



## FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Brandon Cwalina, [ra-pwdhspressoffice@pa.gov](mailto:ra-pwdhspressoffice@pa.gov)

### **MEDIA ADVISORY: TOMORROW IN YORK – Shapiro Administration to Urge Child Care Providers to Apply for New Recruitment and Retention Bonuses Before January 29 Deadline, Reinforce Commitment to Ensuring Families Have Access to Quality Child Care**

**York, PA** - Tomorrow, **Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) leadership** will visit York Day Early Learning to encourage child care providers to apply for the new [Child Care Staff Recruitment and Retention Program](#). Providers must complete applications [online](#) before the January 29, 2026, deadline.

Investing in the child care workforce ensures that families can continue working while children receive the foundation they need to succeed. **Governor Josh Shapiro's 2025-26 budget** secured major investments in the child care workforce through competitive wage increases, recruitment, and retention bonuses for child care workers, including:

- **\$25 million for the Child Care Staff Recruitment and Retention Program**, which will provide a **\$450 bonus per employee** at licensed Child Care Works (CCW) providers. These bonuses will support approximately **55,000 child care workers** and help stabilize the child care sector; and
- **\$7.5 million for Pre-K Counts** to help providers raise wages and stabilize the early educator workforce.

#### **WHO:**

Department of Human Services Executive Deputy Secretary Andrew Barnes  
Office of Child Development and Early Learning Deputy Secretary Shante' Brown

**WHEN:** Wednesday, January 28, 2026

**Media Availability:** 10:30 AM

#### **WHERE:**

York Day Early Learning  
450 East Philadelphia Street, York, PA 17403

**MEDIA RSVP:**

Press interested in attending must RSVP with the name of photographer/reporter to [ra-pwdhspressoffice@pa.gov](mailto:ra-pwdhspressoffice@pa.gov).