



**DC Government Votes to Send \$10,000
to Early Education Teachers
February 2, 2022**

As we move forward into a new stage of recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic, let us not forget the sacrifices that essential workers made providing critical services. Today, we can [celebrate the DC City Council vote to boost pay for early educators](#) who provided day care services to thousands of children, allowing their parents to go to work.

Each eligible early educator, will receive a \$10,000 check from the Office of the State Superintendent.

For over a decade, a diverse group of residents, parents, elected leaders, teachers and employers, have worked together to bring about this victory. Leading the effort to provide better pay and benefits for early educators, is the [Under 3 DC Coalition](#). The coalition will continue its advocacy efforts for better compensation among this group. DC Appleseed is proud to be part of this effort, and will remain focused on early education outcomes, [including for children with disabilities](#).

Countless studies have shown how important it is for young children to have access to education from the earliest days after birth. Early childhood education sets the foundation for acquiring the skills necessary for success, both socially and academically. Early educators are also providing valuable support to parents and care givers by creating competent and safe environments for kids to thrive.

It is important to note that the vast majority of early educators are female and people of color. This supplement recognizes both the vital importance of their work and perhaps begins to close the vast wealth gap between white folks and people of color.

If you would like to help us advance this important work, please click [here](#) to donate.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "NR", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Neil Richardson
Deputy Director
DC Appleseed Center for Law and Justice

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walter Smith", with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Walter Smith
Executive Director
DC Appleseed Center for Law and Justice