



### Why Focus on Policy?

**"The Task Force believes the community's greatest leverage for tackling intergenerational poverty and breaking down barriers to economic opportunity will come from focusing on systemic and structural change versus relying upon programmatic intervention."**

## Policy is Mentioned 57 Times in the Task Force Report

- Address "damaging policy failures, such as those in housing, education, transit... criminal justice and immigration."
- "Advocate for system and policy changes."
- "Develop state policy agendas with other communities for larger impact and support."

### LOO's Role in Policy



We are a proxy between organizations across sectors and advocates from urban and rural communities to address needed policy interventions for improving economic mobility.

### Vision



Increase access, availability, and quality of child care through local, regional and statewide advocacy.

## Why Early Care and Education (ECE)?



Caregivers are unable to fully participate in the workforce

200,000 NC parents cite lack of child care as the primary barrier to employment



Current child care models are unsustainable

Costs are too high for parents and wages are too low for workers



Study estimates the child care crisis costs North Carolina \$3.5 billion each year in lost earnings, productivity, and revenue.



# Leading on Opportunity

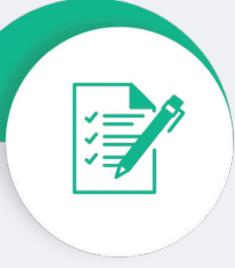


## Policy Priorities

Areas for Action in Early Care and Education



Increase Funding  
for Child Care  
Providers



Improve Family  
Eligibility Requirements  
(more access)



Increase Wages  
for Child Care  
Workers

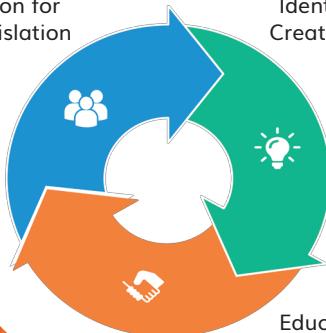


Reduce Barriers for  
Expanding Child  
Care Options

## Our Primary Workstreams

### State

Catalyze action for  
ECE policy legislation



### Local

Identify and Support  
Creative ECE solutions

**Regional**  
Educate stakeholders  
about ECE policy priorities

## Our Current Approach to ECE Policy

### Tactics

### Examples



Educate  
stakeholders  
about ECE policy  
priorities

Meetings & presentations  
with regional business  
alliances, existing coalitions,  
etc.; Host panel discussions



Build support for  
local, creative  
solutions

Identify zoning changes  
that could expand access  
& availability of child care



Catalyze action  
for ECE legislation

Participate in panel  
discussions; Contacting  
state legislators

## How can you get involved?

- Connect us with others at your organization (i.e., lobbyist, communications, etc.)
- Follow us on social media @OpportunityCLT and attend policy events/convenings
- Talk about policy interventions! Share this information with others

For more information visit  
[www.leadingonopportunity.org](http://www.leadingonopportunity.org) or contact  
[tjameson@leadingonopportunity.org](mailto:tjameson@leadingonopportunity.org).

