PROJECT SUMMARY

Strategizing to put D.C. on a Path to Universal Child Care

Fall 2015

The Client: Universal Child Care Now D.C. Coalition is a coalition of parents and community members advocating for child care reform in D.C. Led by Jeremiah Lowery, the Coalition formed in the summer of 2015 with the initial focus of improving access to high quality, affordable overnight child care for workers. However, after hearing about the widespread problems with child care across the District, the Coalition expanded its focus to achieving universal child care within the nation’s capital. As of November 2015, the Coalition had engaged local parents to learn about their experiences with child care by surveying over 550 parents and hosting round table discussions with parents and activists across the city.

The Problem: The Coalition had significant direct parent feedback, and had attracted media attention. Jeremiah Lowery retained CJP to help determine the best strategy to capitalize on the Coalition’s momentum and lobby the D.C. government to put D.C. on the pathway to universal child care.

The Outcome: The CJP team researched and met with parents and policy experts to understand the state of child care and identify ways to create change within the D.C. government. The students then conducted an assessment of the Coalition’s strengths, weaknesses, timeline, and goals to analyze and recommend the best pathway for the Coalition to influence child care reform. Additionally, the students assessed different individuals in the D.C. government who could champion the cause. The students presented their recommendations to Jeremiah Lowery and provided a written report that the Coalition could utilize in its decision making, as well as several advocacy tools for the Coalition to use moving forward.

The Community Justice Project
600 New Jersey Avenue NW Suite 336 Washington, DC 20001
202-661-6645 communityjusticeproject@law.georgetown.edu
www.thecommunityjusticeproject.org