

6 Ways to Be a More Effective Early Childhood Education Advocate

Our Centers

Marillac Social Center

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St. Vincent de Paul Center

(Northside)
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Center Hours:
7:00am-6:00pm, M-F

marillacstvincent.org



MARILLAC
St. VINCENT
— Family Services —
A Mission of the Daughters of Charity

1. Call your elected officials

We're all used to sending emails. But a phone call carries more weight. When you call, somebody in your elected official's office has to listen to you. And when a lot of people call? It's enough to change minds. So call your federal, state, and local officials. Do you have a great elected official who always does the right thing? They need to hear from you, too. Take time to call and thank them!

2. Get your inner circle involved

There is strength in numbers, so get your friends to join you! There are many ways for them to be allies in our cause, whether it's taking action on an issue, joining you at a rally when Early Childhood Education is threatened (like it was in 2015), volunteering or donating to Marillac St. Vincent, or sharing information with their friends about the issues.

3. Get local

Cities and states across the country have invested in Early Childhood Education through programs like the Illinois Department of Human Services' Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP). The programs have helped tens of thousands of low-income families out of poverty by keeping parents in their jobs, and giving kids a head start in their education. So get in touch with your State Representative, State Senator, and the Governor's office.

4. Take to social media

Social media amplifies your voice and gets your message in front of a larger audience. Since you care about the state of Early Childhood Education in our country, post about it on your social networks. Share posts from your favorite organizations, like Marillac St. Vincent. Find and share articles from quality sources and tell people why the issue matters to you. **Even Better?** Tweet at your elected officials, or post on their Facebook pages.

5. Use your voice in real life too!

While online activism is vital for building a support for our cause, there is no replacement for showing up in person. Keep your eye on what's going on in Springfield, and if you feel compelled, plan a trip to meet with your State Rep. or Senator while they're in session. Or locate their local offices and show up in person during office hours, when you know they are in town.

6. Visit marillacstvincent.org/TakeAction

Learn about our local advocacy partners who are fighting every day to protect Early Childhood Education in the Illinois, explore volunteer opportunities, and discover the many ways to donate to Marillac St. Vincent!