

Tonia McMillan, *SEIU Local 99 member and child care provider*

Tonia McMillian has been a professional Child Care Provider for 24 years. She primarily serves low-income children and their working families, ensuring that every child has a fair shot at achieving the “California Dream.” While McMillian has done this very important work of raising California’s children and serving as the backbone of support for working parents, she has faced multiple challenges. She sees other providers struggling, too, and even closing their doors. California’s Family Childcare Providers earn as little as \$4.98 dollars an hour after they cover overhead costs, pay their assistants and buy educational supplies and healthy food.

McMillian was inspired to become a leader in the movement to increase access to quality child care, provide increased opportunities for provider training and education, bring more support to working parents and empower more than 60,000 Family Child Care Providers in California. She is a Union Steward and Executive Board member of SEIU Local 99, which represents education workers across a wide array of sectors. She was appointed to the California Physical Therapy Board as a public board member. McMillian is also Co-Chair of Raising California Together, a broad coalition of child care providers, agencies, parents, educators, clergy, unions, small businesses, women’s and children’s advocates, community groups and public health organizations united to fix our broken child care system and address the ongoing child care crisis that affects providers, parents and children.