



Public Hearing: Child Care Challenges and Solutions

Agenda

August 26, 2025

1:00 p.m.

Welcome & Pledge of Allegiance

Testimony



Emily Neff

Director, Public Policy, Trying Together

Trying Together supports high-quality care and education for young children by providing advocacy, community resources, and professional growth opportunities for the needs and rights of children, their families, and the individuals who interact with them. Trying Together works regionally (in Southwestern Pennsylvania) and takes its expertise and models to statewide and national audiences.



Abigail Enz-Doerschner, M.S.Ed

Assistant Director, Once Upon A Time Early Learning Center

Once Upon A Time in Washington, PA offers high quality care and education to children ages 2 weeks - 12 years. Care for school aged students is only offered during the summertime. Our center is certified through the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services and STAR FOUR designated by the Office of Child Development Keystone STARS program. We are housed in a facility designed specifically for young children.



Jessica Lausch

Vice President, Youth Development, YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh

Jessica Lausch is a dedicated advocate for youth and families with over 20 years of experience in the out-of-school time and child care field. She currently serves as the Vice President of Youth Development at the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh, where she oversees a team of more than 200 education professionals across 26 before- and after-school programs, 15 summer camps, and 3 Child Development Centers.

Questions for Testifiers

Closing Comments