

WASHINGTON

SHAYNA AND JUSTIN RAPHAEL



SHAYNA AND JUSTIN'S STORY

Shayna and Justin Raphael lost their 11-month-old daughter, Claire, in 2015 at an unlicensed, home-based child care program due to asphyxiation. Since then, Shayna has worked with Child Care Aware® of Washington, her state Child Care Resource and Referral agency, to provide awareness of the need for safe, accessible, and affordable child care for everyone. Shayna and Justin opened the Claire Raphael Training Room at Mary Bridge Children's Hospital with a child-sized mannequin so medical professionals can practice resuscitation scenarios with the hope that lives will be saved.

Shayna is also in the preliminary stages of opening a foundation in her daughter's name to work toward safe child care for all families. She has written numerous articles about the loss of a child in an unlicensed child care program, and has lobbied the police department to hold agencies accountable for licensing requirements. They are also in the process

of working with state lawmakers and the Department of Children, Youth, and Families to pass legislation for stricter penalties when a child dies or is seriously injured in unlicensed care. The Raphael family knows what can happen when high-quality child care is not available, and also what makes quality child care work.

CHILD CARE IN WASHINGTON

- A single parent in Washington spends 51.6% of their income for center-based infant care.
- Married parents of two children living at the poverty line pay 101.6% of their household income for center-based child care.
- The cost of infant care in Washington is more than the annual cost of tuition at a four year state college.

2019 CONGRESSIONAL REQUEST

Provide a \$5 billion increase to FY 2020 Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funding to ensure more children and families gain access to high-quality, affordable, and safe child care.