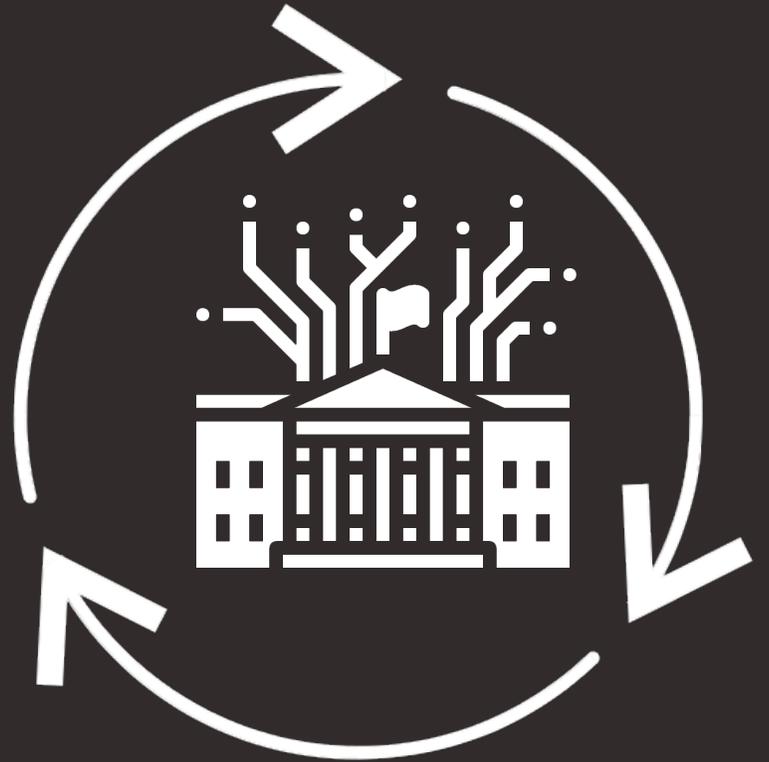
Work together



Generate solutions



Discuss the problems



Make systems change!





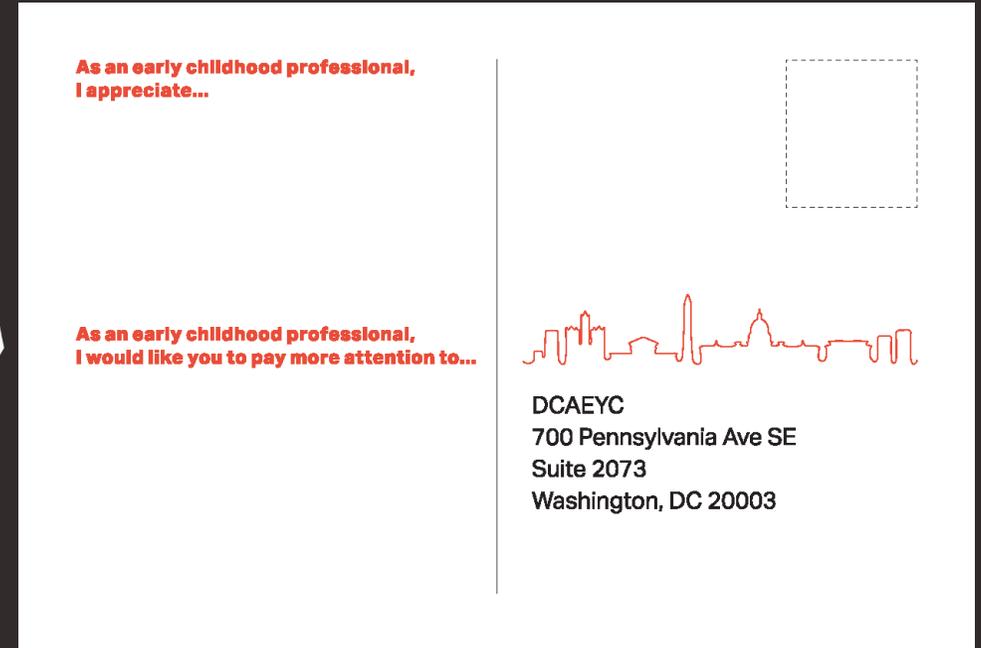
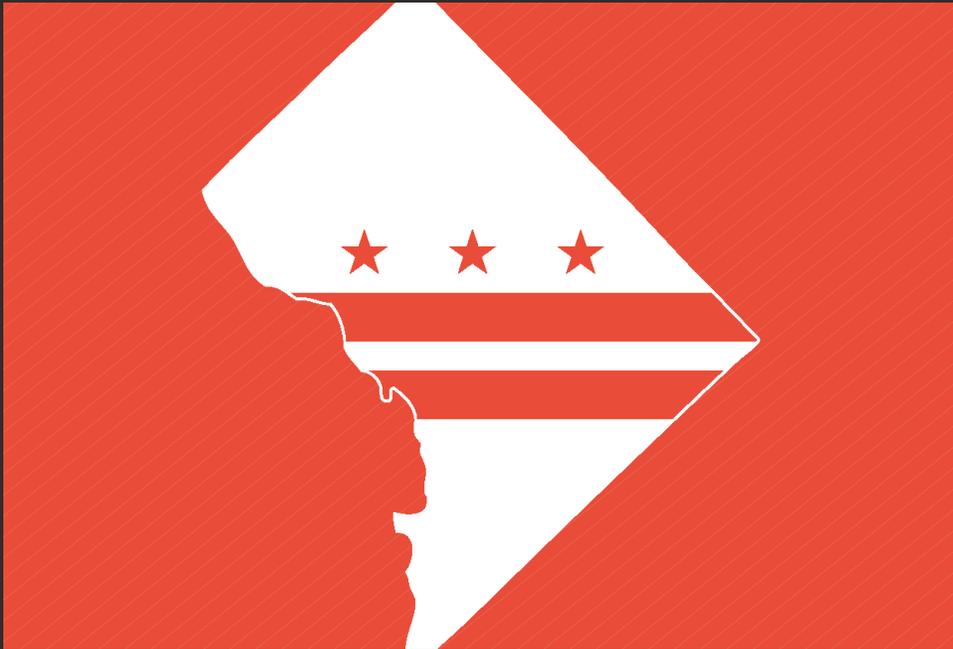
Advocacy begins with you!



You have the power to improve programs and services for children, families, and your fellow educators!



Advocate today by mailing your postcard!



Add your personal message to your
councilmember here