

PROCLAMATION

**RALPH BECKER
MAYOR**

WHEREAS, every child deserves a chance to get the best start in life possible; and

WHEREAS, the first five years of life are critical to a child's development and lifetime success; and

WHEREAS, investing in early childhood learning is one of the most promising ways to strengthen our city's and our nation's economic position; and

WHEREAS, educating our children is the greatest gift we can give to our community; and

WHEREAS, investing in children is an obligation and opportunity to ensure their future as contributing members of society.

WHEREAS, Salt Lake City values its children and is working to support our youngest citizens and their families because the parent/family is every child's first teacher;

WHEREAS, the Capital City has a responsibility to respond to the needs of its youngest residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ralph Becker, Mayor of Salt Lake City, Utah:

Do hereby establish an EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING AND LITERACY ACTION TEAM, patterned after the Salt Lake Solutions model to include community, government, business, philanthropic foundations, and non-profit organization stakeholders to study and make recommendations related to early childhood learning and literacy; and

Do hereby proclaim Thursday, June 25, 2009, as 2009 EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING AND LITERACY DAY in Salt Lake City, Utah; and

Do hereby encourage every resident of Salt Lake City to celebrate the importance of early childhood learning and literacy.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Salt Lake, Utah to be affixed on this 25th day of June 2009.