



Office of Early Learning

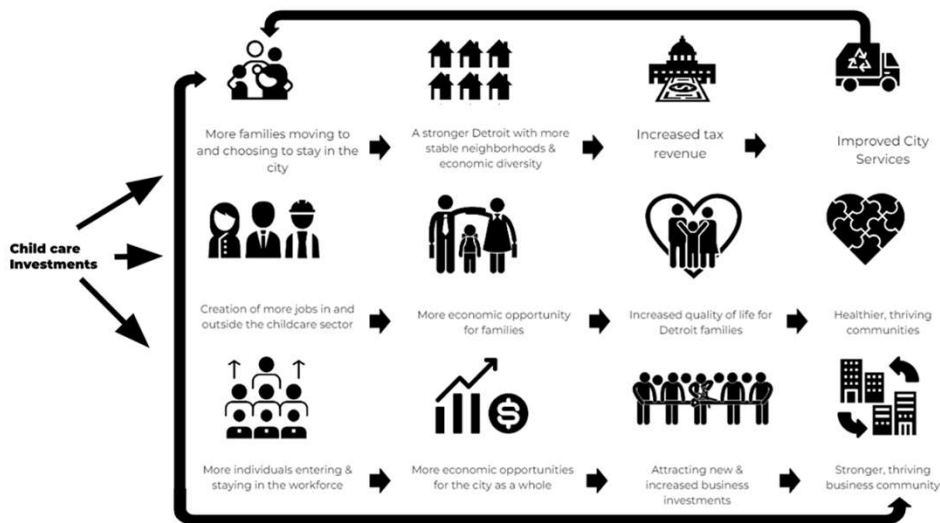
Planning Commission Presentation

5.4.23

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From Recovery to Renaissance

How Investing in child care sets the stage for Detroit's Future as a Great American City



"Investing in the nation's children is one of the safest bets policymakers can make. Research on early care and education programs finds that \$1 in spending generates \$8.60 in economic activity."
 - *The Child Care Economy*, Washington Center for Equitable Growth

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From Recovery to Renaissance

How Investing in child care sets the stage for Detroit's Future as a Great American City

Economic development starts with early childhood development, and the best investments ensure all children have access to high-quality early childhood education. Evidence shows that increased access to high-quality early learning and care programs results in short- and long-term benefits to individuals and society. Research shows:

1. Access to stable, high-quality child care also helps parents **improve their labor productivity** by increasing work hours, missing fewer work days and pursuing further education.
2. The availability of early childhood education programs attracts homebuyers and **increases property values by \$13 for every dollar** invested in local programs.
3. Early childhood education reduces grade retention and is shown to **save school systems money** for K-12 education.
4. Participants in high-quality early childhood education also show **long-term gains** in the form of lower rates of incarceration (46% reduction), lower rates of arrest for violent crimes (33% reduction) and a reduced likelihood of receiving government assistance (26% reduction).
5. In Detroit, **96% of the city's 422 child care business owners are women**, and the vast majority of those identify as women of color.



Source: [First Five Years Fund](#)

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What is the current need in Detroit's early childhood care landscape?



37,000

Detroit children ages 0-5 have parents who are participating in the workforce and need access to child care
(of the ~52,000 children 0-5 in Detroit)



21,500

The number of children 0-5 that Detroit's childcare ecosystem currently has the capacity to serve



15,500

The number of seats that need to be added to Detroit's 0-5 childcare ecosystem to meet the current need



+ 12,000

The number of parents unable to fully engage in the workforce due to lack of adequate childcare

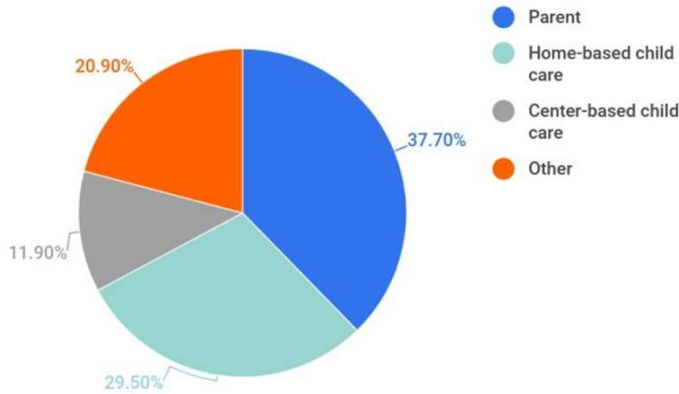
*When taking into account families who may need care due to circumstances beyond workforce participation (i.e. schooling) and the licensed classrooms that are not open due to staffing shortages, this number is even higher. According to the IFF's 2017 early childhood landscape analysis, *Building a Better System*, the actual seat gap could be as high as 28,000 in the city of Detroit alone.



