



Arkansas Early Childhood Commission Agenda

April 18, 2023 - 10:00am

DHS Conference Room A & B

Donaghey Plaza South

700 Main Street

Little Rock, AR 72201

Mission Statement: As good stewards of the public trust, we will advise the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education in supporting the optimal and ongoing development of young children in Arkansas.

The AECC will provide support by:

- 1) Increase the number of high-quality infant and toddler programs
- 2) Engage families in the child's education through research-based programs that enhance child outcomes and success in school
- 3) Create an integrated system of professional development uniting the early childhood sectors-child care; HS; pre-k; public schools; early intervention and special education services. LeMoine, S. (2008). *Workforce Designs A Policy Blueprint for State Early Childhood Professional Development Systems*. National Association for the Education of Young Children. https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/user-74/workforce_designs.pdf
- 4) Support restructuring, expanding and growing Better Beginning/Quality Rating Improvement System
- 5) Strengthen and expand local and state partnerships with other agencies and organizations for connected action
- 6) Creating awareness of Health and Nutrition Programs and educate parents, children, and child care providers on the benefits of a healthy lifestyle

AGENDA

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| I. | Call to Order / Reading of Mission Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Welcome Rep. Denise Garner
House Committee on Education (1/25/26)❖ Welcome Stephanie Harmon
Subcommittee on Children & Youth of the
House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth
Legislative and Military Affairs (2/17/26) | Debbie Mays, Chair
Tonya Williams |
| II. | Approval of Minutes from 01/17/23 Meeting | Debbie Mays, Chair |
| III. | Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ DCCECE Commission Report❖ HSSCO/AHSA Update❖ ARPA Updates/Stabilization Grant❖ TEACH Update | Tonya Williams
Barbie Baxter
Tom Sheppard
Paul Lazenby |
| IV. | New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Act 237❖ New Family Childcare Network Advisor❖ Early Childhood Solutions❖ New AECC Chair Selection | Tonya Williams
Kathy Pillow Price
Elizabeth Scudder/Debbie Mays
Nominating Committee |
| V. | Summary/Announcements/Public Comments <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Upcoming Events❖ Public Comment | AECC Chair
AECC Chair |

VI. **Next Meeting**

❖ July 18, 2023 – Location -TBD

VII. **Request for Adjournment**

❖ Early Head Start Governing Board Meeting to Follow

AECC Chair

Ted Beck