

WAEYC Customer Survey Synopsis

500 early childhood professionals responded to our survey about services and advocacy positions that are valuable to them. We take these needs of professionals seriously and are working to provide valuable services that make success possible at the professional and program level. While some of the perspectives of individual professionals push in opposite directions from each other, WAEYC sees a role for us in fostering debate and conversation about these issues. Our renewed and refocused services will be an expression of this important role.

Services Early Childhood Professionals Value

Participants offered many suggestions of services that they could use and provided ideas about how they might be delivered. Some trends emerged. Selected ideas in each area include:

Publications, Information & Web-Based Information

- On-line newsletters and magazines
- Community Resources Catalogue
- Information about up-to-date new research. Suggestions for activities I can do with young children
- Online reviews of daycare/early childhood facilities with feedback given by staff and families
- Library of available resources for training/teaching or professional development of ECE professionals
- Membership list with contact info and members' willingness to share information or expertise
- Identified, highlighted and synopsised materials about current research

Advocacy

- Opportunities to gather to influence policy change
- Raise the quality of child care AND the wages paid to those who serve our national treasures
- Advocacy for Public Health issues

Training, Coaching and Mentoring

- On-site training. Certification coaching.
- Support for STARS trainers
- Affordable option for online classes
- Practical support for improving the quality of child care
- Early learning for ADHD children to learn more and autistic children
- Conferences in Eastern Washington
- Learning more about the impact of Domestic Violence on children and families
- Program for development and certification of training professionals
- Quality Professional Development Opportunities at a graduate level
- Regular local facilitated discussions on various issues or trainings that pertain to our local communities
- Manuals or books specifically for the early childhood teacher. Especially for ones and twos

Support for Professional Development

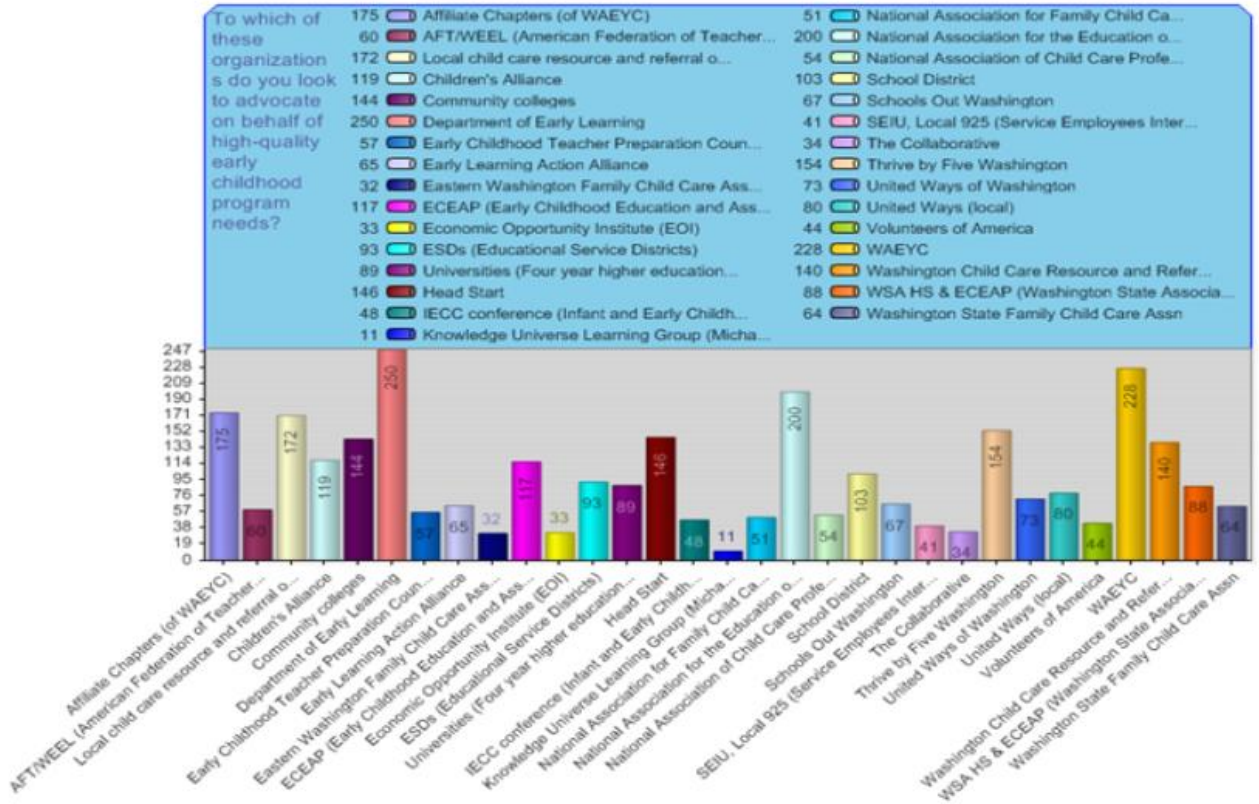
- Help determining competence "credit" for years of experience when working toward degrees
- Implementation of a statewide Professional Development System, based on the NAEYC Blueprint
- Support for centers / programs to earn NAEYC accreditation

