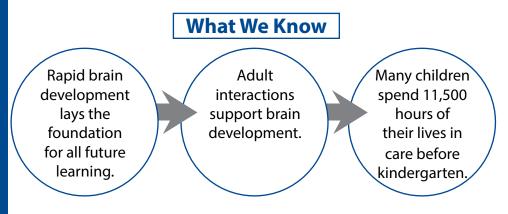
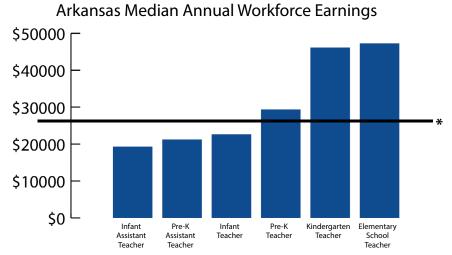
Supporting Arkansas' Early Childhood Workforce: Boosting Wages to Increase Quality of Care

Boost Wages with a Refundable Tax Credit Linked to Education and Certification

- Child care programs pay staff based on what they can afford.
- Operating budgets are tight and parents can't afford to pay more.
- The result is that staff are underpaid and stressed, with little incentive for higher education, which can better promote healthy child development.



Child Care Programs Need a Quality Workforce; Low Wages Undermine Quality





*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) eligibility for a family of three: \$27,000

Arkansas Early Childhood Teachers



have trouble meeting basic economic needs like medical expenses, rent, and utilities.



are food insecure (run out of food, cut the size of meals, or skip meals).

Vote YES for SB618.

The workforce that supports all workforces needs this refundable tax credit.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) 2017; Arkansas Workforce Study: Instructional Staff in Child Care and Early Childhood Education, 2017; Arkansas Workforce Study: Program Administrators in Early Childhood Care & Education, 2017; Committee for Economic Development (CED) of The

Tinvest early coalition a child's mind can't wait