

Groundwork Ohio's Policy Roadmap

Ohio's economic future depends on ensuring every child has a strong start in life by supporting working families and empowering parents.

We are committed to working with policymakers, families, professionals, and communities to accomplish the following:

1 Make work pay for working families with young children.

- **Increase access to affordable, quality child care** for working families to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).
- **Implement a refundable child tax credit for working parents** with young children.

2 Improve health outcomes for moms and babies.

- **Increase access to evidence-based home visiting programs** including expanding the Family Connects model statewide.
- **Invest and scale community impact models like Cradle Cincinnati** to encourage collaboration between women, clinicians, hospitals, managed care and other community partners to reduce infant and maternal mortality.

3 Support quality early learning experiences that prepare children for Kindergarten.

- **Invest in effective early childhood professionals** to meet the growing needs of young children by improving payment practices to child care programs.
- **Strengthen Early Development and Literacy Support:** Increase state investment in Early Intervention (Part C) to ensure timely evaluations, assessments, and service coordination for infants and toddlers with developmental delays, while also expanding access to evidence-based early literacy initiatives, including curricula grounded in the science of reading and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library of Ohio.