Building Better Futures
A Message from our Executive Director

My first six months as the CEO of Early Childhood Alliance (ECA) have been a whirlwind of learning, meeting new people, and fantastic experiences. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our talented staff who show up every single day dedicating themselves to loving the children of our community. They provide learning experiences that allow each child the opportunity to meet or exceed every developmental milestone. I have observed firsthand their care and connection to both children and their families. They are such an important part of making ECA the high-quality resource that we are!

In 2022, we expanded our services to Kosciusko County in partnership with Instrumental Machine & Development (IMD) in Warsaw, IN. A home was purchased, renovated, and furnished by the company to provide high-quality early education and care for children of their employees. We are proud to operate this location and excited that amazing companies like IMD see the child care crisis their communities are and ready to act.

Our Shared Services Network worked toward our mission by helping 21 child care providers in our community create and maintain sustainable business models. These providers are dedicated to increasing the capacity of resources for young children and supporting their families. This strong group of individual business owners are model learners who have sought out resources to continue their professional growth. We are so proud to grow alongside them!

I am awed of the support that our organization receives from many individuals and businesses who share our mission in building better futures for young children by promoting and providing excellence in early child care and education. Whether your support was through financial contributions or in painting interior walls in our learning program locations, we are beyond grateful that you made the decision to invest in our efforts.

If these six months are any indication of the future, the sky is the limit for what we can do for the children, families, workforce, and economy of this region. Together we can do amazing things!

With gratitude,
Dr. Amber Targgart, Ed.D
Executive Board Officers

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Vice President: Ann Waters, Travel Leaders
Treasurer: Amber Bauer

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Kelly Rensler, AEP
Hayley Sauer, Director of Elementary Education, Fort Wayne Community Schools
Nick Toney, Lake City Bank
David Jackson, Canterbury Schools
Jessica Waggoner, Do It Best

Thank You
By the Numbers

200+ CHILDREN SERVED
ECA Learning Programs
Providing foundations for learning for children ages 0-5 at our high quality, nationally-accredited Learning Programs at two locations: Beacon Learning Program and East Wayne Street Learning Program.

52 INTERNS TRAINED
Child Development Associate Credential
Internationally-recognized competency standards, which guide early care professionals as they work toward becoming qualified teachers of young children.

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26 MEMBER SITES
Shared Services Network
A hub of resources that help early child care businesses achieve financial sustainability and drive strong childhood outcomes by sharing administrative tasks and pooling resources.

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1556 FAMILIES SUBSCRIBED
Bright By Text
A nationwide text messaging service that helps parents and caregivers of children prenatal to age eight make the most of everyday interactions through free tips, information, games, and resources.

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80%
of ECA families receive some amount of scholarship for Learning Program tuition.

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Child and Adult Care Food Program
We help children get great nutritious meals in child care, assuring parents that their children are well-fed, assist providers with education, and provide training and partial meal reimbursement.

5250 BOOKS DISTRIBUTED
Books & Docs
books accompanied with important resources and messages so that families have the tools and strategies to provide critical experiences for their young children. Given out at Parkview OB, and Parkview Family Birthing Centers.

90% of families felt receiving books and info helped them learn about the importance of reading aloud and has encouraged them to read more frequently to their child(ren).

10 FAMILIES SAFE SLEEP TRAINING
Learning Around Town
Helps babies in 46806 zip code reach their first birthday by providing education and safe sleep supplies.

SAFE SLEEP ITEMS DISTRIBUTED:
• 153 Sleep Sacks
• 100 Multicultural Children’s Books
• 21 Pack ‘n Plays
• 42 Pack ‘n Play Sheets

4091 KITS DISTRIBUTED
SparKits Early Learning Kits
Learning Around Town
Helps babies in 46806 zip code reach their first birthday by providing education and safe sleep supplies.

SAFE SLEEP ITEMS DISTRIBUTED:
• 153 Sleep Sacks
• 100 Multicultural Children’s Books
• 21 Pack ‘n Plays
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3025 CHILDREN PROVIDED WITH NUTRITIOUS MEALS
Child and Adult Care Food Program
We help children get great nutritious meals in child care, assuring parents that their children are well-fed, assist providers with education, and provide training and partial meal reimbursement.

120 Child Care Homes Served
Child Care Centers Served (Including ECA Programs) 17
16 Counties Served
Provider Training Hours 1100

90% of families felt receiving books and info helped them learn about the importance of reading aloud and has encouraged them to read more frequently to their child(ren).
Testimonials

“**My kids love their teachers, and their teachers love them!**”

I have enjoyed having my boys enrolled with ECA. Every single day we see what our kids have learned from their teachers. It’s just amazing. My kids love their teachers, and their teachers love them! To teach is to touch a life forever. Thank you so much for this amazing opportunity. This scholarship is an amazing blessing for my family and me.

-Mother of Marcos & Dylan D.

ECA utilizes a highly effective research based and developmentally appropriate curriculum, which sets ECA apart from other preschools and daycares in our area. I value the academic, social, and emotional education my children are receiving at ECA. In addition, I am grateful for the teachers and staff at ECA as they genuinely care about my children and family. When we walk through the halls, every staff member knows my children and takes an interest in them.

-Jaclyn Wuest, mother

“I value the academic, social, and emotional education my children are receiving at ECA.”
Financial Facts

Funding Sources
- 52% Federal Grants
- 32% Program Service Fees
- 12% Contributions
- 2% Misc. Other
- 1% United Way
- 1% Non-Federal Grants
- 1% United Way
- 1% Non-Federal Grants
- 1% Non-Federal Grants
- 1% United Way
- 1% Non-Federal Grants

Annual Budget
$6,049,202

Allocation of Funds
- Children’s Learning Programs: 47%
- Childcare Food Program: 30%
- Administration: 11%
- Family Engagement: 6%
- Shared Services: 2%
- Loss on Investments: 2%
- Fundraising: 2%
Join us for an evening full of laughter and connection as we gather to support young children in our community. Enjoy amazing food, drinks, and live music while bidding on exciting auction packages and experiences. All proceeds will help build better futures for children ages 0-5.

Learn more: eca4kids.org/letsplay23

The Lodge at Camp Red Cedar, 6-9 pm

Wednesday, September 13th