



U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation Report: Key Takeaways for Washington Businesses

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation released a report, *Workforce of Today, Workforce of Tomorrow, The Business Case for High Quality Childcare*¹, in June 2017 making the business case for strengthening America's child care system.

Child Care Is America's Most Important Early Education Program

"Indeed, the commonly-made distinction between 'care' and 'education' in early childhood is a false one...Childcare is early education, regardless of the building it occurs in or what we call it. The question is only whether it's advancing or impeding children's learning."

Child Care Is Strengthening Today's Workforce

"As childcare now plays an essential role in children's early learning and development, it also has a critical impact on the current workforce (many of whom are parents) and on businesses (which employ parents)."

Child Care Is Strengthening Tomorrow's Workforce

"While enabling parents of young children to enter and remain in the workforce, childcare is simultaneously laying the human capital foundation – whether well or poorly – for much of our nation's future workforce...Investing in children's earliest years is a long-term, upstream strategy for developing our nation's human capital."

Child Care Small Businesses Contribute to Our Economy

"Nationally, the childcare industry's 2012 expenditures totaled \$21.2 billion in compensation and an estimated \$15.6 billion in purchases of goods and services. The regional impact of that spending is amplified because the production, delivery, and consumption of child care are entirely local."



The Key Role of Business Leadership

"Businesses can make a pivotal difference in the lives of our nation's young children by advancing high-quality, developmentally and educationally sound childcare, which ensures that children have the chance to develop well and begin kindergarten ready to thrive in school, work, and life."

Notes:

1. Katharine B. Stevens, *Workforce of Today, Workforce of Tomorrow: The Business Case for High-Quality Childcare*, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, June 2017, https://www.uschamberfoundation.org/sites/default/files/Workforce%20of%20Today%2CWorkforce%20of%20Tomorrow%20Report_0.pdf