



THINK BABIES™ NC

Project Overview

The *Think Babies NC* initiative is designed to ensure that North Carolina's young children, ages 0-3, and their families benefit from effective public policies, programs and funding that promote a solid foundation for healthy beginnings, supported families, and quality early care and learning experiences. This project will create an effective and engaged coalition of state policymakers and early childhood stakeholders who will work together to raise public awareness and build political will to improve policies and programs for infants and toddlers and their families. As a result, more young children will have access to quality early learning experiences and live in supported families who have the necessary resources to further their child's healthy development and school readiness.

Major Goals:

- Early childhood leaders, experts and stakeholders will create a shared public policy plan and agenda to promote healthy beginnings, supported families, and quality early care and learning experiences for children ages 0-3 and their families.
- A state-wide advocacy coalition is established to advance infant/toddler policies and programs for children ages 0-3 and their families.
- A cadre of infant/toddler advocates are trained and actively engage with the Coalition at the federal, state and local levels to advance infant/toddler policies, programs, and funding.
- A comprehensive public engagement and communications campaign on infant and toddler early childhood development and learning is created and promoted statewide and in local communities.
- Federal and state policymakers are informed about the importance and benefits of strong public policies and programs for early childhood development and learning, and take action to increase school readiness for young children ages 0-3 and their families.

Major Partners: NC Early Education Coalition, NC Department of Health and Human Services, NC Early Childhood Foundation, NC Child, NC Partnership for Children, MomsRising

Funders: ZERO TO THREE and the Pritzker Children's Initiative

About the NC Early Education Coalition

The North Carolina Early Education Coalition works to ensure that all children have access to high quality early care and learning experiences. Since 1990, the organization has highlighted the proven power of quality early childhood education by sharing information and resources with parents, professionals and policymakers.

For more information:

Visit our website: www.ncearlyeducationcoalition.org/think-babies.html

Follow us on social media: [facebook.com/ncearlyedcoalition](https://www.facebook.com/ncearlyedcoalition) and [@NCEarlyEdCo](https://twitter.com/NCEarlyEdCo) on Twitter

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