



Dear Friends,

After taking a moment to reflect on the presidential election outcome, the DCCNY team is focused on understanding what the results mean for the early childhood education sector, our member organizations and affiliated providers, the workforce, and the families we serve.

While future policies and plans are not yet clear, proposed changes in key areas - such as funding and regulations for the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Head Start Program, and other agencies and programs - could have significant and devastating implications for our sector. Regardless of what lies ahead, DCCNY remains committed to our mission and to the sector.

We will continue to:

- Support early childhood education providers and the workforce by advocating for fair wages, benefits, and sustainable funding models.
- Champion policies at the city, state, and federal levels that increase investments in early childhood education - critical foundations for economic stability, workforce participation, and the success of our youngest learners.
- Collaborate with advocacy partners and City and State leaders to ensure New York City leads the way in advancing universal, high-quality early childhood education.

Your voices are more important than ever. We encourage you to share how policies affect your programs, businesses, workforce, and families so we can advocate effectively on your behalf.

While the path ahead may be challenging, we are ready to work together to create a city where all children have access to high-quality early childhood education and where the early childhood workforce is fairly compensated and supported so that you can continue to nurture and educate children and support their families.

Thank you for your partnership and dedication to this critical work.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Tara N. Gardner". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Tara N. Gardner
Executive Director