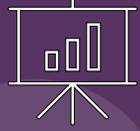


Bridging to
the *future* 

Presented by:
Stephanie Berglund, CEO of **thread**





Trends in Child Care

- Child care is in focus
- Child care data and research
- New and growing partnerships
- More money for child care
- Child care is in crisis





Child Care is in Focus

Alaska child care providers struggle to stay open as pandemic-era relief funds dry up

ALASKA

End of funding that brought more than \$95 million to providers in state leaves some saying they must now raise prices for families or risk closing.

New state child care task force faces bleak reality of Alaska's system

It has one year to

By Claire Stremple, Alaska Beacon

Lack of child care keeping Alaska families out of the workforce

Alaska nonprofit examines ways to attract child care workers

Business/Economy

STUDIO

NEWSROOM

Business/Economy

Caught in the middle: Alaska needs more child care to aid economic recovery, but facilities are pinched

By Morgan Krakow
Updated: April 24, 2022
Published: April 24, 2022

Alaska's business advocates call for making child care a priority

By Claire Stremple, Alaska Beacon

Updated: August 27, 2023

Published: August 26, 2023

Report: 61% of Alaskans live in child care deserts

Local providers say the struggle is real

The US needs a major federal investment in child care

f SHARE

By Dana Zigmund

Saturday, January 29, 2022 10:24am |

NEWS

CHILD CARE POLICY

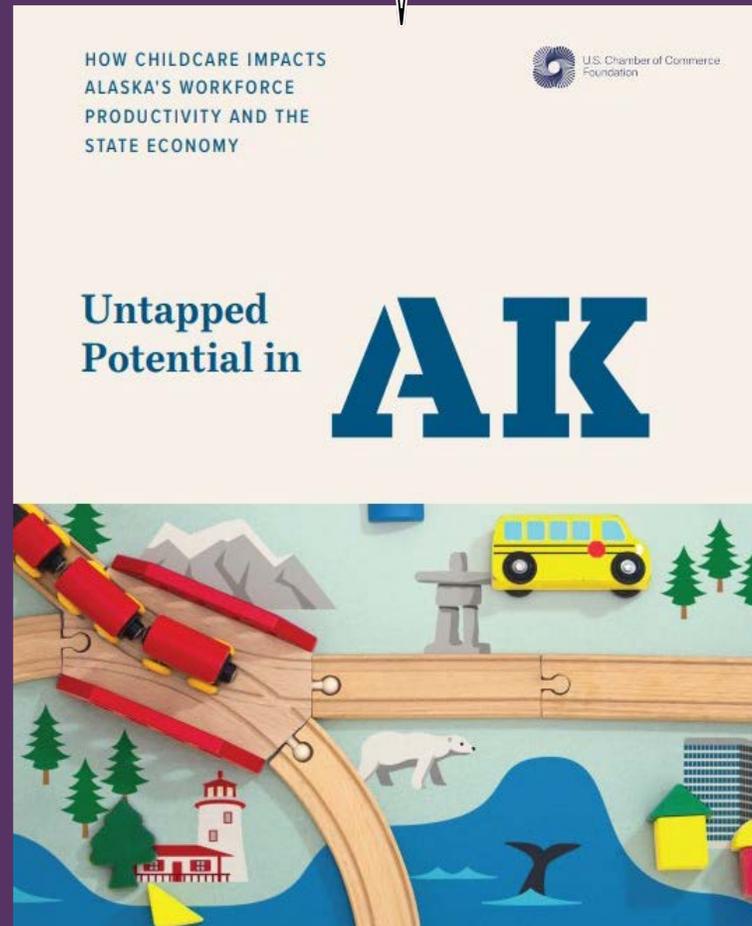
STATE & LEGISLATURE



Alaska's child care crisis is hitting foster families especially hard

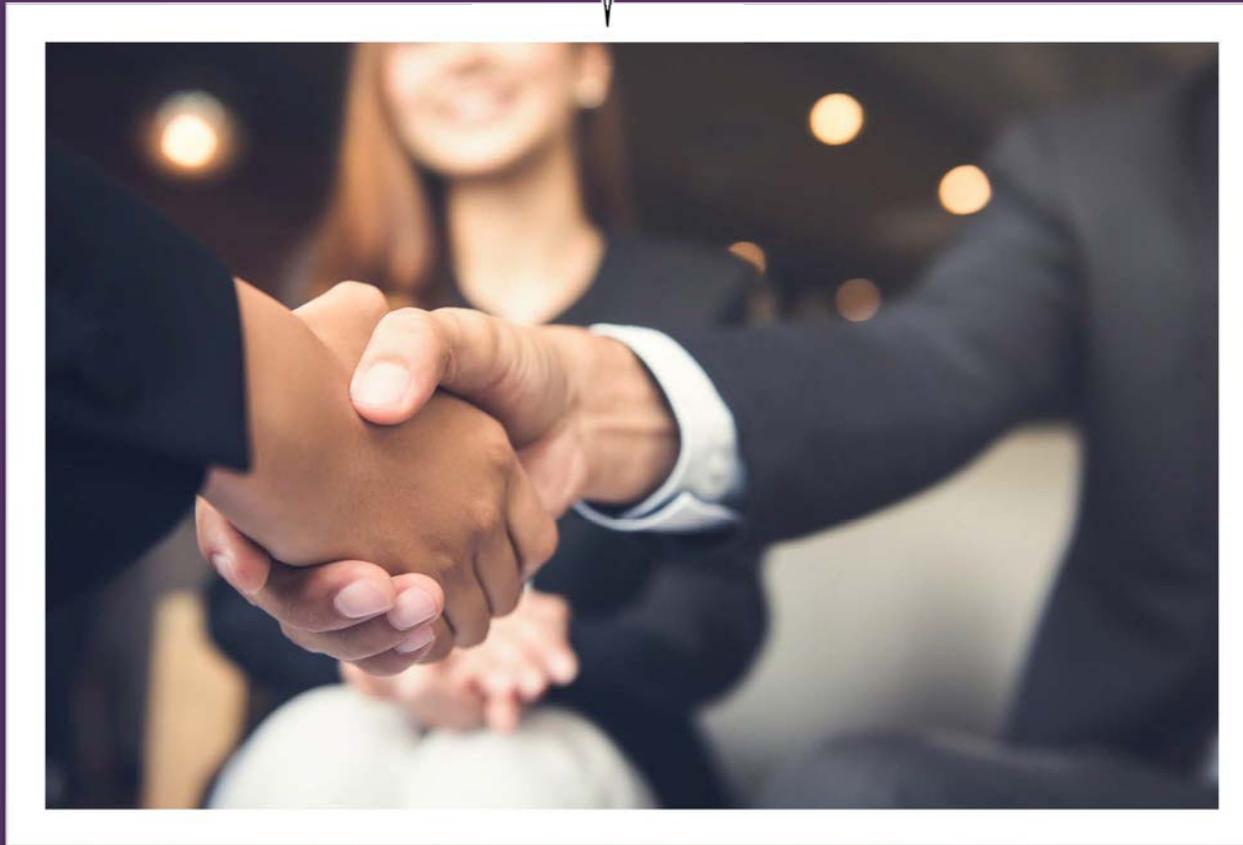
By Wesley Early, Alaska Public Media - Anchorage - August 21, 2023

Data and Research





New and Growing Partnerships





Investments in Child Care

- Over \$120M invested in child care, including:
 - \$60M in Child Care Stabilization and Program Improvement Grants
 - \$15M in Community Innovation Grants
 - \$4M in ROOTS awards to early educators
