

About the CAYL Institute

Established in 2004 by leading child development expert **Dr. Valora Washington**, the CAYL Institute strives for one simple goal: **To create positive change on behalf of all children.**

Vision:

A nation where the right to high quality early care and education is embedded in public policy and professional practice.

Mission:

Our purpose is to organize, equip and empower people to create change on behalf of children.

We believe positive change is rooted in five Core Principles:

- 1) Representative Leadership**—Involving people in decisions that affect them.
- 2) Commitment to Diversity**—Ensuring all voices are heard and bridging multiple perspectives.
- 3) Focused on Solutions**—Embracing responsibility to create sustainable change.
- 4) Impact and Innovation**—Taking action that is timely, relevant and immediately actionable.
- 5) Building and Sharing Knowledge**—Creating and disseminating strategic information to be understood and used by everyone.

Why the CAYL Institute?

- Individualized services to meet the unique needs and capacities of those engaging with the CAYL Institute
- Extensive of network of national experts in the field of early care and education and child development
- Unique learner-first approach



Connect

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The CAYL Institute • *Creating Architects of Change*

Services

Individual Capacity Building

The CAYL Institute is a national leader in providing intensive professional development, training, and technical assistance to early care and education leaders and practitioners through a variety of approaches that are tailored to meet the unique individual needs and expand the capacity of those requesting our services.

- Deliver core content and pedagogical knowledge in the science of early learning, developmentally appropriate practice (DAP), STEM, assessment, and the core competencies pertinent to early care and education.
- Equip practitioners with the tools to build their individual and collective capacities to lead change in their institutions and communities.
- Develop concrete strategies, tools, and cohesive plans of action that respond to existing needs that elicit change.
- Access to national experts through CAYL's extensive network of early childhood leaders based on specified goals and needs.

Professionalizing the Field

The CAYL Institute has extensive experience in professionalizing the field of early care and education and increases the competency early childhood educators.

- Technical support related to statewide Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS).
- Technical support related to the development and implementation of career ladders/lattices to provide concrete pathways for continuous professional growth.
- Align core teaching competencies with program quality standards.
- Facilitate and improve collaboration across state level agencies, higher education, and community-based agencies to align with the needs of early educators to attain higher levels of education.
- Assist early educators with navigating the higher education and professional development systems.

Systems Development and Alignment

The CAYL Institute is field-wide leader in the alignment and development of the systemic infrastructures that support young children and early childhood educators.

- Assistance in strengthening the alignment of learning standards and assessment for children from birth through Grade 3.
- Create systems that embed the active participation of families, key community stakeholders, and the community context.
- Develop “whole community systems” designed to promote the education of all children birth to Grade 3.
- Support early care and education field-wide collaboration to develop policy and program strategies that benefit all children.
- Facilitate a common understanding between early childhood education and elementary educators regarding developmentally appropriate practice (DAP) for teaching young children.
- Connect the relationship of policies and family-community partnerships to the potential of young learners.



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