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What is the current need in Detroit's early childhood care landscape?

PRIMARY CHILD CARE ARRANGEMENTS IN THE U.S.



Source: Zippia. "30+ Essential U.S. Child Care Statistics [2023]: Availability, Costs, And Trends" Zippia.com. Feb. 20, 2023. <https://www.zippia.com/advice/us-child-care-availability-statistics/>



Nationally, nearly 30% of families rely on home-based childcare.

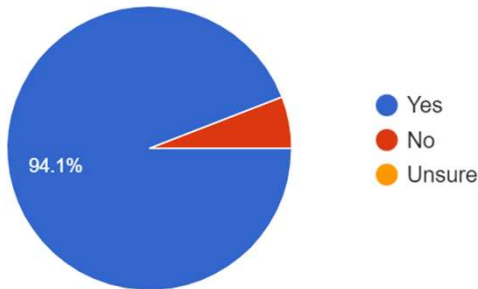
In Detroit, only 6% of licensed childcare seats are in a home-based, far below the national average and far below the current demand. (1,324 seats out of 21,828 total licensed seats)

Families with infants and toddlers strongly prefer a home-based setting. Without adding capacity to our current landscape, we will see those seats disappear as providers work to open more seats for 4 year olds under the Governor's Universal Pre-K plan, rolling out over the next 4 years.

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What is the current need in Detroit's early childhood care landscape?

If you are currently licensed as a family home, would you be interested in expanding to a licensed group child care home if you did not have to go through the conditional land use hearing & pay additional fees to the city of Detroit? 34 responses



If you answered "no" or "unsure" to the above question, what would stop you from being willing to expand to a group child care home?

"The cost I cannot afford the zoning fees with a \$3,500 salary"



Is there anything else you would like the city of Detroit's Office of Early Learning to know about the currently challenges you face as a child care provider in the city of Detroit and how the city might better support you?

"I have experience the terror of getting zoning it took over a year and almost 2000.00 dollar later to get zoning for 12 kids. the worst"

"Yes I have 3100 square foot home I originally wanted a group day care but "my area" is not in a zoning area. We need this area zoned for more children"

"This would be life changing and I would not have to search for another location as I would be able to have the daycare and utilize my current space."

"I am the only licensed childcare provider in the 48217 area and has been for the pass 14 years. I always have a waiting list of more than 20 families year-round. Childcare is greatly needed in the area, to be able to service more families would definitely help the families in our community."

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What would it take to ensure there is a seat for every child in Detroit?

Adding an additional 15,000+ seats to Detroit's childcare system will take many years, but there are actions we can take now to begin building the necessary capacity.



300+

The number of new or expanded facilities needed to create enough capacity to serve all Detroit children ages 0-5



1,300+

The number of new classrooms that will need to be opened in new & expanded facilities in order to serve all children in Detroit ages 0-5



1,300+

The number of new lead teachers who will need to be trained and/or recruited into Detroit's early childhood landscape



1,300+

The number of new Child Development Associates (CDAs) who will need to be trained and/or recruited into Detroit's early childhood landscape



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How do we begin building capacity to guarantee there will be a seat for every child in Detroit?

Create conditions for more Childcare Centers to open, especially in childcare desert areas



- Partner with the Strategic Neighborhood Fund investments to ensure communities of focus have multiple childcare options
- Pair with commercial corridor strategy to activate unused space on the city's commercial corridors, bringing more traffic to the area for other businesses and meeting a community need
- Working with the city's real estate team to identify ideal properties

Repurpose Unused and Underutilized City Assets



- Allow for childcare centers to be opened in Parks & Recreation facilities
- Allow for child care centers to be opened in old churches and school buildings that are no longer active, turning blight into a community asset

Add capacity to our Home-based Childcare Landscape



- Remove barriers to opening and expansion for home-based childcare providers
- Allow for home-based child care in all residential districts to combat child care desert areas
- Removing the barriers to expansion would allow us to add 500+ seats to the childcare landscape immediately



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Questions

