



David Marcus | Connecticut



David's story

David Marcus is the small business owner of Innovative Advocacy Solutions, which provides child care assistance and advocacy for families with children who have special needs. He has been a parent leader in the child care field for multiple groups and organizations in the Connecticut area. David has also been able to talk on local radio shows and speak at events about the need for quality child care assistance for children with special needs. His dedication to helping children and families stems from his experience with his own two children who deal with the everyday struggles of having special needs. As a single father of two, he has trouble finding quality care and support for his children.

For the past five years, David has pushed the Department of Children to put in place new policies that protect *all* children and families. He believes that in order to improve child care, policymakers need to craft better regulations for child care facilities, and provide more support to the parents and educators who work with special needs children. David continues to be a champion for better quality and support and safety for children and families at the local, state, and now national level.

Child Care Stats in CT
The cost of center care in Connecticut for 2 children is nearly 2.5 times more than 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 156,948 children under the age of 6 in Connecticut who could be in need of child care.

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.