

## **Questions to Guide Your Work**

### **Before you start:**

- Who are potential champions (elected officials, agency leaders, advocates)? How will you cultivate them early?
- What local data can create urgency and build the case for action?
- Which coalitions or advocacy networks already support early learning? Who else might be engaged?

### **As you design policy:**

- How will you frame the issue to build broad support beyond traditional early childhood advocates?
- What flexibility can you build into policy design to accommodate diverse contexts and needs?
- How will you incorporate the perspectives of providers, families, and communities most affected?
- What formal structures (strategic plans, dedicated funds, staff positions) will make this routine, sustainable work rather than a special initiative?

### **During implementation:**

- How will you communicate what policy means in everyday terms for children, families, and providers?
- What trusted intermediaries can help you reach communities that are hardest to engage?
- How will you collect and share evidence of early progress to sustain momentum?
- What technical assistance or capacity-building support will providers and communities need?

### **To sustain and scale:**

- What cross-sector or cross-agency partnerships can strengthen implementation?
- How will you embed this work into ongoing state or local operations so it outlasts individual champions?
- How will you ensure that all types of providers and the communities they serve are included and benefit equitably?