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The Messenger & Message



5,000+ Police chiefs, sheriffs, and prosecutors who advocate for solutions that steer kids away from crime and promote public safety.



2,000+ Business executives from small business to top corporations who promote solutions that create a skilled workforce.

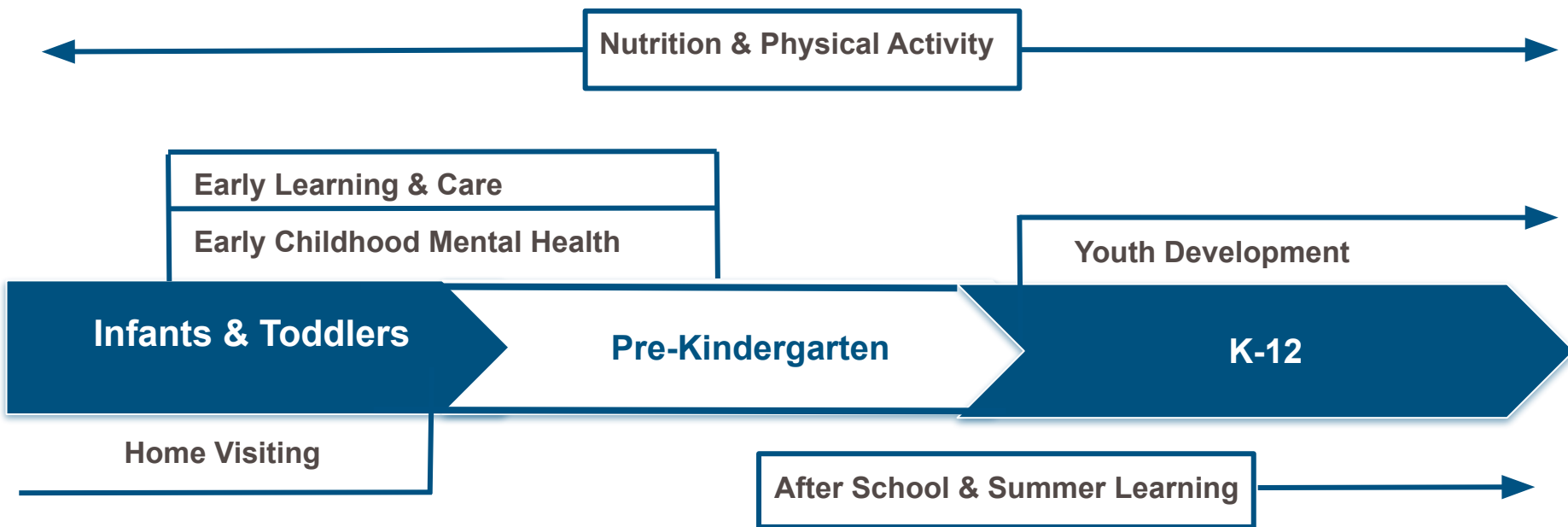


800+ Retired admirals and generals from every branch of the military who promote solutions that strengthen national security.



Policy Issues

CSA advocates for policies that range from birth to postsecondary. You can see which policy issues we advocate for in the timeline below.



CSA's Advocacy Model

Assessment policy landscape, research fit, and message development.

-Recruit members in target legislative districts
-Prepare members for advocacy through reports, trainings, briefings, and webinars

Phase 1: Research and Plan

Phase 2: Collaborate and Strategize

Phase 3: Recruit and Educate Members

Phase 4: Mobilize and Advocate

Phase 5: Evaluate and Iterate

-Build relationships with allies and partners
-Collaboratively develop the campaign strategy and Identify key legislative targets

-Policymakers meetings, public testimony
-Report releases, op-eds, site visits, sign-on Letters



In Action in Arizona



REPORT

High-Quality Early Childhood Programs are Key for a Strong Arizona

Home visiting, child care, and preschool can help grow the economy, increase public safety, and enhance national security

NEWS

SANTAN SUN NEWS | DECEMBER 4, 2022

Chandler general sounds alarm about home visits act

SANTAN SUN NEWS STAFF

A retired air force major general who lives in Chandler is asking citizens to write their congressional representatives urging passage of the bipartisan Jackie Walorski Maternal and Child Home Visiting Reauthorization Act of 2022.

