

Arleen Lambert

Florida Family Child Care Home Association

United States



Arleen Lambert is a dedicated leader in early childhood with a proven commitment to advancing the family child care profession. As President of the Florida Family Child Care Home Association, she leads statewide initiatives to improve the quality and visibility of family child care programs.

Nationally, she serves as a state representative for the National Association for Family Child Care, advocating for equitable policies and resources. She also contributes her expertise to the Miami Dade College Advisory Committee, ensuring that family child care is represented within the educational system. As a facilitator and Accreditation Director for the Business Leadership Institute, Arleen empowers early childhood business owners to grow and sustain their programs with strategic support.

Through her Early Education Link Accreditation Made Simple: "The Turnkey Experience," she guides educators through the NAFCC accreditation process. Her Mindful Mentorship Program further develops leaders using strategies centered on quality, sustainability, and reflective practice.



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Mission:

To represent a unified voice on behalf of all children, to promote and encourage quality professional family child care through education, legislation, advocacy, mentoring, caring, and love.

Vision:

If we are to elevate the profession, we must embrace both identities: as nurturing educators and as capable business owners and advocates.

Top Challenges

The mindset that many family child care home educators hold about their roles. Too often, home-based providers do not see themselves as advocates. When moments arise that require us to step forward, use our voices, and represent our interests, many educators instinctively step back, expecting agencies or outside representatives to speak on their behalf.

- This stems from a lack of recognition of their identity as business owners. The early childhood sector is heavily focused on the educational and caregiving components. However, business, financial management, marketing, leadership, and advocacy are often overlooked.

Time is also a very real barrier. Home-based educators work extended hours, making it difficult to leave their programs to participate in external advocacy, training, or leadership.



SUCCESSES:

Collaboration with various organizations to elevate the visibility and recognition of family child care as a vital modality within the early childhood system.

- Our Accreditation Academy designed specifically for family child care educators, where we employ experienced educators and mentor them to become leaders and advocates within their own communities. The academy not only supports high-quality care and accreditation readiness but also empowers educators to recognize their value as professionals and business owners.