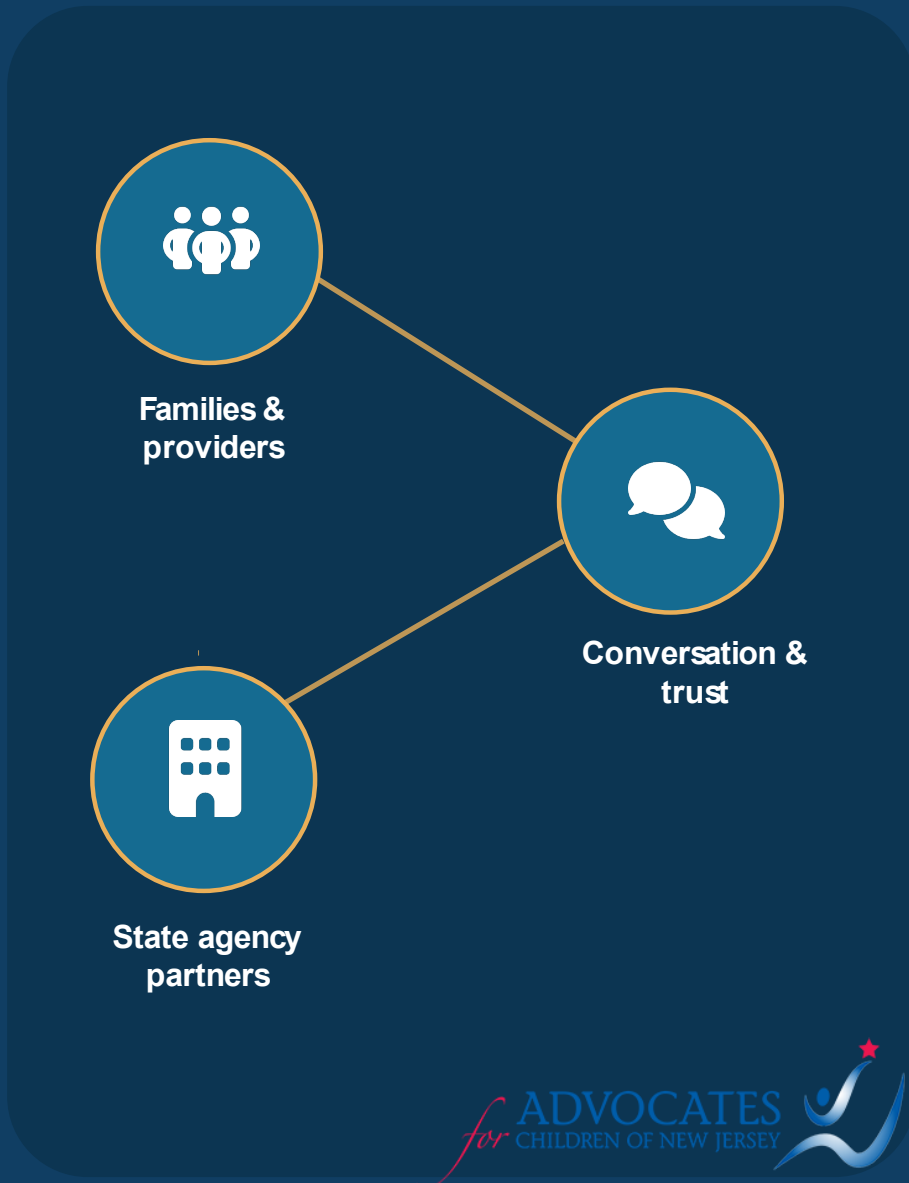
LISTENING • LEARNING • PARTNERING

Listening to the Field. Strengthening the System.

Connecting lived experience, data, and policy through meaningful partnerships.



Listening Is Only the Beginning.

Our engagement is ongoing, practical, and two-way.



9:30 Call

Child care providers & early educators



Parent Leadership Council

Mothers, fathers & family perspectives



Provider Community of Practice

Community-based preschool partners

LISTEN → CONNECT → INFORM POLICY

Partnership Means Having the Hard Conversations.



Understand patterns

Reviewed recurring child care licensing citations



Build mutual trust

Candid dialogue about inspectors and providers



Explore supports

Targeted training and director development

Insurance consequences make prevention, clarity, and trust even more important.

DCF: licensing • DHS / DFD: training, scholarships & quality supports • ACNJ: analysis & provider voice

What We Hear Shapes What We Advocate For.

Affordability & access

Strengthen CCAP and help families find the care they need

Workforce stability

Fair compensation and meaningful professional supports

System sustainability

Strong providers and mixed-delivery preschool partnerships

Start Strong NJ
Affordable Child Care for All

START STRONG NJ

Collective voices advancing affordable access, a supported workforce, and child care as essential infrastructure.

What More Can We Learn Together?

Better information can open new possibilities for our youngest children.



BETTER DATA

Licensed versus operating and available spaces



DEEPER INSIGHTS

What families and providers experience



NEW POSSIBILITIES

Where and how to expand infant–toddler access

LICENSED ≠ OPERATING ≠ AVAILABLE

WELCOME BACK | A NEW CHAPTER OF THE CONVERSATION

Healthy Beginnings. Stronger Connections.

Supporting mothers, fathers, babies, and the families who care for them.



Care begins before birth. Support continues through the early years.

Listening to Families. Elevating Their Voices.

Family and community experiences belong in decisions that affect them.



The 10:30 Call

Doulas, midwives, community organizations, advocates, and agency partners.



Parent Leadership Council

Mothers' and fathers' experiences help inform the questions we ask and priorities we pursue.

LISTEN → BUILD RELATIONSHIPS → INFORM POLICY

More Options. Connected Care.

Birth centers: a regulated clinical option between home and hospital birth.



NJ DOH licensed

Clinical facilities with defined standards

Low-risk births

Personalized, family-centered clinical care

Connected to hospitals

Established transfer arrangements when needed

NJ Midwifery Policy Collective • Access • Workforce • Sustainability

The Support Shouldn't End at Birth.

Strengthen support after the baby arrives—and make it easier to find.

Sustain investment

Continue supporting home visiting and postpartum resources.

Improve access

PLC feedback helped DCF improve the Connecting NJ referral process.

Expand awareness

Introduce postpartum resources to child care providers.

Connecting NJ • Family Connects NJ • Home visiting • Trusted community relationships

LOOKING AHEAD | TOGETHER

Stronger Connections. Healthier Families.



LISTEN Family and community voices

CONNECT People, programs, and services

STRENGTHEN Access, investment, and support

Every family deserves to feel supported, connected, and valued.