



Michigan Association for the
Education of Young Children

Alison Burns

Licensed Home-Based Child Care Owner/Operator, Healthy Start Child Care
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Being a Member-at-Large on the MiAeYC Governing Board is a way I can support the MiAeYC's mission to promote high-quality early learning for all children, advance a diverse, dynamic early childhood profession, and support all who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children. If elected, I will thoughtfully amplify the voice of home-based child care professionals, who are an integral yet often underrepresented part of the profession.

My 30-year career as a licensed Family and Group Child Care owner/operator in Traverse City and my role as the Local Coordinator of our county's Family Child Care Network form the foundation of my perspective. Early childhood is my passion, and I spend many hours collaborating in organizations that support young children, their families, caregivers, and communities. I bring the viewpoint of home-based child care owners/operators to state-wide committees, including the current Licensing Rule Review ad hoc Committee and the MiAeYC TEACH Advisory Committee. I also actively participate in community organizations, such as the Regional Child Care Planning Coalition, the Traverse Bay Great Start Collaborative, the Northwest Education Services School Readiness Advisory Committee, the Northwestern Michigan College Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee, and the Child Caring Now Mentorship and Sub-Pool Committees.

I recently completed the Master of Early Childhood Education program at Eastern Michigan University, which focused on understanding and applying the values and core position statements of the MiAeYC and NAEYC to best practices and public policy. As a result, I am confident in my ability to care for and educate young children, sustain relationships with families, create a desirable workplace, support early childhood colleagues, and access and advocate for services that benefit us all. My collaborative skills and knowledge of regional and statewide systems supporting early care and education enable me to contribute to early childhood success.

I am a member of the national leadership cohort sponsored by Home Grown, a funders' collaborative that supports home-based child care. Through my experience as part of this cohort, I have gained insight into initiatives and advocacy that advance the goal of supporting ALL who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children. As a result of my work on the local, statewide, and national levels, and through my experience as a business owner and early educator, I have learned to share my ideas confidently, respect the perspectives of others, ask relevant questions, and build consensus. Focusing on our common goals and activating our individual talents will only improve the outcomes for Michigan's children and families.