



A NOTE FROM KELLI HILBURN

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

You know what we love most about conferences? Learning more about how to best teach young children and seeing all of your **Be-YOU-tiful** faces!

The Better Beginnings staff enjoyed our time at the **Arkansas Early Childhood Association's 60th** Annual Conference. Keynote speaker **Coy Bowles** shared his heart for early childhood education and then got us to dance in a conga line. **Dr. Bridget Hamre** taught us how positive teacher-child interactions give children the support they need to thrive...or **reach for the stars!**

Thank you to everyone who participated in our booth activities. We look forward to sharing your stories, so more people can see the importance of what you do.

Keep reading for pictures and highlights of the conference. You might even see yourself!

Kelli Hilburn
BETTER BEGINNINGS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF CHILD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



WATCH NOW

Watch AECA keynote speaker and member of the Zac Brown Band, **Coy Bowles**, read his book ***Behind the Little Red Door***.



The Better Beginnings Team (Brenda Suarez, Lisa Busch, and Kelli Hillburn) poses for a picture with **Coy**, who shared a special message with AECA! Click on the button below to watch it.

Watch Coy's Message

Click on the button below or visit the Arkansas Department of Human Services website to learn more about the [10 Minutes Matter](#) initiative.

Learn More



BEHIND THE SCENES FUN

Door Prize Winners!

Congratulations to these providers for winning our door prizes! Thank you to everyone who visited us.



Reach for the Stars with Us!



If you stopped by our booth and took photos with our backdrop, be sure to share on social media with the hashtag #BBReachForTheStars.

Behind the Scenes



Better Beginnings Program Coordinator, Brenda Suarez, speaks with a booth visitor.



Arkansas child care provider, Stacey Phillips, reads a book for 10 Minutes Matter while being recorded.



Better Beginnings Program Administrator, Kelli Hilburn and Program Coordinator, Brenda Suarez, stand in front of our booth ready to greet visitors.



JOIN US IN OUR GOAL THIS YEAR TO
REACH FOR THE STARS
CLICK TO LEARN MORE

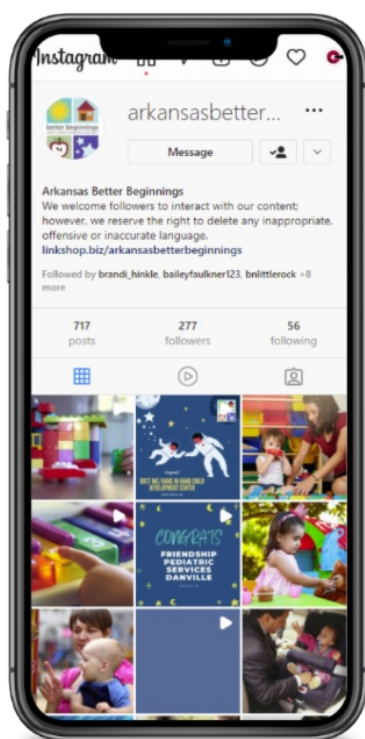


WHAT IS BETTER BEGINNINGS?



Better Beginnings means better opportunities. Investing in quality child care for all Arkansas children creates better opportunities for our children, families, workforce and communities.

Visit our
Website



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Better Beginnings is Arkansas's tiered quality rating improvement system for child care, early education and school-age programs that have gone above and beyond the state minimum requirements. Better Beginnings is administered by the Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education.



Better Beginnings | DCCECE, Attn: Better Beginnings, PO Box 1437, Slot S150,
Little Rock, AR 72203-1437

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