



PROCLAMATION
Recognizing the Week of the Young Child

WHEREAS, the first years of a child's life are the period of the most rapid brain development and lay the foundation for all future learning; and

WHEREAS, participation in high-quality early childhood education saves taxpayer dollars, allows working families to be more economically secure, and prepares children to succeed in school, earn higher wages, and live healthier lives; and

WHEREAS, high-quality early childhood education depends on high-quality early childhood educators who help ensure children have early experiences needed for a strong foundation; and

WHEREAS, young children need skilled, educated, competent, consistent, and compensated early childhood educators and working families need robust subsidies, scholarships, and tax credits for families at all income levels that support the true cost of quality early childhood education; and

WHEREAS, early childhood educators should earn a family-sustaining wage commensurate with the required education and skills they bring to the complex and valuable work they do; and

WHEREAS, First Things First, Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children, Southern Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children, and other community organizations, in conjunction with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), are celebrating the 52nd anniversary of the Week of the Young Child; and

WHEREAS, these organizations are working to improve equitable early learning opportunities that provide a strong start for children in the Town of Marana.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ed Honea, Mayor of the Town of Marana, do hereby proclaim April 1 - 7, 2023, as the Week of the Young Child in Marana and urge everyone to support efforts that increase children and families' access to high-quality early childhood education.

Dated this 4th day of April, 2023.

ATTEST:

David L. Udall, Town Clerk



Ed Honea, Mayor