



Pedro E. Segarra
Mayor

**INVESTMENT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT
CRUCIAL
MAYOR SEGARRA PRESENTS POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
TO TRANSITION TEAM**

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---

(December 20, 2010)--- Hartford is a model for the state and for the nation when it comes to investing in our youngest residents--- ages birth to eight. On Friday, Mayor Pedro E. Segarra shared this knowledge and success by presenting key policy recommendations regarding early childhood development to Governor-Elect Dan Malloy's Transition Team, of which he is proud to serve as a member.

“The experiences children have between the time they are born and the time they are in third grade make a significant difference in their future. That’s why the City has invested in the education, health, and development of children so that they have the tools they need to succeed in school and in life by making seamless transitions from one age to the next. I am proud of the great strides Hartford is making on behalf of our youngest and most vulnerable residents and look forward to working with the Governor-Elect and his team to implement these strategies so that Connecticut is known not only for a highly educated and skilled workforce but for a homegrown one as well,” said Mayor Segarra.

The recommendations highlight the importance of developing a strong foundation in both education and social-emotional domains; makes a clear case for the need for childhood education before the age of 5; and emphasizes how research shows that for every one dollar invested in early childhood education, it saves \$7 in additional costs for them as adults.

Hartford’s Office for Young Children is the first in the state and one of only two in the country. Because of Mayor Segarra’s leadership, support and commitment to early childhood development, other towns and cities are using Hartford’s model as a blueprint.