

*"There are 24 million children under the age of six in America today. You know how many of them have to be taken care of all day, every day by an adult?
All of them." Quote - No Small Matter*

The Michigan AEYC Advocacy Committee's mission is to lead efforts in voicing the importance of investing in high quality experiences for young children and elevating the early childhood profession.

There are many ways you can be an advocate for yourself, your profession, and the children you serve...

If you have 1 minute, you can do the following:

- Give yourself a high five or a hug for caring about early childhood education!
- Post on Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook about the importance of early childhood education with #ECEWins and #earlychildhood hashtags.
- Click this [link](#) to learn more about the documentary about early childhood education No Small Matter and how you can share it with your family and friends.
- Thank an early childhood professional (i.e. brain builder).
- Like the Facebook page of [Michigan AEYC](#).

If you have 5 minutes, you can do the following:

- Click [here](#) to learn about who your elected officials are.
- Once you learn who your elected officials are, follow them on social media so you can see what their priorities are, what they are working on, and connect with them.
- [Register](#) to vote if you're not already!
- Become a [member](#) of Michigan AEYC – join us to help elevate the voice of the young child.

If you have 10 minutes, you can do the following:

- Go to your legislator's Facebook page and/or website to find out when their coffee hour is in your region.
- Call your legislator using this [script](#) if you want some ideas for what to say.

If you have 15 minutes, you can do the following:

- Write an email or letter to your legislator about why you think funding for early childhood education is critical for our country's future. Check out a sample [here](#).
- Share your own early childhood story with a friend and in a social media post.

If you have 30 minutes, you can do the following:

- Visit your legislator at their coffee hour and have an informal conversation about early childhood. Ask them about their own experiences with young children.
- Go out and vote for candidates who support investment in early childhood education!

If you have an hour or more, you can do the following:

- Regularly attend Michigan AEYC's Legislative Event in the fall and Public Policy Forum in the spring to speak with legislators.
- Invite your legislators to visit your early childhood program using this [toolkit](#).
- Join the Advocacy Committee- email Kirsten to learn more.

Need Support? Email Kirsten Charnesky, Advocacy Chair, advocacy@miaeyc.org