

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, child care providers have remained essential workers since the first day of the COVID-19 pandemic, caring for the children of emergency responders, health care professionals and other essential workers while many worked long and non-traditional schedules and with increased risk of exposure to the virus; and

WHEREAS, child care providers enhanced existing health and safety protocols to keep the children in their care, their families, their employees and themselves safe from infection and helped young children adjust to wearing masks and social distancing; and

WHEREAS, child care providers have increased mental health supports to children and their families who have been inequitably impacted by COVID-19 illness and death and the economic disparities created by the pandemic, often delivering PPE supplies to families and seeking resources for their basic needs; and

WHEREAS, child care providers have been partners with K-12 education in our state by coordinating with local schools to support distance and hybrid learning schedules and education for the school-aged children in their care and integrating appropriate learning environments into their spaces for all ages of children; and

WHEREAS, federal, state and local governments have invested additional financial supports during the past year to keep child care businesses open and options for working families and accelerated efforts to provide vaccines to all child care workers which have resulted in unique community partnerships; and

WHEREAS, the child care workforce contributes to Washington State's economy both as small business owners and by allowing working parents to remain productive employees;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 7, 2021, as

Child Care Provider Awareness Day

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 30th day of April, 2021

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee".

Governor Jay Inslee

