

CHILD CARE IN CT COVID-19 CHALLENGES







Open & Closed Child Care Programs by License Type (5/26/20)



FRONTLINE WORKERS CALLS TO 211 CHILD CARE

Distribution of Dedicated Line 211 Calls N=342 (3/16/20 - 5/4/20)







CT'S USE OF CONGRESSIONAL FUNDING & STATE/PHILANTHROPY SUPPORT

CTCARES for Hospital Workers: Emergency child care for hospital employees. **\$3.5 million.** Philanthropy funded and state funds

CTCARES for Child Care: Funds for child care programs caring for essential workers' children. Supports for smaller classrooms size requirements, enhanced staff wages. **\$5 million.** Federal and state funds

CTCARES for Frontline Workers: Helps frontline workers find/pay for child care. **\$10 million.** Federal and state funds

CTCARES for Family Child Care: Helps licensed family child care providers during the emergency. Connects providers with a Family Child Care Network for funding, quality improvement and other resources. **\$850,000.** Philanthropy and state funds

CTCARES for Child Care Businesses: Coming week of 5/26 - grants to private programs to sustain/restart. **\$8 million.** Federal funds





CT FUNDED PROGRAMS

OEC & OPM COVID-19 RESPONSE TO STABILIZE

Programs funded through state funds regardless of enrollment status of the child:

- CT supported its School Readiness, Child Development Centers, Smart Start, Head Start and Even Start - fully funding programs through June 30, 2020.
- CT funded all programs that were accepting Care 4 Kids with the payment amount from March through June 30, 2020.
- Total funding of state funded and C4K funding to programs = \$78 million.



State and Federal Funding Through June 30th, Then What?

- \$105 million of state and federal funds kept programs viable through the pandemic.
- > 90% of newly allocated Federal funds will run out by June 30, 2020.
- OEC working on approaches to maintain supply of state funded programs using state funds, and meet family child care needs in 2020. These will predominantly support only 25% of programs, and these programs will still face significant challenges.



PreCOVID-19 Challenges

Over the past 15 years, the number of child care providers in the U.S. has dropped by 30%, according to the Dept. of Health & Human Services.

Home-based providers have been hit particularly hard, with about half closing up shop. CNBC, 2/11/20



OEC Provider Survey, April/May 2020







- Child Care providers will face severe budget challenges with smaller group sizes, cost of cleaning and safety supplies, and parent hesitancy to return to child care.
- The vast majority of providers cannot last 2 months without additional supports.



A recent *survey* of child care centers and homes, conducted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), found that:

- 11 percent of providers could survive a closure of an indeterminate length of time without government support.
- 27 percent could survive a closure of a month.
- Center for American Progress concluded that CT could lose more than 45,000 licensed child care spaces, in a state already short 50,000 infant and toddler spaces for families who need to work.



https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/early-childhood/news/2020/04/24/483817/coronavirus-pandemic-lead-permanent-loss-nearly-4-5-million-child-care-slots /

Ready Nation Report

- Productivity challenges affect employer & employee.
- 86% of primary caregivers said problems with child care hurt their efforts or time commitment at work.
- 20% have been reprimanded, 8% have been fired, and 10% have been demoted, transferred or fired.
- Employers lose \$12.7 bil. annually in productivity due to child care cha