Benefits

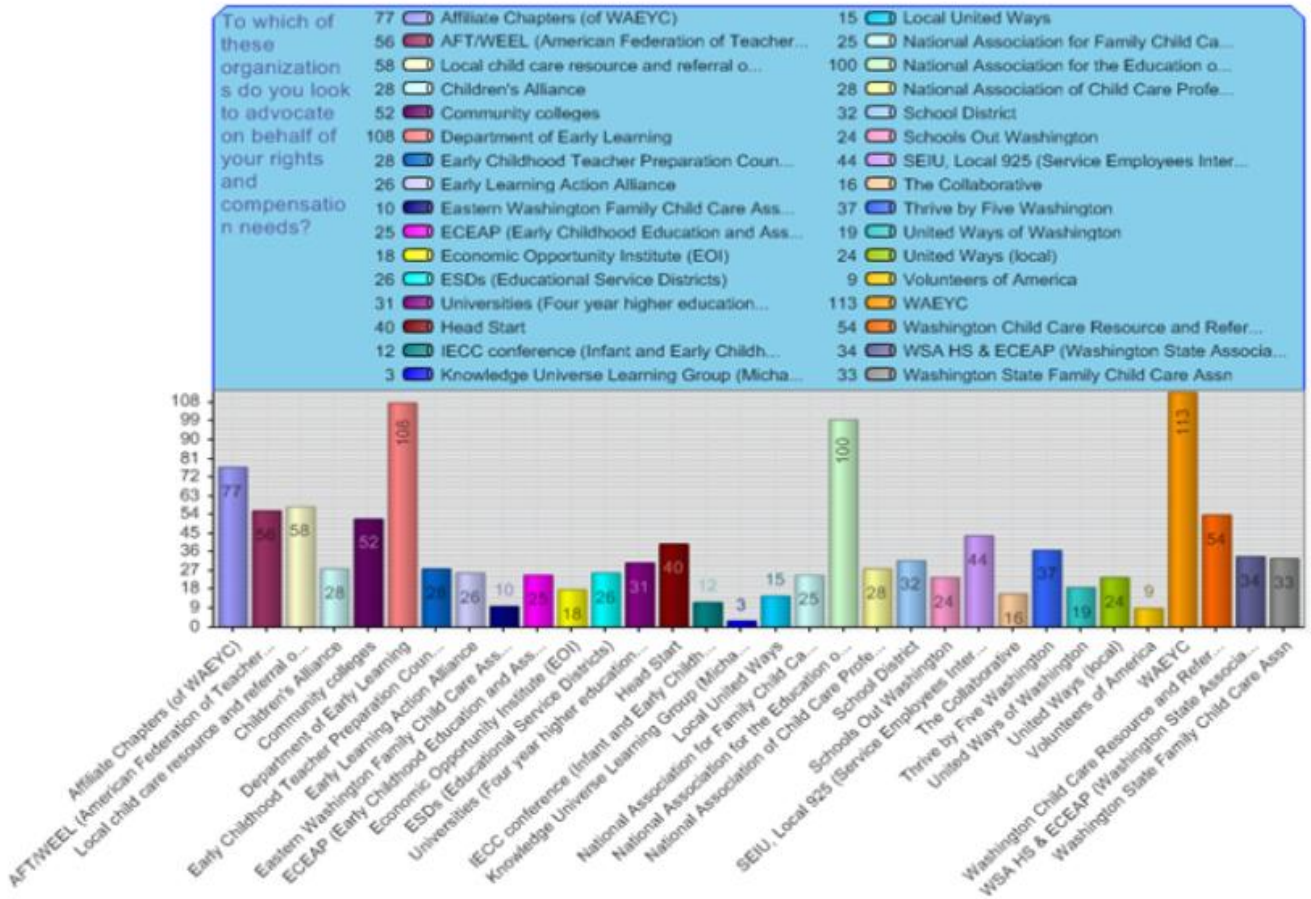
- Affordable Health insurance that covers everything . Perhaps a Health Insurance Cooperative
- A group retirement fund focusing on investments in socially conscious and green energy entities.
- Qualified substitutes for family child care
- Advertising my services
- Scholarship dollars for students pursuing a career in Early Learning
- Job posting board that we can use

