

City of La Crosse Child Care Development Project

2023 Recap

The Parenting Place is thankful for their ongoing partnership with The City of La Crosse which is utilizing ARPA funding to increase the availability and sustainability of child care in our community. We are excited to share our accomplishments from 2023.

2023 Accomplishments

Designed and **administered a survey** to regulated child care providers to identify the true needs and challenges of child care programs.

Created and disbursed **Workforce Recruitment and Retention Stipends** to existing child care programs (27 stipends for a total of \$167,000).

Provided **3 Start-up Grants** and **1 Expansion Grant** which added an additional 81 child care slots (total \$54,000).

Connected a local, soon-to-close child care program with new owners and provided support throughout the transition (retaining 32 child care slots in our community).

Launched and facilitated *Local Conversations: Child Care Edition Meetings* - a series of meetings that engage the business community around child care solutions.

Hosted and/or attended over **15 marketing and outreach events** to discuss the child care crisis and share both challenges and potential solutions.

Met individually with more than 15 diverse local employers and community organizations.

Hosted the first annual Child Care Appreciation Event which had over 130 child care providers in attendance.

Created and disbursed **Back-to-Capacity Grants** to existing child care centers who are operating under licensed capacity due to staffing challenges to support the workforce (6 grants for a total of \$25,000).

Announced a new **Mentorship Program** that connects Directors, Administrators, or Family Providers with a seasoned child care professional utilizing a relationship-based approach (beginning January 2024).

2024 Goals

- Readminister survey to update information on the state of child care in our community.
- Provide financial support for professional development for early childhood professionals.
- Market the child care profession to engage the community around the economic necessity of child care.
- Incentivize employers to support their employees' child care needs by investing in existing child care within our community.



81

New Child Care Slots

within the City of La Crosse



\$207,000

To Existing Child Care Programs

within the City of La Crosse



32

Child Care Slots Saved From Imminent Closure

within the City of La Crosse

