

WASHINGTON FAMILIES NEED CHILD CARE!



All families should have access to comprehensive, affordable, high-quality early care and education opportunities that are welcoming and inclusive of all self-defined families, provide for a well-trained and compensated workforce, and create environments where all children can thrive.

Washington State moms, dads, and concerned people from throughout our nation have been saying for years that our child care system is broken and in crisis.

THE DATA IS CLEAR:
Washington families need Congress to act!

Families can't work if their child care isn't working for them: Lack of public investment is forcing families to struggle to find and afford care across Washington State and our country! Parents, especially moms, are being pushed out of jobs their families depend on because they can't find child care. At the same time, early learning teachers can't afford to work for poverty-level wages and are struggling to provide for their own families, and providers can't afford to keep their doors open. The system is deeply broken.

63%
OF WA CHILDREN HAVE ALL AVAILABLE PARENTS IN THE WORKFORCE

500,000 KIDS
in Washington do not have access to child care
↳ **20% of Washington parents report they have turned down a job because of lack of childcare**

51,177
WA parents are making career sacrifices due to issues with child care

 **Child care is already unaffordable for too many WA families**

CENTER-BASED CHILD CARE IN WA:
\$14,844 annually for infants
\$11,352 annually for a 4-year old



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS DESERVE A FAMILY-SUSTAINING WAGE!

Early childhood educators in WA are paid substantially below the poverty line

17% LIVE IN POVERTY

CHILD CARE SOLUTIONS HELP OUR FAMILIES AND OUR ECONOMY!

Washington State needs to increase public investment to make affordable, high quality child care a reality for families and providers.

\$1.52 billion dollars
Estimated annual state economic benefit of affordable child care

416,712 more young kids
would be served if the child care subsidy system was expanded

We must create a child care system that meets the needs of children, families, communities, early educators and child care providers!