Advocacy for Wages and Benefits for Early Childhood Professionals

Statistics
80 Median
11 Min
250 Max



Statistics
28 Median
3 Min
113 Max



Selected Comments:

- Fighting for higher wages only affects those ECE professionals who are working in state positions. Those in corporate or private child care/preschools are not helped by the time spent on wages or the whole SEIU stuff. There is no way corporate child care centers will allow their staff to join a union and even if they join independently they will not be helped by the SEIU. My wages are my problem and if I'm not happy, I will go find a better job or get more education to affect my own change.

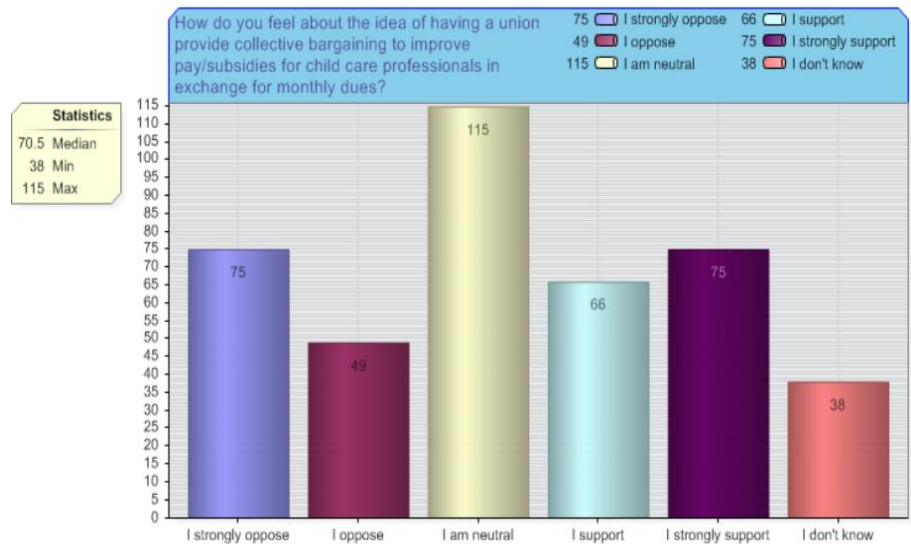
- Put as much, or more, energy into compensation issues as it does into elevating professional standards.

Indeed bring a halt to any movement to elevate standards until professional compensation and the financing of early education is substantially reformed. Advocate within NAEYC to get the national organization to adopt the same policy.

