

Every day we care about **child care**.

Dear Caregiver,

Trying Together is excited to announce that we have reached an important milestone in our overall efforts to advocate for you and the early care and education field.

Recently we worked with members of our state legislature to update language in Pennsylvania statutes and regulations to use the term “child care” instead of “day care”. In 2018, legislators passed a bill to require this change. This update is important because:

1. The impact of child care is much greater than a day.

Early childhood programs support lifelong success for children and families.

2. The words we use matter because they affect the public’s perception and the field’s own accountability in providing high quality care.

Using “child care” rather than “day care” recognizes the important work done by adults and children trying to learn, develop, and grow. Accurate language is critical to gaining respect and validation and ultimately investments in our under-resourced systems.

3. “Child care” acknowledges the complexity of a high-quality early care and education program.

High-quality child care programs employ, develop, and retain educated and credentialed staff. These professionals use a curriculum, lesson plans, and family engagement activities to promote the development of the whole child in cognitive, social, emotional, and physical domains.

In the coming months, Trying Together will share this change through our “Call It Child Care” initiative. Please join us! We are requesting that you and your staff begin to use the term “child care” when speaking about your work and also update your materials as needed. Trying Together is here to support your efforts and answer any questions you may have around this.

To access resources to help you communicate this change to your community, visit www.tryingtogether.org/callitchildcare for more information. #callitchildcare

Sincerely,



Cara Ciminillo, Executive Director Trying Together

#callitchildcare

