



# EARLY CHILDHOOD CHANGEMAKERS

The Early Childhood Changemakers initiative is a statewide, grassroots leadership program coordinated by GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students. The initiative recruits, trains, and supports trusted community members such as parents, caregivers, educators, health professionals, and civic leaders who are passionate about advancing policies and programs that support young children and their families.

Early Childhood Changemakers serve in their communities as connectors, storytellers, and champions for early childhood. Members are equipped with training, data, messaging tools, and leadership development support to engage with families, local leaders, and policymakers on key issues impacting early learning, health, and economic well-being.

## Role & Responsibilities

- Engage with families in your community to understand their needs, share resources, and elevate their voices
- Participate in monthly trainings, webinars, and coaching sessions to build your knowledge and leadership capacity
- Organize or support at least two community-based events or listening sessions during your term
- Recruit Changemakers for future cohorts
- Serve as a trusted messenger, sharing timely and relevant information through storytelling, social media, and community outreach
- Contribute to advocacy efforts, including writing or sharing testimony, attending town halls, and communicating with local and state policymakers
- Collaborate with a statewide network of Changemakers and GEEARS staff to support shared goals and campaigns
- Provide feedback and insight to help shape GEEARS' engagement strategies and materials

## Qualifications

- Passionate about the well-being of children aged birth to five and their families
- Lived or professional experience with child care, education, health care, or family services
- Strong connection to your local community and ability to build trust with peers
- Willingness to learn, grow, and advocate for change
- Comfort with public speaking, storytelling, or community organizing is a plus (training will be provided)
- Must be 18 years or older
- Must live and/or work within one of the three target communities (Augusta/Richmond County, Columbus/Muscogee County, Statesboro/Bulloch and Bryan Counties)

## What You'll Gain

- Leadership development, training, and mentoring
- Connections with other early childhood advocates across Georgia
- Opportunities to influence state and local policies
- Recognition as a community leader and voice for change

## Commitment & Stipend

- Two-year term with flexible time commitment (approximately 5–10 hours/month)
- Stipend for participation of \$1,200 (\$100/month) Reimbursement for associated travel and related expenses

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