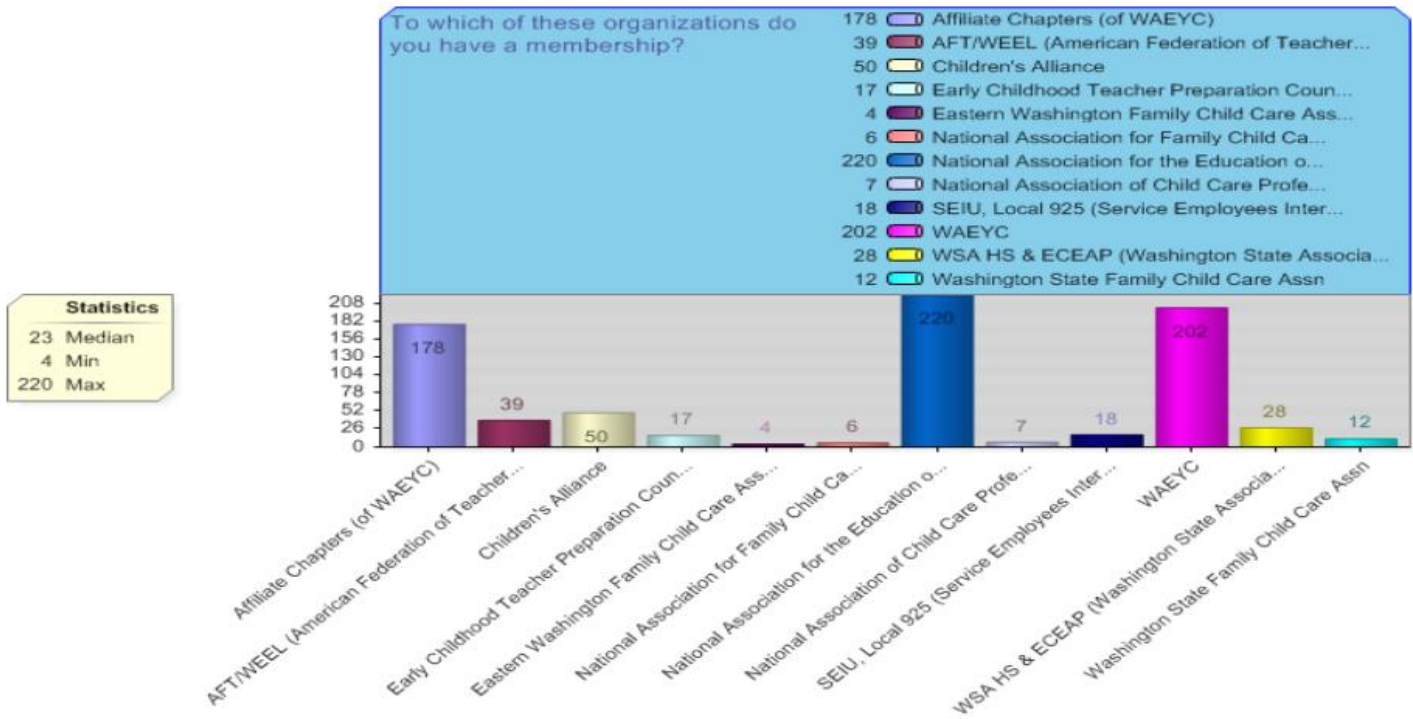
- I DO NOT believe that it is WAEYC's position to advocate for certain things in the field, I think they should play the role of dispersing information to professionals not making the decision. I think they will alienate people."
- I need to be assured that family child care will not be left out of the drive to increase the quality of care in settings in Washington"
- To promote and accept those that have been in business in childcare hiring, training, building, working, supervising, coordinating, planning programs, etc. for over 25 years and not getting credit. WE should NOT have to go to college for ECE credits when we have done it for years. ----proven fact --- 3centers to show for it. This is not OK!!!!
- I have been a member of WAEYC for the past 18 years. Last year WAEYC came out in support of SEIU for Childcare Centers in the state of Washington. My money from dues was used to support this legislation to force us to join a union. No one ask the WAEYC members if they wanted to monetarily support this endeavor. SEIU is not good for Childcare and I am no longer a member of WAEYC!!!!!!"
- Increase overall wages and benefits for child care providers. This will require a complete systems change; probably it cannot be accomplished without government support.
- Listen to the needs of the professionals. We are the ones that work each day in the classrooms. The teachers are the ones that need the support.
- Knowledgeable early childhood leaders who dress professionally and speak articulately with business leaders, legislators, government leaders and other leaders in organizations in the early childhood field. WAEYC leaders need to be ""at the table" again.

I am not currently a member of any of these groups because they are all self serving, if they were really in it for the people in the field they would listen to what the real needs in the field are. Money keeps getting diverted to other organizations that claim to be "working for the voice of the providers and children", most of those people involved make 3 times the amount of money a provider makes. Find providers money to pay for staff wages without it costing extra.

- To stop trying to do everything for everyone and be everything to everyone. Just focus on making WAEYC strong and SUPPORT and HONOR the work of each Affiliate Chapter.
- In looking at the roles of organizations in Washington, it seems that WAEYC might be more of a leader in advancing quality early childhood education. We have the active work of the Children's Alliance, the Early Learning Action Alliance and the League of Education Voters, to name a few, in a good position to support advocacy in the state. Each individual person should also give input to their legislators. None of these advocacy organizations are representing early childhood educators
- Raising the standards of education, including ALL aspects of education, public and private, including Montessori
- When I was teaching in public schools, I really disliked teachers' unions and strikes, etc. It is a hard sell with me.
- become more clear about what it does for providers and professionals.. I am a public health nurse and have very little knowledge about what WAEYC is or does.



Professional Development & Growth



Professionals look to a broad range of public and private organizations for professional development support

