**WV CHILD CARE: SURVIVE COVID & THRIVE TOMORROW**

**IN WEST VIRGINIA:**
- 64% of people live in a child care desert.
- The annual cost of child care is more than the average cost of in-state tuition.
- WV is currently ranked 50th in child care accessibility.

**It's time to change those numbers.**
Join the conversation and let WVDHHR representatives know how to best use the American Rescue Plan funds to ensure that quality child care is accessible and affordable in WV.

**PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS**

**SUPPORTING FAMILIES**
Raise the income eligibility for families to receive child care subsidies from the current entry level of 150% of 2019 Federal Poverty Level and current exit level of 185% of 2019 Federal Poverty Level, to entry level of 185% of 2021 Federal Poverty Level and exit level of 250% of 2021 Federal Poverty Level.

**INCREASING HIGH QUALITY CHILD CARE**
Invest in and fully implement a quality review and improvement process including use of the following tools statewide: Go NAP SACC, focused on nutrition and physical activity; The McCormick Center's Early Childhood Program Administration Scale (PAS), focused on business development; and three complementary early childhood environment rating scales the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS), the Infant and Toddlers Environment Rating Scale (ITERS), the Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale (FCCERS), and the School-Age Care Environment Rating Scale (SACERS).

Increase the amount and frequency of quality grants and bonuses to incentivize all child care programs to increase and sustain higher tier levels.

**BUILDING THE SUPPLY OF CHILD CARE**
Provide funds for current or prospective child care providers to expand existing or create new child care businesses, with greater incentives in WV's child care deserts.

**SUPPORTING CHILD CARE BUSINESSES**
Pay child care providers based on children's enrollment rather than daily attendance.

**RECRUITING, SUPPORTING, AND RETAINING QUALITY CHILD CARE STAFF**
Implement a wage enhancement process, linked to the STARS Career Pathway, to increase salaries for all child care staff, with additional enhancements for higher levels of education.

Provide full subsidies for child care workers' cost of child care for their own children.

To access the full list of recommendations, scan the QR or visit https://bit.ly/wvxpforums.
GET INVOLVED

WEST VIRGINIA CHILD CARE NEEDS YOUR HELP

1. Familiarize yourself with the priority recommendations. If you have time, read the full list of recommendations.

2. Check the map and the schedule to determine which virtual public forum to attend.

3. Share and encourage others to attend a public forum.

4. Attend a forum that matches your role (parent, provider, or stakeholder). Share the recommendations that are important to you.

These recommendations are brought to you by WVAYC, KEYS 4 HealthyKids, and SECA as well as the WV Child Care: Survive COVID & Thrive Tomorrow policy workgroup, which receives funding from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation’s The Earlier, The Better project.
Public Forums
for American Rescue Plan Child Care Funds

CONNECT
Parents: 7/20 | 11:00-12:30
Providers: 7/20 | 11:30-3:00
Stakeholders: 7/20 | 9:00-10:30

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
Parents: 7/21 | 9:00-10:30
Providers: 7/27 | 11:00-12:30

MOUNTAINHEART NORTH
Parents: 7/27 | 1:30 - 3:00
Providers: 7/27 | 3:30-5:00

CHOICES
Parents: 7/22 | 11:00-12:30
Providers: 7/22 | 9:00-10:30
Stakeholders: 7/21 | 1:30-5:00

MOUNTAINHEART SOUTH
Parents: 7/21 | 5:30-7:00
Providers: 7/21 | 11:00-12:30
Stakeholders: 7/21 | 9:00-10:30

LINK
Parents: 7/20 | 3:30-5:00
Providers: 7/28 | 9:00-10:30

Scan the QR to attend your meeting.
Dial +1 929 436 2856
Meeting ID: 724 577 6099
Passcode: TP451
or visit
https://tinyurl.com/CollectiveImpactLLC