



The Child Care Conundrum

Exploring solutions to the child care shortage in Greater Minnesota

CHILD CARE FACTS & FIGURES

74%

of Minnesota households with children under the age of 6 in which all parents are in the workforce¹



15,000

number of child care spots Greater Minnesota lost between 2006-2015²

27%

statewide drop in the number of in-home family child care providers between 2006-2015²



65%

of the child care capacity in Greater Minnesota covered by family providers, compared to 30% in the metro area³

35%

growth needed in licensed child care capacity to fill shortfall statewide³



\$200-450K

average start-up costs for a 52-seat child care center in Greater Minnesota, plus property acquisition⁴

TWO BILLS, ONE GOAL

The Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities and Greater Minnesota Partnership are advocating for two pieces of legislation that aim to train more providers and increase child care capacity in Greater Minnesota:

Child Care Capital Grant Program SF 538 (Relph)/HF 423 (Brand)

Provides grants to child care providers, local governments and regional economic development organizations in Greater Minnesota to cover up to 50% of the costs to build, upgrade or expand child care facilities to increase capacity and meet state requirements.

Amount seeking from Legislature: \$10 million

Child Care Business Success & Training Fund SF 537 (Nelson)/HF 422 (Brand)

Provides funding to the Minnesota Initiative Foundations for the planning, coordination, training and education necessary to expand child care access. The money will be used to help child care providers with business improvement planning, quality mentoring and workforce development to stabilize the child care provider marketplace in Greater Minnesota.

Amount seeking from Legislature: \$3 million

Bills Go Hand-in-Hand

Both bills work together to create long-term solutions to Greater Minnesota's child care shortage. The capital grants help create more physical spaces for child care, while the business success & training fund helps ensure that new and existing child operations are successful and sustainable.

¹ U.S. Census Bureau estimates, 2014

² Center for Rural Policy and Development, September 2016

³ Center for Rural Policy and Development, August 2017

⁴ Legislative Task Force on Access to Affordable Child Care (January 2017), using performance model created by First Children's Finance