



ALL OUR KIN INC

PO BOX 8477 NEW HAVEN CONNECTICUT 06530 T 203-772-2294 F 203-772-2386 WWW.ALLOURKIN.ORG

## All Our Kin: An Overview

All Our Kin is a nationally recognized nonprofit organization that trains, supports, and sustains family child care providers to ensure that children and families have the foundation they need to succeed in school and in life. Family child care providers play a crucial role as educators of our youngest children, our children of color, and our children in low-income communities. As a result, they are uniquely well positioned to promote positive learning outcomes for children, especially those who face the most significant barriers to success.

However, despite the critically important work that family child care providers do for children and families, they are systematically overlooked and devalued because the majority are low-income women of color engaged in the traditionally female work of caregiving. Consequently, family child care providers lack access to the resources, training, and support necessary for giving children the high-quality early learning experiences that lay the foundation for success in preschool, kindergarten, and beyond.

At All Our Kin, we recognize family child care providers' strong potential to create transformative change in their communities, and we have developed a highly successful, data-driven model for supporting family child care providers in exercising and fully reaching that potential. The All Our Kin model is based in best practice and research in the field; it is rooted in a strength-based approach; it is informed by over 15 years of experience working directly with family child care providers; and it invests in family child care providers at every stage of their development, from parents and caregivers to professional educators and businesspeople.

We have a strong track record of success in working with family child care providers at every point in their professional trajectory, and we are committed to supporting all family child care providers. In fact, findings from a rigorous external evaluation assessing All Our Kin's impact on program quality indicate statistically significant differences in quality between All Our Kin and non-All Our Kin providers: **All Our Kin providers score, on average, over 50 percent higher on research-based measures of quality than non-All Our Kin providers.**

All Our Kin has a significant economic impact as well, helping to create microbusinesses and enabling parents to succeed in the workforce. In a 2011 study, the University of Connecticut's Center for Economic Analysis found that **each dollar invested in our work yielded \$15-\$20 in economic benefits to the region.**

Our model is a triple-win: **child care providers** have access to training and education opportunities, livable wages and benefits, and respect for a hard job done well. **Parents** are honored and supported in their difficult work of caring for children, and have safe, loving, educational child care options when they go to work. And **children**, regardless of where they live, their racial or ethnic background, or how much their parents earn, begin their lives with all the advantages, tools, and experiences that we, as a society, are capable of giving them.

The success of the All Our Kin model, which began and continues in New Haven, Connecticut, has made it possible for us to open three new All Our Kin sites: two in Connecticut and one in New York City. Today, **we serve over 550 family child care educators**, who have the capacity to educate over **3,300 children**, across sites. In addition to growing All Our Kin's impact through direct replication, we recognize that we have a significant opportunity to share All Our Kin's learnings and best practices with other organizations committed to raising the quality, availability, and accessibility of family child care.



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As a result, we have launched technical assistance initiatives in New York City and Hartford, Connecticut, through which we are partnering with local agencies to strengthen their engagement and practice with family child care providers.

All Our Kin gains increasing recognition for its innovative work, and is considered a leading national voice on family child care. Most recently, Ashoka awarded our co-founder and CEO, Jessica Sager, a lifetime fellowship as one of the nation's leading social entrepreneurs. Additionally, our co-founder and Chief Learning Officer Janna Wagner, our Chief Operating Officer Erica Phillips, and Ms. Sager have all received the Pajara-Aspen Fellowship. Ms. Wagner and Ms. Sager have written multiple pieces, in leading publications, on key early childhood issues, and they, together with Ms. Phillips, have presented locally and nationally on the importance of investing in family child care, and in high-quality early care and education for our youngest and poorest children across all settings.

For more information, visit our website, [www.allourkin.org](http://www.allourkin.org).