

Spending Plan: Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act & American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

Total amount: \$95,524,397

Preliminary estimate that will necessitate adjustments during implementation

IMPROVE AFFORDABILITY & SUBSIDY PROGRAM \$28,657,319

30%

Funding source- ARPA:

- Hire a contractor to review and improve the Child Care Assistance Program to make it more accessible and supportive for parents and providers which will inform strategies such as:
 - Support parents by covering the cost of co-payments (for a period to be determined)
 - Provide grants to families not typically covered by child care assistance including those utilizing non-traditional care hours and those ineligible due to income, this will be targeted to parents working in the first responder and/or medical fields
 - Increase reimbursement rates to a higher percentile of market rate
 - Improve payment polices
 - Broaden eligibility to child care assistance
 - Update Family Income and Contribution Schedule
 - Provide contracted slots
 - Improve Child Care Grant Program & the Alaska IN! Program
- Pilot a tiered reimbursement initiative for infant and toddler care
- Provide financial aid for providers who were not participating in subsidy system prior to Covid-19 pandemic

INCREASE ACCESS TO LICENSED CARE \$45,336,010

50%

Funding source- ARPA:

- Deliver stabilization funding grants to all eligible providers per federal guidelines

Funding source- CRRSA:

- Improve technology supporting health and safety
- Provide start up grants for underserved communities for increasing licensed child care slots
- Increase funding to support research and writing of regulation changes
- Provide funding to After School Network to increase School-Age supports and child care slots
- Support increased compliance for background check program
- Provide grant to increase infant/toddler slots
- Provide grants to providers who provide non-traditional care hours and serving parents working in the first responder and/or medical fields

- Provide incentives for HeadStart and Pre-K programs expanding to operate full day licensed child care
- Support families with special needs children to increase access to child care

INCREASE SUPPORTS FOR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT \$9,552,439

10%

Funding Source- CRRSA:

- Purchase and distribute developmental screening kits and training/support
- Increase funding for UAA RSA Scholarships to those in early childhood learning paths
- Provide GO NAPSACC training and materials for child care providers to support health and nutrition
- Increase funding to support provider partnerships with the Infant Learning Program
- Improve school age standard quality work
- Provide training on protective strategies from the Strengthening Families framework to child care providers and staff
- Provide additional funding to thread for:
 - free training for providers through *thread*
 - Utilize one time funding to finalize full implementation of Learn & Grow, Alaska’s Quality Recognition and Improvement System
 - Utilize SEED professional development system funds to implement Alaska’s Early Childhood Strategic Direction strategies for supporting the workforce
 - Provide funding to Individuals in the field through SEED ROOTS awards

INFRASTRUCTURE \$9,552,439

10%

Funding Source- CRRSA:

- Hire additional positions/contractors for planning and implementation of federal relief strategies
- Coordinate with DEED (funding, policy) including HeadStart and Pre-K programs
- Provide grant opportunities to local communities or municipalities for strategies that fall within the scope of ARPA stabilization
- Supports for improving tribal coordination
- Enhance and improve technology supporting child care data and reports (ICCIS system)
- Complete the provider portal tool for child care providers