Unless the measure is passed by Dec. 16, said General (Ret) Terrence "Terry" Feehan, funding would end for voluntary home visiting, which connects professionals, such as a nurse, with families in the nation's most vulnerable communities.

"These visits help parents avoid harmful practices for their infants and toddlers, such as poor nutrition, inadequate medical care, and even maltreatment, all tied to long-term developmental issues," Feehan said. "Research shows that home visiting can boost long-term academic success and reduce child abuse and health problems."

Feehan said continued funding is critical to the nation's defense at a time when the country's military readiness is being hindered by the fact that "military ineptitude among young Americans has skyrocketed to an unthinkable 77 percent."

Feehan is a member of Mission: Readiness, an organization of retired admirals and generals that work for ensuring kids stay in school, stay fit, and stay out of trouble.

But Feehan also speaks from personal experience about the visitation program's effectiveness because he comes from one of those families it helps.

"There are a handful of moments in every person's life that shape them into the adult they'll become," he said. "In my case, I had a single mother who struggled with drugs and was briefly incarcerated. She did her best, but things weren't always easy. These are difficult obstacles to overcome, and, sadly, these challenges are too familiar to many of our nation's children."

"Thankfully, I had other positive influences in my young life — people who helped me pivot from difficult moments to a path of lifelong success. One of those people was my ninth-grade algebra teacher, who instilled the idea of unlimited opportunity and potential."

He noted, "Not every child who faces difficult challenges has these kinds of positive influences."

and as a retired general and member of the military-leader organization Mission: Readiness," said Feehan.

"Unfortunately, funding for these programs is set to expire in less than a month. That makes their reauthorization all the more important." The good news is that there's a bill currently in play that would not only reauthorize, but expand funding for these programs."

Feehan said that working with Mission: Readiness "introduced me to the impact of programs that reach children and their parents from even before birth."

"Providing crucial early support that dramatically impacts the life of the child. This impact helps unlock the child's own unlimited potential, including serving in the military, if they so choose," he said.

He noted that the state Legislature this year added \$10 million in 2022 for these programs. "But Arizona needs much more to expand access throughout the state."

"An immediate threat to these programs is the December 16th deadline to renew the primary funding source for home visits — the federal Maternal

Arizona families will lose access," he added.

A recent report from the Council for a Strong America, the parent organization of Mission: Readiness, found that only 3,000 families — 2.3 percent of Arizona's over 85,000 highest-priority families — receive home visiting services.

Hope is not lost," Feehan said. "This bill is currently moving through Congress, but more work is needed to drive its passage."

"The Walorski Act would greatly increase MECHV funding over five years, with an increase for every state, including Arizona," he said, adding the programs would allow programs to continue virtual home visits, guarantee at least one in-person visit a year, strengthen and retain the home-visiting workforce and double the tribal set-aside so Arizona's tribes would have better access to home visiting programs.

"The Jackie Walorski Act is an inspirational example of Republicans and Democrats coming together on key issues to support America's families," Feehan said, adding that Americans' support "will empower more children for tomorrow's future."

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Cocino Voices: Federal investment in our children will strengthen Arizona | CocominoVoices.com
https://cocominovoices.com/cocino-voices/federal-investment-in-our-children-will-strengthen-arizona/article_d5842506-4657-71ec-0175-0776503084.html

COCINNO VOICES

Cocino Voices: Federal investment in our children will strengthen Arizona

WILLIAM KING, MARY ALEXANDER AND JEFFREY BUCHANAN
May 26, 2022

Our country cannot reach its potential if our children cannot reach theirs.

The three of us believe in that potential. But we also see a nation where many parents, especially mothers, struggle to stay in the workforce due to child care issues. A nation where some children begin kindergarten woefully behind their peers. A nation where many families grapple with financial stability. A nation where a lack of educational attainment can lead to involvement with crime. A nation where 71% of young people of prime recruiting age couldn't even qualify for military service if they wanted to, with obesity being the primary medical disqualifier.

