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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The CAYL Institute receives Good Jobs Challenge grant from the
Economic Development Administration ARPA funds
*CAYL to serve as the backbone organization in partnership with The City
of Boston to create 850 childcare jobs***

Boston, MA - The CAYL Institute announced today that they are the recipient of Good Jobs Challenge grant funds as part of the American Rescue Plan. In partnership with The City of Boston's Office of Workforce Development and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, CAYL will serve as the backbone organization to coordinate the work for the childcare sector.

The CAYL Institute's primary focus for the \$7.7 million in grant funds is to unify and connect practitioner voices, with employers' needs and investors priorities to create a Child Care Workforce sourcing, development, and employment system and place candidates in 850 new childcare jobs. CAYL's strategy for this work focuses not only on the child care workforce, but also considers and integrates the roles of employers, workforce systems, and both public and private funders. The Child Care Sectoral Partnership portion of the Metro Boston Good Jobs Coalition covers Greater Boston including the cities of Lawrence, Lowell, Lynn, and Salem.

"The CAYL Institute is honored to lead this effort to increase the visibility and strength of the childcare sector as a key partner in Massachusetts' economic development priorities. We will bolster and expand this essential and skilled workforce in order to facilitate child development opportunities, support families, and transform early childhood education



systems,” said Dr. Valora Washington, Founder and CEO of the CAYL Institute.

Notably, The CAYL Institute is the only Good Jobs Challenge grantee in the field of Early Childhood Education. The historic funding arrives at a critical juncture for the childcare industry, which is still down 100,000 jobs compared to pre-COVID levels. This impact is felt on top of a system that was already struggling to meet the needs of families. CAYL is thrilled for the opportunity to work with the City of Boston and other localities within Greater Boston, with private investors, workforce boards, community colleges, and not-for-profit institutions to create a great impact and a thriving ECE industry.

About The CAYL Institute

Established in 2004, The CAYL Institute is a non-profit organization that brings multiple voices and diverse perspectives together to work toward timely, relevant, and immediately actionable solutions for young children. After a four-year hiatus, CAYL relaunched in 2021 to continue the fight for quality early education and care for all families.

For more information visit www.cayl.org