

## **2022 North Carolina Congressional Candidate Questionnaire**

**Name:** Matthew Hoh

**District:** U.S. Senate

**Party Affiliation:** Green Party

**Current Occupation:** Disabled veteran

### **1. What are your views on the needs of young children (prenatal to age 5) and what specific steps would you take to address these needs?**

Young children need safe and stable environments so they can grow and develop, but many live in households that struggle to afford food, medical care, housing, and other necessities. Their parents may be overworked and living paycheck to paycheck, making it difficult to care for their children. An economic bill of rights that ensures living wages, union rights, parental leave, rent controls, and affordable childcare would remove these financial barriers. Medicare for All would allow both parents and children to access necessary care without the burden of medical debt. Ending the war on drugs would help stop the mass incarceration of people of color in particular, keeping families of color together.

### **2. What steps would you take to ensure that children birth to age five have access to high-quality and affordable early learning programs?**

Universal pre-K must be provided to all without cost. Not ensuring children have the education they need during their early formative years is tremendously irresponsible and negligent. We claim as a society to put a high value on education, but we don't not take care of our teachers, caregivers and school staff in a manner commensurate with such rhetoric and sentiment. We need to pay those involved in teaching and caring for our young children living wages, forgive their student loan debts, ensure they have complete healthcare through Medicare for All, and pursue affordable housing policies so they are able to live in the communities where they work.

### **3. What steps would you take to stabilize and sustain North Carolina's early education system and child care workforce as we approach the end of the federal child care relief funding?**

Educators and child care workers were already overworked and underpaid, and in the aftermath of the pandemic, North Carolina is facing a shortage of these workers. In order for our children to be properly cared for, we must care for these people. An economic bill of rights and a single-payer healthcare system would allow them to meet their basic needs so they can focus on providing quality childcare.