ROOTS = Retaining Our Outstanding Teacher Stipends
 - Increased local community investments
 - Focused support on early educator wellness





Alaska Legislature

Invested:

- \$1M in 2023
- \$7.5M in 2024





↑ *Growing Pressures*

- More family stress
- High competition for workers
- More challenging classrooms
- Teacher stress



Child Care is Fragile

There are currently 406 licensed child care programs with a capacity to serve approximately 10,500 children.

133 licensed programs have closed in the last 3 years.

62 have opened since early 2020.

2019: 500 licensed child care programs serving an estimated 17,700 children.

2014: 589 licensed child care programs with the capacity to serve over 20,000 children.



thread is Focused

➤ Resource and Referral

- Child care referrals
- Professional development training
- Consultation and coaching to child care programs
- Community and business resources
- SEED career ladder and financial support for early educators
- Learn & Grow, Quality Recognition and Improvement System. A framework for improved child care program quality

➤ Stabilize Child Care

- Funding for child care programs and early educators
- Tailored support and services

➤ Innovate, Educate and Advocate

- Child care works initiative
- Data and advocacy
- Increase investment in child care

We Know That...



- Child care is critical infrastructure
- Investments in child care work
- Early educators and professionals deserve better
- Child care is important to business

Alaskan
children
are counting
on YOU!





Join Us!

- Talk to your elected representatives about the importance of investing in quality child care.
- Share information and facts with a friend.
- Connect with a local business to drive change.
- Creatively respond to community needs.
- Propose child care solutions at your organization for employees and coworkers.
- Share your story with [thread](#).
- Join [thread's](#) advocacy news and opportunities for action.



Thank you!

