



Early Childhood Action Day Rally on May 1, 2012

Andy Williford, Vice President, Human Resources, Volvo Construction Equipment Operations Americas, spoke to a crowd of several hundred at the Capitol in support of high-quality early learning as part of an Early Childhood Action Day Rally on May 1, 2012. Andy discussed the importance of early learning as a workforce development strategy.

Early Childhood Action Day represents the power of the collective energy and voice of early childhood practitioners, community leaders, parents, and interested advocates who come together in Pennsylvania's Capitol. In the past few years, Action Day has drawn more than 1000 people together at the Capitol building in Harrisburg to deliver the message of the importance of early childhood education to state legislators.

Andy spoke about how “trade-offs and return on investment are simple business concepts that should transfer from the business world to the world of early childhood public policy. The foundation of a successful society is built in early childhood. One can equate it to the building of a house where having the proper foundation is critical. The issue of providing high-quality early care and education is both moral and practical. We need to insist that children are a real priority. It is about taking our words to action... and our actions will show whether we are committed to providing a positive legacy, through quality early learning programs and substantive investment in PA.”