



**SHORELINE
CITY COUNCIL**

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April 6, 2021

The Honorable Pramila Jayapal

Dear Congresswoman Jayapal,

We are writing in support of the Healing Centered and Trauma Informed Childcare Project proposal for Community Project funding. This innovative partnership between Childhaven, Sound Child Care Solutions, and Child Care Resources will improve access to childcare and result in strong child, family, and community outcomes.

This project will achieve transformative results in the 7th Congressional District. We value the intention and motivation of the project to substantially disrupt the preschool to prison pipeline.

Project partners will serve children, families, and childcare providers with a therapeutic team featuring intensive mental health consultation, dual-language supports, family therapeutic services, and robust support to childcare settings. Children and families in both in-home and childcare centers will be served. Services will be family centered, culturally and linguistically responsive, and community and home-based.

We know that expulsions from childcare are even greater than in the K-12 system and expulsions disproportionately affect children of color. By being expelled from the system, children not only lose access to their early learning experiences; they and their families lose services and supports they need to thrive. Research indicates that early expulsions and suspensions predict later expulsions and suspensions, academic failure, school dropout, and an increased likelihood of later incarceration.

I encourage you to make this important project a priority for Community Project appropriations in fiscal year 2022.

Sincerely,

Debbie Tarry
City Manager