

AUGUST ADVOCACY IS ACTION

Advocacy is Action is NAFCC's annual campaign mobilizing family child care educators, allies, and advocates to drive real policy change during the Congressional recess. Beginning August 11, 2025, educators across the country will rise in unified action to protect and strengthen the future of family child care.

This year's campaign comes at a turning point. Family child care continues to be squeezed out of the system, despite being the backbone of early care in rural, multilingual, and underserved communities. With nearly 100,000 FCC programs lost since 2012, and more closures looming, the stakes are higher than ever.



FAMILY CHILD CARE EDUCATOR

Shemik Sellars

Owner and Director of Legacy-House Preschool
North Chesterfield, Virginia

Leadership Roles

- **Policy Fellow**, National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)
- **Board Member**, Virginia Association for Infant Mental Health (VAIMH)
- **Board Member**, Virginia Association for the Education of Young Children (VAAEYC)
- **Racism & Equity Circle Lead**, Virginia Association for the Education of Young Children (VAAEYC)
- Member, Virginia Association for Infant Mental Health
- Member, Virginia Alliance for Family Child Care Association
- Member, Virginia Association for the Education of Young Children
- Member, National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)

Impact

In business since 2020, she is licensed for up to 12 children, and her program has positively impacted over 60 children and families.

Advocacy and Leadership

- Met with Delegate Gardner in 2024 to share stories that inspired her to write HB 1760
- Committed to expanding access to wraparound services for families.
- Actively engaged in professional development and policy influence to strengthen early childhood systems.
- Dedicated to providing a nurturing, high-quality environment where children can thrive.
- Current Public Policy Fellow to establish an Early Childhood Educators Policy Committee in Virginia to:
- Guide legislation impacting the early childhood field.
- Oversee state investment strategies for early education.
- Advocate for the advancement, fair compensation, and improved benefits for early educators statewide.

Program Focus & Philosophy:

- Dedicated to providing a nurturing, high-quality environment focused on infant and early childhood mental health, where children thrive in all areas of development.
- Mental health and social-emotional development are central to both the program's mission and ongoing advocacy efforts, reflecting a commitment to the whole child and to the well-being of early childhood professionals.

LEARN MORE

<https://nafcc.org/advocacy-is-action-2025/>



CONTACT US

policy@nafcc.org