

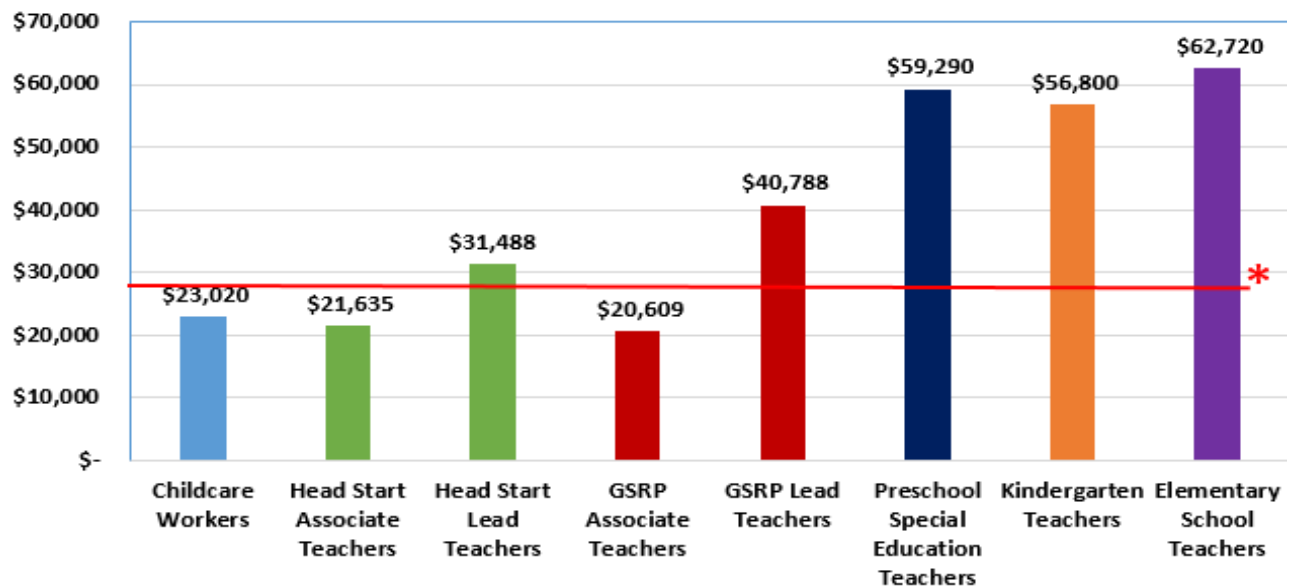
## Access to High Quality Early Learning Matters!

Research shows that during the earliest years of a child's life:

- 700 - 1,000 new neural connections form every second
- Genetics plus experiences shape the developing brain
- The foundation forms for future cognitive abilities
- Vocabulary at age 3 can predict 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Achievement

### High Quality Programs Depend on a Quality Workforce Low Wages Undermine Quality

### Michigan Average Annual Workforce Earnings



### Michigan Demographics

- 672,000** Children Under Age 6
- 315,000** Children Under Age 6 Below 200%
- 66%** Children Under Age 6 Living in Households with All Parents Working
- 42.7%** Families Led by a Single Mother with Children Under Age 6 Living in Poverty
- 38.9%** Children Under Age 6 Living in Poverty

### Michigan Average Annual Wages for Other Occupations

- Parking Lot Attendants: \$22,090
- Manicurist & Pedicurist: \$26,690
- Word Processors/Typists: \$39,180
- Nurses: \$69,120

Source: Head Start Program Information Report (2017-18); Kids Count Data Book (Michigan; 2017); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics (2017); U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 1 Year data (2017).

