Early Childhood Development: Policy, Advocacy, & Action

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A Twenty Minute Journey

- Advocacy
  - What, Where, Who

- Challenges & Opportunities

- Grassroots + Grasstips

- Taking Action
Quick personal aside
Advocacy
What is Advocacy?

“What Advocacy is a coordinated combination of:

(1) Problem identification,
(2) Solution creation,
(3) Strategy development, and
(4) Actions taken to create positive change”
Where is Advocacy?

Local level
- homes, clinics, schools

Regional Level
- Provincial or state governments

National Level
- Congress, Ministries

International Level
Challenges + Opportunities
READ Act

Reinforcing Education

Accountability in Development

- Create a whole-of-government international basic education strategy;
- Increase focus on addressing barriers, especially for girls and children in conflict;
- Increase accountability, reporting, and M&E;
- Expand the definition of “basic education”
Grassroots + Grasstops
Fewer personal relationships, greater numbers

Grasstops

More personal relationships, fewer numbers

Grassroots
EVERYONE DESERVES

Health
Education
Economic Opportunity

CONGRESS DECIDES WHERE OUR MONEY GOES

Congress decides how to spend money during the appropriations process.

This funding can support health, education, and economic opportunity for families around the world.

HOW DOES CONGRESS DECIDE HOW TO SPEND MONEY?

YOU TELL THEM WHAT MATTERS.

Tell Congress to prioritize ending poverty.
35 years of Action

12,000+ pieces of media

4,500+ face-to-face meetings with members of Congress

150,000+ meetings and phone conversations with congressional staff
Global Agenda for Young Children

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

Global leaders are increasingly recognizing the importance of investing early to break cycles of poverty and insecurity worldwide. Program models exist for tackling this global challenge. U.S. support will be crucial, and should be prioritized within U.S. foreign assistance. A U.S. government agenda for young children globally will effectively and efficiently build on existing programs that increase the capacity of countries to deliver these services in the long-term. This agenda should:
Grassroots + Grasstops
Expertise into Action
Ideal ECD Advocates

Data

Anecdotal Evidence

Direct Engagement

Community Standing

PEDIATRICIANS

+ nurses & many other health care professionals
Grassroots + Grasstips
Thank You

Good policy is a form of preventive care