



State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Commission on Children



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A Connecticut Summit on the Early Years

National experts to present research findings on early childhood development in Hartford on Monday, October 29

Research shows that their earliest experiences play a critical role in children's ability to grow up healthy and ready to learn. That's why the Connecticut Commission on Children has organized a summit where the latest advances in neuroscience, molecular biology, genetics, and other areas of research will be discussed with an eye toward using them as the basis for public policy in Connecticut.

The summit will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Monday, October 29, in Room 2-C of the Legislative Office Building in Hartford. More than 250 people have registered to attend. Seating in overflow rooms remains available.

Experts from around the country (see the attached invitation for a list) will discuss:

- early neurological development,
- how language begins and influences the early steps to literacy,
- the impact of poverty on a child's brain,
- what connectedness – or the lack of it – does to a child's learning and mental health,
- the impact of low birth weight on a child,
- how families influence the choices and outcomes of their children over time,
- how high-quality early care affects play and learning, and
- what state systems are needed to ensure the health and well-being of Connecticut's children.

Before the discussions, there will be remarks from Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut's 3rd District and video greetings from U.S. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, Governor M. Jodi Rell, and Dr. T. Berry Brazelton, clinical professor of pediatrics emeritus at Harvard Medical School and famous throughout the world for his research and writing on early childhood development.

One-on-one interviews with panelists can be arranged. Please call Kevin Flood at (860) 240-0078 as early as possible to make arrangements.