

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD | APRIL 6-12, 2025

WHEREAS, the first years of a child's life are the period of the most rapid brain development and lay the foundation for all future learning; and

WHEREAS, 67.9% of children in California have all available parents in the workforce; and

WHEREAS, high-quality early care and education helps build strong developmental foundations for young children during the years of greatest brain development, leading to positive outcomes for individual children, and helping them be better prepared for school and more likely to succeed in life; and

WHEREAS, high-quality early childhood education depends on high-quality early childhood educators who ensure that children, supported by families, have the early experiences they need for a strong foundation; and

WHEREAS, the cost of high-quality early childhood education payment rates provided to early childhood educators to provide high-quality early care and education services to low-income children do not cover the costs of quality; and

WHEREAS, young children need skilled, educated, competent, consistent, and compensated early childhood educators; and

WHEREAS, working families need sufficient high-quality child care spaces beginning at birth to be available in the community; and

WHEREAS, early childhood educators need access to supports and services for themselves and the children in their care, including infant early childhood mental health consultation, coaching from early intervention therapists serving children, support staff providing comprehensive service; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the First 5 Butte Children and Families Commission does hereby proclaim **April 6-12 as the Week of the Young Child** and does hereby recognize that when our society invests in educators, we also invest in children and families.

February 7, 2025

Shelley Hart, PhD
Chair

*Commission: Paul Arnold (Alternate Commissioner), DeAnne Blankenship, Dr. Shaun-Adrián Choflá,
Dr. Shelley Hart (Chair), Scott Kennelly, Dr. Holly Kralj, Dr. Rumneet Kullar, Matthew Reddam, Tami Ritter, Tiffany Rowe*