The Current Landscape of Child Care Resources in Montana

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Overview

- Introductions
- The Current Landscape: Data Overview
- Child Care Resources in Montana
  - Out of School Time Care & School Systems
  - New funding to address COVID-19 Impacts
  - Resources for Employers
- Tomorrow: Collaborative Opportunities to Support Child Care in Montana
7 Regions

One goal: Support children and families by increasing access to quality child care and education

www.mtchildcare.org

#NoChildCareNoRecovery
Through local community and statewide efforts, we work in partnership and collaboration to elevate the importance of this critical time in a child’s life.

Community Collaboratives create conditions to positively impact school readiness, healthy pregnancy and school readiness.

The Statewide Office coordinates research, policy and advocacy on early childhood systems across the state.

www.zerotofive.org
https://www.zerotofive.org/covid19

OUT OF SCHOOL CARE AND SCHOOL DISTRICT COLLABORATION TOOLKIT
The role of the afterschool network:

- Data
- Quality
- Professional Development & Technical Assistance
- Policy
- Statewide Steering Council Leadership

Montana OST Programs:

- 200+ Afterschool & Summer
- 45,000+ students PreK-12
- School & Community Based

mtafterschoolalliance.org
Pre-COVID: Child Care in Montana

$9,000 per year for infant care
$8,000 per year for toddler care.
$17,000 per year for care of an infant and toddler

Yet, Early Childhood Teachers earn on average $9.84 per hour

44% of children in need of care could be served by the existing child care infrastructure prior to COVID.


#NoChildCareNoRecovery
OST in MT: What we know

Of school-aged youth in Montana:

27% enrolled during the school year

11.4% enrolled during the summer

MT only has secure public funding for on

10.6% of school-aged youth to be served.

51% = School-Based
- Skill-Building, topic specific
- School or community run

49% = Community Organizations
- YMCAs
- Boys & Girls Clubs
- Libraries
- Museums – Children’s, Science, Art
- Parks & Recreation
- 4-H
- Youth Development Organizations
- Faith-based
- Higher-Ed - summer
Funding OST: Long Term & COVID-19 Impacts

Secure Access for Low-Income:

- **21st CCLC** 29 Grantees/91 Centers
  - Changes: In 2016-17 = 79 Grantees/147 Centers
  - COVID-19 = May use when students not receiving regular school day instruction

- **CCDF** 5 School-Age Programs Licensed
  - COVID-19 = Increased daily rate, Best Beginnings pay regardless of attendance

Other:

- **Grants/Parent Fees/Community Support**
  - COVID-19 = Unreliable, but not non-existent

- **CARES Act**
  - COVID-19 = PPP & Stabilization Grants
**Mission**

The Montana VOAD is the forum where organizations share knowledge and resources throughout the disaster cycle—preparation, response and recovery—to help disaster survivors and their communities.

Members of the Montana VOAD form a coalition of nonprofit organizations that respond to disasters as part of their overall mission.
What is MT VOAD?
79% of Employers reported not offering any type of child care benefits as a part of employment.

63% of Employers reported child care needs have impacted their business.
78% of Families have had a negative* employment impact due to COVID

*Furloughed, Fired/Laid-off, Reduced Pay, Reduced Hours, or shifted to work from home
CHILD CARE NEEDS

92% of Families have same or greater child care needs due to COVID impact
CHILD CARE NEEDS BY AGE

Total Responses = 2,805 * 178 Children with Special Needs
New Funding for Child Care:

August 11 - Governor Bullock Directs $50 Million to Maintain and Expand Child Care and Support Montana Families
IN-HOME CHILD CARE GRANT FOR FAMILIES

$4,000 Scholarship
No income limit
Apply with your local CCR&R today!

Parents and guardians with children ages 0-18 who cannot return to child care or school during the pandemic due to special circumstances may be eligible.

Special circumstances may include:
- Unique work schedule
- Compromised health of a family member
- Children with special needs
- Foster or kinship family with unique in-home needs
- No group care available in rural area
Grants are available to organizations offering programs for school-aged children to meet the needs of working parents during out-of-school or after-school time!

Eligible programs will serve children ages 5-18 during out-of-school time during the pandemic and must serve at least 25% low-income children.

APPLICATION & MORE INFORMATION: HTTPS://COVIDRELIEF.MT.GOV

Apply today!
Resources for Employers
Solutions for Employers

- On-site care for employees' school aged children
- Donating/Sharing space with OST providers
- Reserving/Purchasing licensed child care slots
- Provide child care flexibilities to your employees: teleworking and flexible work schedules
- Explore child care cooperative model
An initiative to strengthen Montana employers through family friendly practices and policies

*More information coming in October*
INTERESTED IN…?

Exploring Policies that Support Working Families, as well as COVID resources and local connections
Contact Caitlin @ caitlinj@zerotofive.org

Partnering with OST Providers.
Contact Laurie @ laurieb@mtaftersschoolalliance.org

Learning more about how to offer resources for families with children birth to five.
Contact Meghan @ mballenger@mtchildcare.org
COORDINATION IS THE KEY

- Equity
- Effective Use of Resources
- Public Health Outcomes

Join us Tomorrow for:
Collaborative Opportunities to Support Child Care in Montana