



Better Beginnings  
EVERY CHILD  
DESERVES  
OUR BEST.



## A NOTE FROM KELLI HILBURN

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

We're excited to explore the world of childhood with you at the 52nd annual [A-State Early Childhood Education Conference](#) on August 6-8, 2024 in Jonesboro. We're looking forward to visiting with you and sharing resources that you can take home.

Whether this is your first conference or your hundredth, there's a lot to learn. Here's how you can make the most of your time.

- **Have a goal.** Maybe it's learning a new concept or mastering a new skill. Whatever it is, a goal can help you set your purpose and intention so you spend your time wisely.
- **Attend sessions that align with your goal.** Conference sessions cover a range of topics and ideas. Choose ones that will help you achieve your goal and take good notes.
- **Network with other providers.** Conferences are a great time to meet other providers, learn from each other, and support each other.
- **Talk with industry leaders.** These are your session leaders, conference organizers, keynote speakers, and vendors. They're experts who welcome your questions and want to see you succeed.

Are you interested in learning more about CLASS? I have just the session for you. Join Lori Bridges and other Office of Early Childhood representatives for the interest session **Connect Four to Connect More! Making Connections with CLASS**. We'll take a look at the CLASS Assessment Tool and how it encourages you to create strong interactions with the children in your care.

Can't wait to see you in Jonesboro!



Until next time,

*Kelli Hilburn*

**Kelli Hilburn**

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



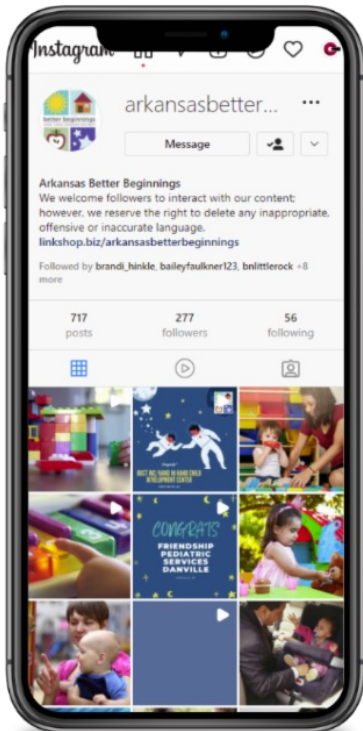
**CAN WE  
INTERVIEW YOU?**

**LEARN MORE**

You're doing fantastic work and we want to tell everyone about it. If you're attending the A-State Early Childhood Education conference and want to help us show the world how amazing Arkansas's early care and education providers are, **[contact us](#)** today to schedule an interview! Interviews will be recorded and used on Better Beginnings social and future *Buzz* editions.

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

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Better Beginnings is Arkansas' tiered quality rating and 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 Education and Office of Early Childhood.



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