WHY CARE ABOUT CARE?

Intersectional and Intergenerational Policy Solutions for an Equitable Care Economy in a New World

April 20, 2020





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MODERATOR



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KATIE BETHELL PAID LEAVE FOR THE UNITED STATES

PANELISTS



Asset Funders <mark>Network</mark>



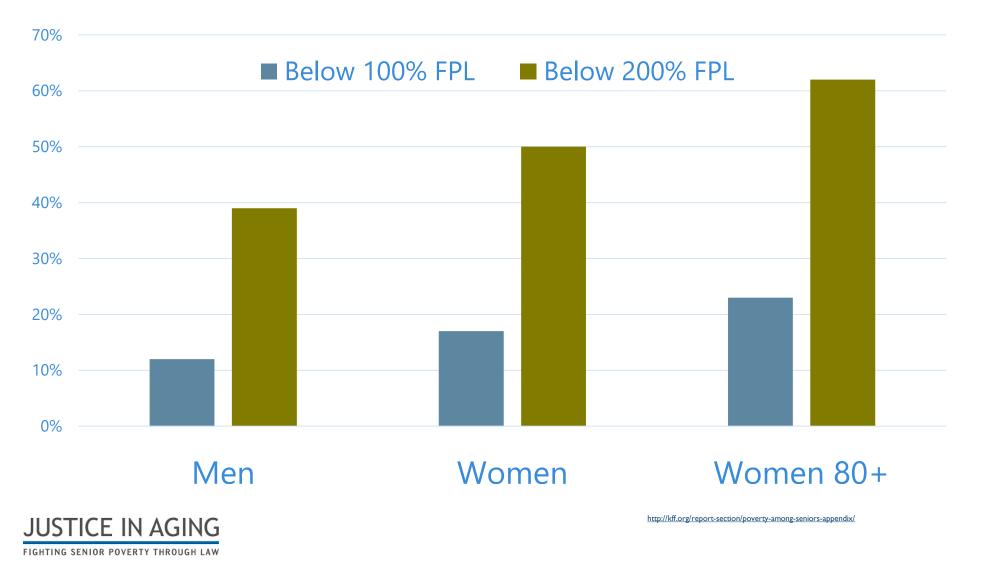
Amber Christ Directing Attorney

JUSTICE IN AGING

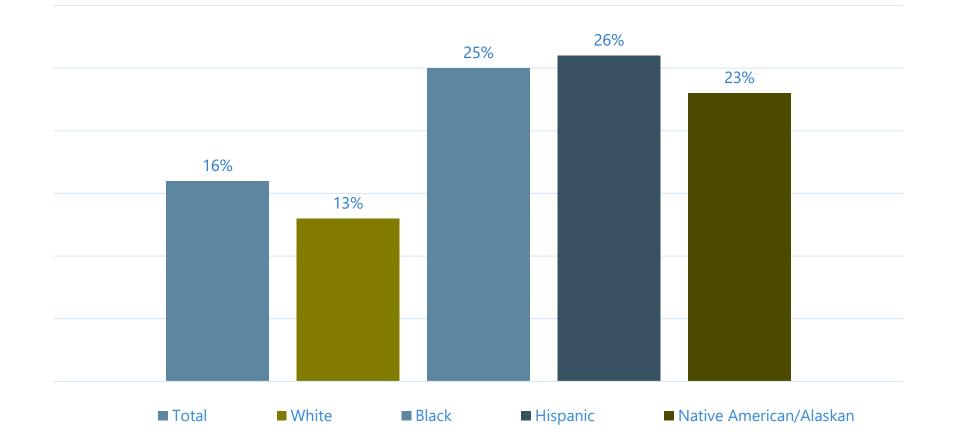
FIGHTING SENIOR POVERTY THROUGH LAW



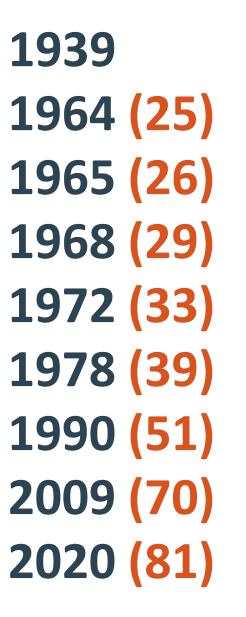
Older Women are More Likely to be Poor

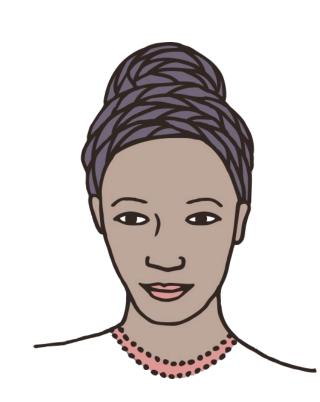


Older Women of Color More Likely to Live in Poverty











Lea Austin Executive Director



Center for the Study of Child Care Employment



Early Educator Job Quality *The Challenges of Caring for & Educating California's Youngest Children*



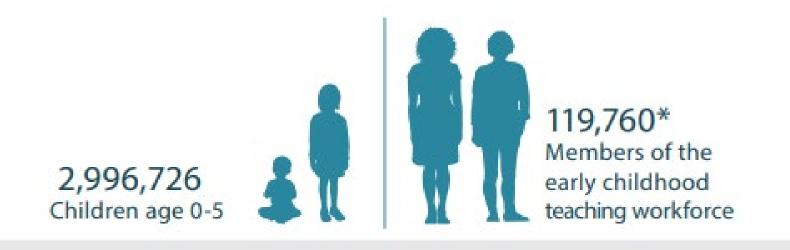
Lea J.E. Austin, Ed.D Director Center for the Study of Child Care Employment University of California, Berkeley





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A Profile of California's Early Educators



