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
- Studies estimate the child care crisis costs North Carolina $3.5 billion each year in lost earnings, productivity, and revenue.
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

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<th>Tactics</th>
<th>Examples</th>
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<td>Educate stakeholders about ECE policy priorities</td>
<td>Meetings &amp; presentations with regional business alliances, existing coalitions, etc.; Host panel discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Build support for local, creative solutions</td>
<td>Identify zoning changes that could expand access &amp; availability of child care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catalyze action for ECE legislation</td>
<td>Participate in panel discussions; Contacting state legislators</td>
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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 or contact tjameson@leadingonopportunity.org.