CONNECTICUT

Access to High Quality Early Learning Matters!

Research shows that during the earliest years of a child's life:

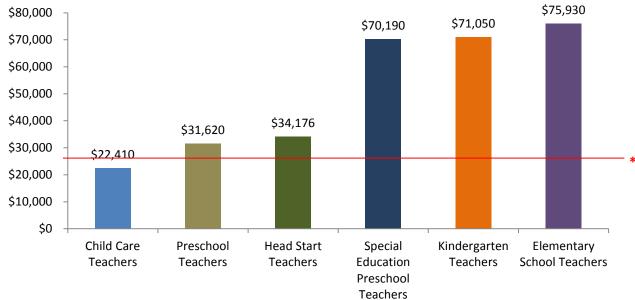
700 - 1,000 new neural connections form every second

Genetics plus experiences shape the developing brain The foundation forms for future cognitive abilities

Vocabulary at age 3 can predict 3rd Grade Reading Achievement

High Quality Programs Depend on a Quality Workforce Low Wages Undermine Quality

Connecticut Median Annual Workforce Earnings



^{*}Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) eligibility for a family of three: \$26,124

Connecticut Demographics

228,490 Children Under Age 6

83,556 Children Under Age 6 Below 200% of Poverty

70.8% Children Under Age 6 Living in Households with All Parents Working

32.7% Families Led by a Single Mother with Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty

16.8% Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty

Connecticut Median Annual Wages for Other Occupations







Manicurist & Pedicurist \$19,760



Word Processors/ Typists \$40,120



Nurses \$76,460





Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 1 Year data (2014); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics (2015); Head Start Program Information Report (2015).