54% of home-based providers& 29% of center-based teaching staff are immigrants

97% are women

*Total includes the following occupations as defined by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment Statistics (OES): "child care workers," "preschool teachers, excluding special education," "preschool teachers, special education", "education administrators: preschool/child care center programs". These data do not include the self-employed, although home-based child care assistants, who are employees, are likely included in the "child care worker" category. Due to the limited data available across states in the OES, state-based surveys or registries may provide more comprehensive estimates of the ECE workforce.

A Profile of California's Early Educators

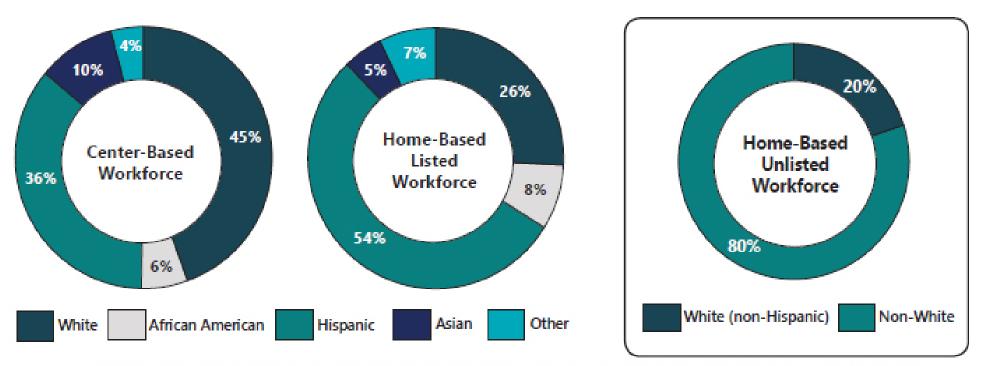


Figure 3. Race/Ethnicity of Early Childhood Workforce in California, 2012

Note: Because the sample size of home-based unlisted providers was too small to report the five race/ethnicity categories reported for the center-based workforce and the home-based listed workforce, these five race/ethnicity categories were collapsed into two categories for this segment of the workforce.

