T.E.A.C.H. *I Make a Difference for Young Children* Campaign

Sample Letter/E-mail to Community or State Leader

Adapted from Early Childhood Advocacy Toolkitcreated by Ounce of Prevention

***Letter to share information***

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

I am writing to you as a constituent and early educator in your District to share my belief about why an educated teacher makes a difference for our children, community and state.

Research has repeatedly demonstrated that children who participate in high-quality early learning programs have better language, math, and social skills than their peers who missed this opportunity. They are also more likely to graduate from high school, less likely to become involved in crime, and more likely to become positive, productive citizens as adults. In programs where teacher are highly educated the return on investment is even stronger.

The birth-to-five years are the most important of a child's development. Economists, business leaders, and researchers agree that high-quality early care and education services are the smartest public investment we can make. Early childhood programs provide the best and most cost-effective way to give at-risk children the chance to succeed in school, graduate from high school, attend college and become more productive adults. As an educated early childhood teacher, I am proud of the difference I am making.

Thank you for taking this time to learn about the importance of providing high quality early care and education to our District’s young children and their families. I would be happy to provide you more information if you would like to learn more. And I invite you to come and visit me in my classroom. I’d like to show you how I make a difference for young children.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (city or county name)

***Letter to request support for funding***

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

I am writing as an early educator. I make a difference for young children in my classroom every day.

Research has repeatedly demonstrated that children who participate in high-quality early learning programs have better language, math, and social skills than their peers who missed this opportunity. They are also more likely to graduate from high school, less likely to become involved in crime, and more likely to become positive, productive citizens as adults. In programs where teacher are highly educated the return on investment is even stronger.

The birth-to-five years are the most important of a child's development. Economists, business leaders, and researchers agree that high-quality early care and education services are the smartest public investment we can make. Early childhood programs provide the best and most cost-effective way to give at-risk children the chance to succeed in school, graduate from high school, attend college and become more productive adults. As an educated early childhood teacher, I am proud of the difference I am making.

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarships help early educators who work with young children to advance their education and gain the skills needed to help children be ready for school. The early childhood workforce does not have the education it needs to make the difference for young children. And they are paid such low wages that going to college would be impossible without help. Please support ensuring all children enter school ready to succeed by providing access to early childhood college coursework that leads to credentials and degrees for those who teach them.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (city or county name)