



MEDIA ADVISORY

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Ohio Children's Caucus to Discuss the State of Ohio's Childcare

*Ohio has the **third lowest** eligibility threshold in the nation for Publicly Funded Childcare at 145% of the federal poverty level.*

COLUMBUS, OH — On Monday, members of the Ohio General Assembly and [Ohio Legislative Children's Caucus](#) will receive expert presentations on the status of childcare support in Ohio as the General Assembly and members of Congress consider changes to the state and federal programs which are critical to the development of our youngest children. High quality childcare lays a strong foundation for a child's early development and future success. It also enables Ohio families to participate in the workforce and supports the economic vitality of the state.

- What:** Ohio Legislative Children's Caucus Meeting: **Childcare in Ohio: Critical Foundation for Children and a Business Imperative**
- When:** 2:30 p.m., Monday, May 19, 2025
- Who:** Lynanne Gutierrez, CEO and President, Groundwork Ohio
Julie Stone, Executive Director, Ohio Head Start Association, Incorporated
Qianna Tidmore, Executive Director, Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children
- Where:** This meeting will be via Zoom. Please click here to [register](#). If you have any questions or troubles with the link, contact Dr. Stanford.

According to a report by Policy Matters Ohio ([Ohio's Childcare Crisis, 2025](#)),

- The average annual cost of one infant's childcare in Ohio is over \$800 each month.
- Ohio has the **third lowest** eligibility threshold in the nation for Publicly Funded Childcare at 145% of the federal poverty level for children 0-5 years old. Ohio was **last** in the nation.
- 39% of Ohioans live in a childcare desert, which are most prevalent in rural areas of the state and Appalachia Ohio.

In addition, a recent United States Chamber of Commerce Foundation study reported that inadequate access to childcare is a major economic barrier, driving parents out of the workforce, reducing state tax revenues, and placing a strain on household budgets ([Untapped-Potential-Ohio.pdf](#)).

At this virtual Caucus meeting, the state of Ohio's childcare system and the implications of proposals for change will be discussed. Attendees will hear presentations from Lynanne Gutierrez, CEO and President, Groundwork Ohio; Julie Stone, Executive Director, Ohio Head Start Association, Incorporated; and Qianna Tidmore, Executive Director, Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children

Video recording will be made available for media upon request.

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