

[LETTERHEAD]

[DATE]

[NAME], [TITLE]

[ADDRESS]

[CITY], NY, [ZIP]

Dear Clinton [or] Franklin [or] Essex county leaders:

Our region is facing a child care crisis. Many of our residents do not have access to high-quality, affordable child care, which hinders both economic progress and community wellbeing.

Unfortunately, a crisis like this impacts all of us – businesses struggle to find workers, parents are unable to stay in or re-enter the workforce, and infants, toddlers, and young children do not have access to critical early learning and development opportunities. This crisis strikes the most vulnerable in our population and low-wage workers are being impacted at disproportionate levels. Prior to COVID-19, workers were barely surviving when the economy appeared strong and now the needs are even greater and the stakes higher.

I'm adding my support for the Child Care Pipeline Project being proposed by the Stand Up for Child Care coalition. The opportunity to act is now as we consider how to use the Federal investments to support our communities. The pipeline project will recruit and support new providers from beginning to end – from credentialing and training all the way through accepting their first family.

As you consider investing resources from the American Rescue Plan Act, please make child care a priority for our region.

Thank you for Standing Up for Child Care!

Sincerely,

[NAME, TITLE]