



PRESS RELEASE

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## Virginia Parents Highlight Ongoing Child Care Struggles Across the Commonwealth

### [Testimonials](#) Demonstrate the Impact of Lack of Access to Quality, Affordable Child Care on Virginia's Working Families

**Richmond, VA** – Today, the Virginia Promise Partnership and the Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy (CFFE) released a [collection of firsthand stories](#) highlighting the ongoing child care struggles faced by parents and families across the Commonwealth.

Many families across Virginia are unable to find quality, affordable child care options that fit their needs and preferences. Without child care, children are missing key skill-building opportunities; parents are reducing their work hours or leaving the workforce altogether; and businesses are seeing negative impacts on labor force recruitment, retention, and productivity.

As the Commonwealth continues efforts to strengthen Virginia's early learning system, we must ensure that those most directly impacted by child care challenges—especially families—are shaping our policies and decision-making. The Partnership's Parent Advisory spotlights family voices and lived experiences in order to advance policies that address the growing demand for child care services as well as meet the needs of Virginia's families.

Ten members of the Virginia Promise Partnership's Parent Advisory – representing communities across the state – share their child care experiences in this [special publication](#), providing a glimpse into the child care challenges Virginia parents face every single day.

“Virginia families need quality, affordable child care so that parents can work and children can thrive,” said **Tomashia Cornitcher, Vice Chair of the Virginia Promise Partnership Parent Advisory**. “More must be done to secure thoughtful, long-term investments in Virginia's early childhood education infrastructure in order to support our children, families, communities, and economy.”

#### **About Virginia Promise Partnership**

The [Virginia Promise Partnership](#) is a coalition of 30 leading organizations working together with a growing network of advocates and champions to achieve our bold goal of ensuring all Virginia families have access to affordable, quality child care by 2030.

Under the leadership of our Parent and Provider Advisories paired with our diverse array of member organizations, the Partnership grounds our advocacy work in the voices of parents, providers, and businesses from across Virginia.

**About Family Friendly Virginia**

[Family Friendly Virginia](#) is working to build a better future for working people and a more stable economy by fighting for smart policies that lift families and make our communities stronger.

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