However, there's a clear path forward toward a strong America, and it begins with significant, sustained investments in priorities that can shift the outcomes we just described.

Federal lawmakers should consider proposals that will make child care more affordable and more available, expand access to free, quality preschool for more than six million children, extend enhancements to the Child Tax Credit (CTC), and bolster nutrition-related provisions that will help kids grow up healthier.

People are also reading...

ReadyNation Arizona \$4.7B Economic Impact Report



New report: The child care crisis costs Arizona \$4.7B every year



Parent survey

- Representative sample of 300+ Arizona parents of children ages birth to 5
- Asked how child care challenges impacted their work lives, across four dimensions:
 - productivity
 - time at work
 - disruptions
 - career pathways



Lower productivity

Due to child care problems, over the past three months, have you:



Less time at work

As a result of child care problems, have you ever:

**Reduced your regular
work hours**

42%

**Had your pay or
hours reduced**

32%

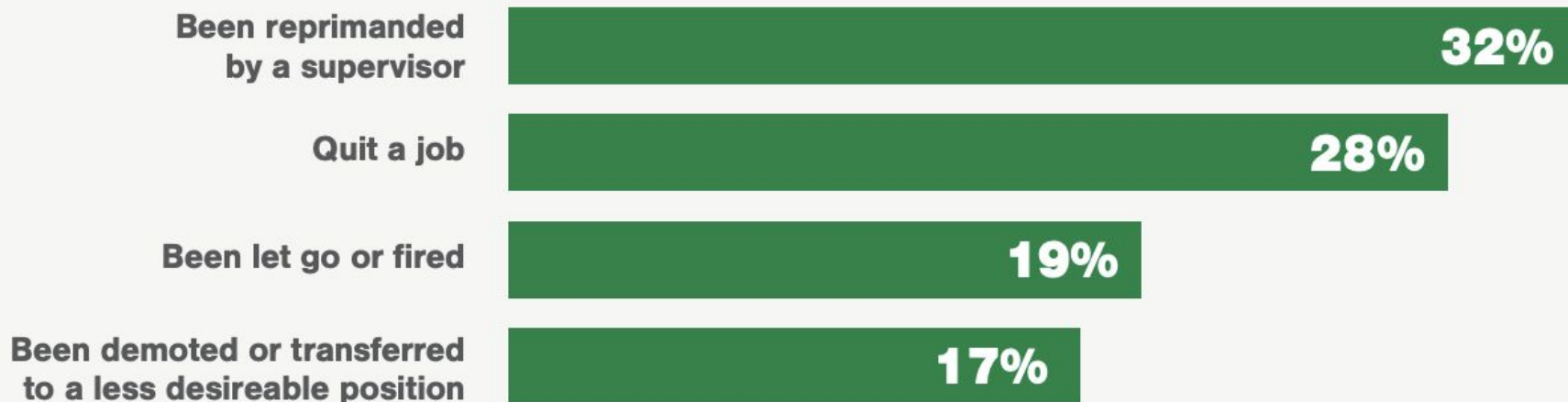
**Changed from full-time
to part-time work**

32%



Work disruptions

As a result of child care problems, have you ever:



Diminished career pathways

As a result of child care problems, have you ever:

