Strengthening Early Care and Education: A Systems Approach

Community

Child Care Provider

Family

Project Growth:
Dream Up!
Partner Up!

Child Care Counts

Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy
Child Care Counts

Monthly Payment Program to Regulated Child Care Providers

Program A – Increasing Access to Quality Child Care
- Per child payments to providers
- Allowable uses include:
  - Covering operating expenses
  - Investing in program quality
  - Financial relief for parents

Program B – Investing in Early Childhood Educators
- Per staff payments to providers
- Allowable uses include:
  - Wages and bonuses
  - Benefits
  - Professional development

$460.5 million in ARPA (federal relief funding)
- Allows providers to continue receiving support through January 2024
Project Growth Update
Partner Up!

• Strengthens existing child care options
• Partner Up! grants:
  • Help your employees secure quality child care
  • Partner with local regulated child care programs
  • Support high-quality child care in your community
• Two cohorts were awarded grants in 2022
• Exploring the possibility of another cohort in 2023
Partner Up! Awardees

- Over 220 businesses received intent to award letters
- Businesses from a number of sectors, including child care, received awards
- Funding received is based on the true cost of care, number of slots, and age group

View the full list of Partner Up! awardees at:
https://dfc.wisconsin.gov/childcare/projectgrowth/partner-up/cohort-1
https://dfc.wisconsin.gov/childcare/projectgrowth/partner-up/cohort-2
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Number/Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participating businesses</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of employee participants are people of color</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average employee age</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child care slots</td>
<td>90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Household income below $50k for 1/3 of participants</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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<td>Number of families in the program were able to continue with their current child care program</td>
<td>97%</td>
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Dream Up! Child Care Supply-Building

- Supports innovation and growth
- Dream Up! grants:
  - Create new child care business(es) in your community
  - Enhance existing providers through:
    - Expansion opportunities
    - Free trainings
    - Business supports
    - Leadership development
    - Stipends for engaging in cohort opportunities

The next round of competitive applications are open February 20 – March 17, 2023
Dream Up! Awardees

- **Cohort 1**: 12 communities awarded
  - Kicked off work last May
- **Cohort 2**: 16 communities awarded
  - Kicked off work last October
- **Cohort 3**: up to 9 communities
  - Applications will be accepted beginning February 20, 2023

View the full list of Dream Up! awardees at:
https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/projectgrowth/dream-up/cohorts-1-2
• Identifying potential resources and asking for support from state and local lead agencies.

• Preparing to open new child care centers through strategic community partnerships.

• Supporting family (in-home) providers in enhancing and growing their programs.

• Engaging high school students in course work to become providers.

• Building the child care workforce to re-open classrooms that are closed due to lack of needs.

• Planning community/employer surveys and events to learn more about local child care needs.

Cohort 1 & 2 Dream Up! Communities are focused on...

Emerging Community Work