

KAYLEN AND ROBERT ORTIZ



KAYLEN AND ROBERT'S STORY

On September 29, 2016, Oliver Ortiz, a happy and healthy nine month old baby was dropped off at a licensed family child care provider's home. His parents, Robert and Kaylen Ortiz, had relied on the same child care provider five years prior with their older son. Tragically, Oliver did not come home that day. While the owner and an employee reported no injuries or anything out of the ordinary that day, the employee has now been charged with first degree murder.

As they continue their mission for justice for Oliver through the court system, Robert and Kaylen Ortiz have advocated for federal laws that better protect children in child care, especially in family child care. They are advocates for stricter safety guidelines, monitoring, and background checks. They also advocate for mandatory video surveillance in child care settings so families can get more clear answers when incidents occur. Robert and Kaylen want to use their voices to prevent any other family from having to experience the same heartache they've endured.

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CHILD CARE STATS IN KS

Millennial parents in Kansas spend on average 54.1% of their income on center-based child care for one infant.

The cost of infant care in Kansas is nearly the annual cost of college tuition at a four year college.

There are 156,189 children under the age of 6 in Kansas who could be in need of child care.

Congressional Requests: 2018

Provide a \$1 billion increase for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) in FY 2019. These new funds will help hundreds of thousands of low-income children gain access to high-quality care and help states better meet the needs of families.

Co-sponsor the Child Care for Working Families Act. This legislation would more than double the number of children eligible for assistance under CCDBG, and support the child care workforce.