



2018 Policy Agenda

MinneMinds' policy agenda is informed by key values and child-centered approaches:

- Equity: racial, economic and geographic
- Prenatal to age 5
- Whole Child
- Multigenerational
- High Quality
- Parent Directed
- Mixed Delivery
- Research

Policy Agenda MinneMinds will lead:

Quality: Early Childhood Systems

- Identify administrative reforms to early childhood systems to better reflect the needs of families and children.
- Increase collaboration and coordination among schools and early childhood providers to improve outcomes for families.
- Support and fund state-wide expansion and implementation of a culturally and linguistically relevant Kindergarten Entry Profile (KEP) via approved assessment tools.

Quality: Parent Aware

- Fully fund Parent Aware to continue the expansion of high-quality early learning programs throughout Minnesota. Support existing rated providers and grow from 3,000 programs to 4,400.
- Continue ongoing support for rated providers and implementation of improvement strategies, with a priority on stronger recognition and incorporation of culturally relevant needs.

Access: Early Learning Scholarships

- Support efforts to fully-fund scholarships for low-income 3- and 4-year-olds, providing access to high-quality early childhood care and education for 3,800 children not yet served. Prioritize children with highest needs, including children in foster care or child protection, as well as those with teen parents or with families facing homelessness.
- Increase scholarship funding for high-priority 0 to 2-year-olds (siblings, homeless, foster care, child protection, teen parents). Serve 3,800 new, at-risk infants and toddlers.
- Update scholarship caps to provide greater flexibility to meet the needs of children and families.

Access: Home Visiting

- Increase access and funding for targeted home visiting programs to include 7,000 children living in poverty.
- Increase flexibility and access to targeted home visiting programs.
- Increase collaboration and coordination among home visiting and early childhood providers to improve outcomes for families.

Policy Agenda MinneMinds will support:

Economic Development: Provider Pipeline and Workforce Growth

- Support expanding state grants for retaining and increasing the number of providers, tax credits for families to afford child care and for businesses to invest in high-quality care and education, increase investments in programs like TEACH and RETAIN for early childhood and afterschool professionals, and bonding projects related to high-quality early education.

Access: Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)

- Support family and provider-friendly provisions of federal reauthorization and serve more CCAP eligible families.
- Ensure CCAP eligibility and access for families who are homeless.

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Start Early Funders Coalition:

- Better Way Foundation
- Blandin Foundation
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Foundation
- Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation
- GHR Foundation
- Greater Twin Cities United Way
- Health Partners
- Initiative Foundation
- Knowledge Fund
- Mardag Foundation
- Medica Foundation
- Morgan Family Foundation
- Northland Foundation
- Northwest Minnesota Foundation
- Park Nicollet
- Sauer Family Foundation
- Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation
- Southwest Initiative Foundation
- The Minneapolis Foundation
- The Saint Paul Foundation
- The Sheltering Arms Foundation
- United Ways of Greater Minnesota
- West Central Initiative
- Women's Foundation of Minnesota

Supporting Organizations

- 360 Communities
- A Chance to Grow
- Adopt A Classroom
- African American Leadership Forum
- Amherst H. Wilder Foundation
- Becker County Early Childhood Initiative
- Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis
- Centro, Inc.
- Child Care Providers Together Local 3400-AFSCME
- Children's Defense Fund
- Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota
- Children's Theatre Company
- Children, Youth and Family Services Program – RCTC
- Clay County Early Childhood Initiative

- CLUES
- City of Saint Paul
- Close Gaps by 5
- Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans
- Creative Kids Academy
- Dodge Nature Preschool
- Douglas County Early Childhood Initiative
- East Neighborhood Services
- Educators 4 Excellence
- FamilyWise
- First Children's Finance
- Focus on the Children Conference
- Grant County Early Childhood Initiative
- Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery
- Growth and Justice
- Hallie Q. Brown Community Center
- Health Partners
- Hmong American Partnership
- Interfaith Outreach & Community Partners
- Jewish Community Action
- Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis
- Joyce Preschool
- Kids At Risk Action
- LDA Minnesota
- Lifetrack Resources
- Mayflower Early Childhood Center
- Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board
- Minnesota Achievement Gap Committee
- Minnesota Association for Family and Early Education
- Minnesota Association for the Education of Young Children
- Minnesota Business for Early Learning
- Minnesota Career College Association
- Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
- Minnesota Child Care Association
- Minnesota Child Care Aware
- Minnesota Coalition for Targeted Home Visiting
- Minnesota Community Education Association
- Minnesota Council of Churches
- Minnesota Council of Latino Affairs
- Minnesota Elementary School Principals Association
- Minnesota Head Start Association, Inc.
- Minnesota Licensed Family Child Care Association
- Minnesota Literacy Council
- Minnesota Montessori Network
- Minnesota Parent Teacher Association
- Minnesota School-Age Care Alliance
- Minnesota State Alliance of YMCA's
- Minnesota Visiting Nurse Agency (MVNA)
- Minnesota Working Family Resource Center
- Montessori Center of Minnesota
- Mountain Lake Early Childhood Initiative
- Northside Achievement Zone
- Nurse-Family Partnership
- Parents as Teachers
- People Serving People
- Phyllis Wheatley Community Center
- Pillsbury United Communities
- Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota
- Ramsey County Attorney's Office
- Rasmussen College
- Rochester Area Foundation
- Rochester Community and Technical College
- Safe Passage for Children of Minnesota
- Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood
- ServeMinnesota
- Southside Family Nurturing Center
- St. David's Center
- Stevens County Early Childhood Initiative
- The Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage
- The Family Partnership
- The Family Place
- Think Small
- Way to Grow
- White Earth Tribal Council
- Working Family Resource Center
- YWCA of Minneapolis