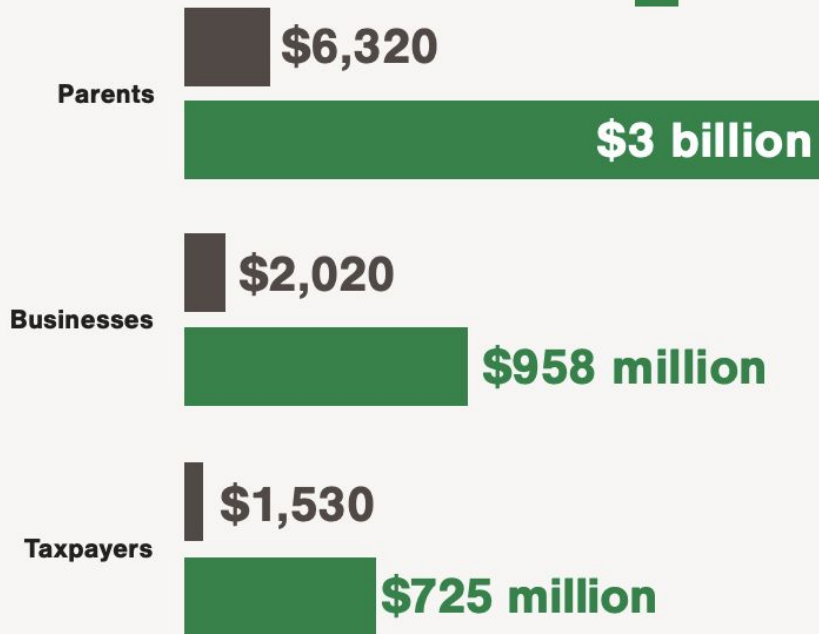


Economic impacts on AZ parents, employers, and taxpayers

Insufficient care for children under the age of 5 costs individuals, businesses, and the state billions of dollars each year.

Annual aggregate economic burden each year a child is under age 5:

■ Individual average
■ Total



How child care problems hurt the economy

Working Parents	Businesses	Taxpayers
Lost earnings now from lower productivity and employment	Lost revenue now from lower output	Lost revenue now from lower incomes
Extra costs of job search to match work with child care	Extra costs due to absences, disruptions, hiring	Smaller federal, state and local tax base and revenue
Lost future earnings from less work experience and fewer skills	Lost revenue in the future due to lower workforce capital	Lost revenue in the future due to weaker economic growth

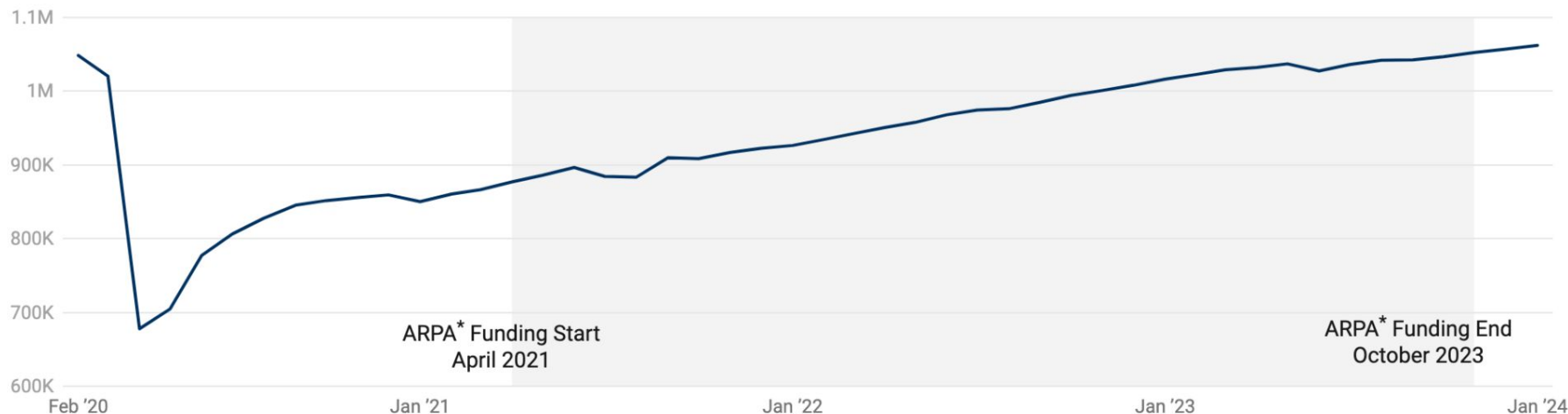


COVID-19 decimated the child care industry

FIGURE 1

Total Child Care Industry Jobs Nationwide, Monthly through January 2024

Examining Employment, Including During the Period of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding



*ARPA stands for American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

Chart: Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, UC Berkeley • Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Current Employment Statistics," Series Code: CES6562440001, available at <https://beta.bls.gov/dataViewer/view/timeseries/CES6562440001> • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

Conclusions

Arizona's child care crisis exacts a huge economic toll in the state, beyond causing problems for parents and children

Policy action, at both the state and federal levels, is essential



Thank You!

