Start Strong PA aims to improve healthy development outcomes for infants and toddlers by increasing support for and improving the quality of child care programs that serve them.

**Pennsylvania policymakers must:**
Increase state funding so more children can access high-quality child care.
State funding should eliminate the waitlist and ensure all eligible families of infants and toddlers can access a subsidy in order to work or attend school.

**Federal policymakers must:**
Continue increasing investments in the Child Care and Development Block Grant.
Federal funds should be used to address rates, educator compensation, and training and degree opportunities for professionals in the field.

We must increase high-quality child care works access
Only 34% of infants and toddlers that receive subsidized care attend programs that have met high-quality standards

We must increase high-quality provider capacity
Only 43% of certified child care capacity in the state currently meets high-quality standards

We must increase compensation for professionals
Only $9.71/hr is paid to infant toddler teachers with a 30% annual turnover rate for early childhood educators

Because every child deserves an equal opportunity to a quality educational foundation that will prepare them to grow, learn and succeed, Start Strong PA calls on all Pennsylvanians to focus on the most important years of a child’s development; the first three years of life.

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