

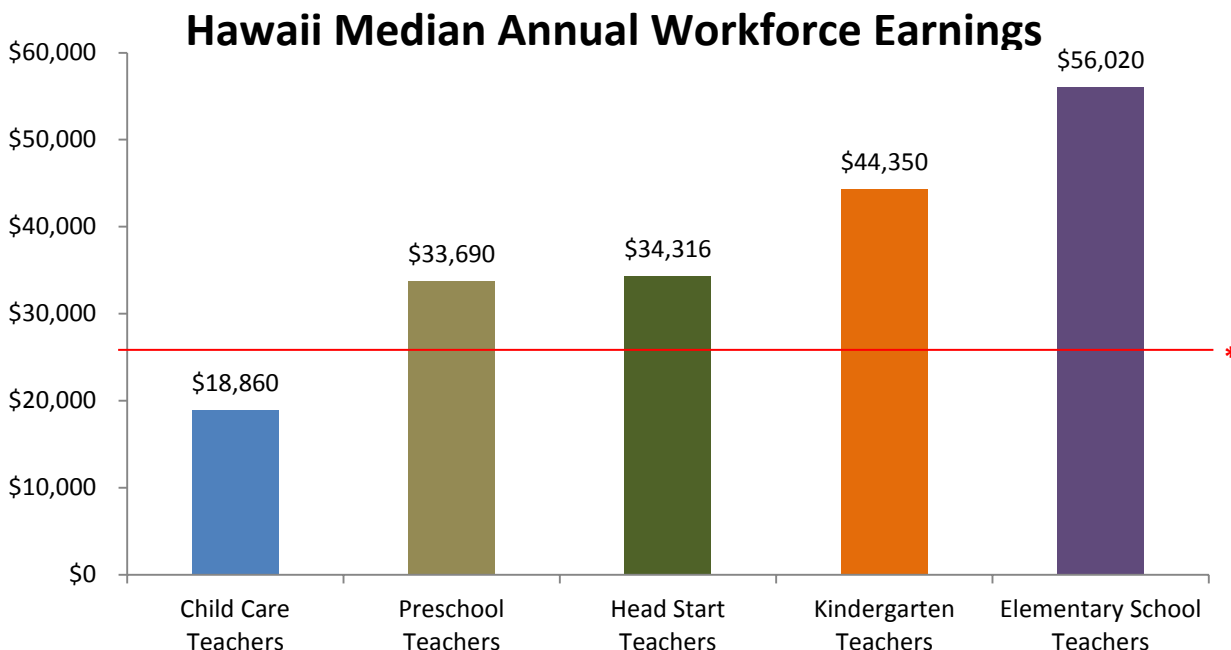
# HAWAII

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Achievement

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



### Hawaii Demographics

- 106,260** Children Under Age 6
- 37,584** Children Under Age 6 Below 200% of Poverty
- 61%** Children Under Age 6 Living in Households with All Parents Working
- 31.5%** Families Led by a Single Mother with Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty
- 13.8%** Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty

### Hawaii Median Annual Wages for Other Occupations

- Parking Lot Attendants: \$20,270
- Manicurist & Pedicurist: \$20,230
- Word Processors/Typists: \$30,220
- Nurses: \$92,290

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).

