Stories help people understand experiences different from their own. *Your story* can play a powerful role in helping policymakers understand what families across the country are facing, bringing to life what babies and their families need to thrive:

* Quality, affordable child care;
* Time for parents to bond with their babies;
* Healthy emotional development; and
* Strong physical health and nutrition.

This worksheet guides you through elements of your story so that you are ready to communicate why it’s so important to *Think Babies*.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Your Name** | **Your Baby’s Name and Age**  **(If you’re a parent)** | **Your Organization**  **(If you’re a professional serving babies and families)** |
|  |  |  |
| **In a few sentences, introduce your family. If you’re a professional, explain the role you play and the families that you serve.** | | |
|  | | |
| **When you think about your experience either directly as a parent or as a service provider supporting families with young children, what is one of the biggest challenges that you see?** | | |
|  | | |
| **How has this challenge affected your family or the families you serve? Why is it a problem for the larger community? How does it impact your financial security or the broader econcomy?** | | |
|  | | |
| **What programs and services have helped to support your family or the families that you serve?** | | |
|  | | |
| **What do you want your policymakers to do?** | | |
|  | | |