

## **Early Care and Education Consortium Appoints Indika Samarawickreme as Executive Director**

**Wednesday, November 15, 2017 (Washington, D.C.)** – The Board of Directors of the Early Care and Education Consortium (ECEC) announced today that Indika Samarawickreme will serve as its next Executive Director.

Indika will lead the nationwide early care and education organization whose members operate more than 9,000 centers, employ thousands of early educators in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, and provide educational services nationally and internationally to millions of economically and socially diverse children and working families. It is ECEC's mission to advance solutions that bring quality, affordable early care and education to families. Members include private, independent, multi-site providers, nonprofit organizations, state childcare associations, and education services organizations who offer full-day, full-year programs for children, birth through age five, as well as before and after school programs for school-age children. Indika will lead the membership to advocate before Congress and state legislatures on behalf of young children and working families.

Indika brings more than 25 years of experience as a leader and strategist. She has managed multi-million dollar programs, budgets and staffs for Fortune 500 companies and major nonprofits, as both a management consultant and Executive Director, both nationally and internationally. She brings best practices from both the private and nonprofit sectors to her work.

Early Care and Education Consortium Board President Celia Sims says, "Indika brings us new ways of thinking about how to advance the cause for affordable quality early care and education for all children and families."

"We believe Indika is exactly the strategic thinker and passionate leader that ECEC needs to move forward and advance its mission. Her unique background will bring a useful outside-perspective-in. She has a collaborative approach and a proven track record of problem solving that makes it clear to the Board that Indika is well placed to help us work with both old partners and new, to bring scalable high quality, affordable solutions to children and families in America," said Celia Sims.

"Working with our Members and Partners to develop scalable solutions to give families access to quality early care and education is critically important work. I am excited and humbled by the opportunity to serve ECEC," said Indika.

Indika holds double masters and honors degrees in Accountancy and Economics from the UK, is a Chartered Accountant, (UK equivalent of a US CPA) and earned her MBA from The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

For more information about Early Care and Education Consortium, please visit: [www.ececonsortium.org](http://www.ececonsortium.org).