



CHILD CARE AWARE OF WASHINGTON SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACT

Child Care Aware of Washington Scholarships, has been helping our state's early childhood educators improve the lives of children and families for nearly 20 years. Our scholarship graduates improve their teaching and caregiving through the knowledge and the use of early childhood development best practices. Additionally, our scholarships help ensure Washington's child care and early learning professionals have the credentials they need to meet state licensing requirements.



24,256
Children cared for by
CCA of WA scholars



986
CCA of WA Scholars

AZUCENA ZAVALA MONTALVO

Northwest Washington Scholar

Azucena Zavala Montalvo is living her belief that education can lead to a better life, and she is striving to make that belief a reality for the young children she teaches. "I have always believed that education is the door to a better life, and this is what we want to offer our young children," she said.

Azucena is an Assistant Teacher at the Skagit Valley YMCA Early Learning Center in Burlington. She is working toward her Bachelor of Arts Degree in ECE with a P-3 Endorsement at Woodring College of Education, Western Washington University. She plans to graduate next year.

"This scholarship has been my financial support to continue my education. Without it I would not be able to attend college and provide my students the quality education that I have been giving them."



"I have already learned so much from being in school, and it has helped me to become a better educator for my children and their families."

- Carla Olsen, assistant teacher, Adventures in Learning, Lacey, Student of the University of Washington.



All data is from 7/1/16 to present.

Our scholarship graduates benefit from earning their higher education degrees via increased confidence and stronger skills across a variety of learning domains, including early literacy and numeracy, and communications with families and staff. Many of our graduates have remained in the early learning field and moved into leadership positions within their programs and in professional early childhood organizations that work together to improve the lives of children and families.



24,375
College Credits



469
Degrees & Certificate
Completions



Elvira Soto enjoys helping others. Whether taking care of the young children in her program, nurturing her own family or mentoring other child care providers, Elvira is someone others count on. She earned her ECE credentials at Yakima Valley Community College, thanks to a scholarship from CCA of WA Scholarships, and the journey helped her to think of herself as a teacher and not as a “baby sitter.”

“My expectations... were that children would see the teacher in me and call me a teacher, and children did in my program.” Part of being a good teacher is looking at things from a child’s perspective. This is something Elvira has learned to do and has found it makes a real difference for children.

“I find that with my understanding of child development, I look at the child’s perspective and am more intentional [in] the teaching that I’m doing.”

When infants and young children in child care and early learning programs are cared for by highly skilled and nurturing professionals, children get the crucial early childhood education they need to form a strong foundation for all future learning. Child Care Aware of Washington Scholarships graduates incorporate the fundamentals of the best early childhood research into their classrooms, bringing play-based learning to life every day.

 **\$5,844,085**
Scholarship Funds Dispersed



Child Care Aware of Washington Scholarships is a trusted scholarship resource across our state. We have served child care and early learning professionals in almost every county, and we partner with every college and university our scholars attend. We help connect potential early childhood scholars with college ECE programs, and we help college ECE programs keep their programs open.

 **47**
Colleges in WA with
CCA of WA Scholars



“I am able to learn new ways to teach to each individual child and be more flexible so each child can get the love and support they need to be successful in my classroom.”

- Savanna Anderson, lead teacher, Kat’s Early Learning, Spokane, Student of the Eastern Washington University.