



Aaliyah Krzyzostaniak | New York



Aaliyah's story

Aaliyah is a working mother of two children under the age of 4, and has discovered that it is impossible to afford child care. Living in New York City, she considered herself lucky to find care for \$1,700 per month, when the average cost of care in her state can be anywhere from \$20,000 to \$25,000 annually. This financial burden is not reasonable for most families. In fact, many families across the country are forced to decide between having two parents in the workforce and having one parent stay home rather than pay for child care.

Aaliyah is using her experience to make the case for more funding to help parents pay for safe, high-quality child care so they can continue to work and contribute to the economy.

Congressional Request: 2017

CCAOA is requesting a \$1.4 billion increase (over the FY 2016 level) for next year to ensure that nearly 217,000 children and families don't lose access to care, and also to help states meet the requirements of the 2014 CCDBG law.

We ask that you co-sponsor the "Family and Medical Insurance Leave (FAMILY) Act of 2017" (H.R. 947/S.337), which would:

- Provide up to 12 weeks of leave for working families
- Enable workers to earn up to 66% of their monthly income while on leave
- Cover workers in all companies, no matter size
- Be administered through the newly created Office of Paid Family and Medical Leave

We also ask that you co-sponsor the "Promoting Affordable Childcare for Everyone (PACE) Act of 2017," which would expand and enhance the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC) to reflect the realities of modern-day child care costs. The PACE Act would make CDCTC refundable and increase the credit rate, which would greatly benefit millions of working families struggling to pay their monthly bills as child care is the greatest expense after housing.

Child Care Stats in NY
The cost of infant care in New York is nearly twice as much as the annual cost of tuition at a four year college.

U.S. businesses lose approximately \$4.4 billion annually due to employee absenteeism as the result of child care breakdowns.

There are 880,791 children under the age of 6 in New York who could be in need of child care.