Source: Austin, L.J.E., Edwards, B., & Whitebook, M. (2018). California's ECE Workforce: What We Know Now and the Data Deficit That Remains. Berkeley, CA: Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, University of California, Berkeley. http://cscce.berkeley.edu/californias-ece-workforce/

California's Early Educators Are Among the Lowest Paid Workers in the State

| Occupation | Median wage |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Child care worker | \$12.29 |
| Preschool teacher | \$16.19 |
| Center director | \$23.91 |
| Kindergarten teacher | \$38.33 |
| Elementary teacher | \$45.17 |
| All workers | \$19.70 |

Earnings by Occupation

- In 2017 the median wage for child care workers was \$12.29, a 3% increase since 2015.
- For preschool teachers the median wage was \$16.19, a 3% increase since 2015.
- For preschool or child care center directors, the median wage was \$23.91, a 6% decrease since 2015.

Use of Public Income Supports (EITC, Medicaid, Food Stamps, TANF)

 Child care worker families' participation in one or more public income support programs: 58%

The Younger the Child, the Lower the Pay

Early educators working with infants and toddlers face a sizeable wage penalty compared to educators working only with children age three to five, not yet in kindergarten.

In California, an early educator working full-time exclusively with infants and toddler **earns \$6,240 less** than educators who work with preschool age children.

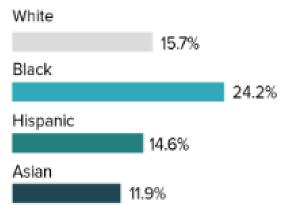
Source: 2018 Early Childhood Workforce Index

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There is a Racial Wage Gap



Early educators who are black are even more likely to be in poverty Shares in poverty, by race/ethnicity



Impact of COVID-19 on Child Care in California and the Country



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Katie Bethell Founder & Executive Director

PL+US Paid Leave for the United States



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS





Amber Christ Directing Attorney

JUSTICE IN AGING

FIGHTING SENIOR POVERTY THROUGH LAW





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PL+US Paid Leave for the United States



What PL+US Is Fighting For





THE PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE **OPPORTUNITY:**

What Research Tells Us About Designing a Paid Leave Program that Works for All

PL+US



Paid Family and Medical Leave

+ 100% paid for the lowest-wage working families

+ Include parental, caregiving, and personal medical leave

- + For all workers including those in the gig economy
- + **Social insurance** model based on what works in the states

Women + Paid Leave

- + Women already carry burden of care
 - Overrepresented in low wage + essential jobs
 - **2x likelier** than men to be unpaid caregivers
 - \$500 billion lost yearly
- Coronavirus & school closures = more burden on working women
- + Voters want expanded PFML access as a solution
 - **95%** want emergency coronavirus leave
 - **80%** want expanded access (both sick days and 3 months PFML)
 - **68%** more likely to vote for politicians who supported PFML and paid sick days
 - Highest support: low wage working people, women, and hourly workers



Updates from Capitol Hill and California

Capitol Hill

+ Families First: VERY NARROW ACCESS

- 10 emergency sick days for your own care or to care for a loved one with coronavirus or quarantined
- Partial wage replacement up to 12 weeks of paid family leave for school and child care closures
- **EXEMPT:** Employers with over 500 employees, small businesses with less than 50 employees that seek exemptions, health care workers/first responders
- + CARES Act: Expanded Unemployment Insurance

California

- Expanded state paid leave program to include quarantining and caregiving related to Covid-19
- Opt-in requirements leaving many Californians, particularly independent contractors without access
- California has expanded unemployment eligibility for all working people

More resources from California Work & Family Coalition: http://www.workfamilyca.org/

PL+US Recommendation:

- Remove exemptions all working people need access to emergency paid sick days and paid leave for caregiving and personal care.
- Long-term solution must include paid family and medical leave.

Q & A



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THANK YOU!

THE WEBINAR HAS CONCLUDED

