

Minnesota's Child Care Assistance Program: Essential for child & economic development



CCAP allows kids from birth to age 13 to thrive in stable care environments. Sixty-percent of CCAP recipients are kids of color.



Parents work at all times of the day. CCAP is available for the times of the day and days of the week parents and employers need.



Affordable child care is a two-generation approach to economic security, allowing parents to work and children to succeed.



Minnesota's investment in affordable child care has decreased by 25 percent since 2003 (in inflation-adjusted dollars), and provider reimbursement rates are out of date.



Affordable child care allows employers to hire and keep the workers they need, and is an effective tool to address barriers to training and work faced by families of color.

Affordable child care is key to strengthening Minnesota's robust economy for years to come. CCAP supports children and families in every Minnesota county, so that all of our communities can prosper.



KIDSCAN'T WAIT

For more information: www.mnbudgetproject.org/current-agenda/Making-Affordable-Child-Care-Available-to-More-Minnesota-Families (January 2017)



2018 Legislative Agenda

Kids Can't Wait prioritizes provisions that promote economic and developmental stability by reducing barriers to accessing Minnesota's Child Care Assistance Program.

Specifically, we support:

- **Stability for homeless families:**
 - Expediting application processes and waiving work requirements for three months will help homeless families both access stable child care sooner, and keep those families in the program by giving additional time to develop a work/education plan and gather verification paperwork.

- **Eliminating barriers that disrupt child care and harm a family's economic security:**
 - Eliminating the six-month limit on the portability pool, used by parents who move from one county to another, will provide uninterrupted care, rather than ending assistance after six months;
 - Eliminating barriers for families who are ready to move off of the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) sooner, by changing the requirement of receipt of MFIP from three months to one month before the family can move to Transition Year Child Care Assistance.

- **Supporting providers, who are increasingly taking CCAP families at a financial loss:**
 - Increasing the CCAP provider reimbursement rate from 2011 levels to the most recent market rate survey.

Who we are: The Kids Can't Wait Coalition is a coalition of nonprofit and religious organizations focused on making child care affordable for more Minnesota families.

Endorsing members: *Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Children's Defense Fund-Minnesota, Head Start, Hmong-American Partnership, Hunger Solutions, ISIAAH, Jewish Community Action, Joint Religious Legislative Coalition, Legal Services Advocacy Project, Minnesota Alliance of YMCAs, Minnesota Budget Project, Minnesota Child Care Association, Minnesota Coalition for Women's Economic Security, Minnesota Licensed Family Child Care Association, Partners to End Hunger, People Serving People, Project for Pride in Living, Simpson Housing Services, St. Paul Promise Neighborhood, and YWCA of Minneapolis*

Contact: Jessica Anderson, legislative affairs director, Children's Defense Fund – Minnesota:
janderson@childrensdefense.org; 651-855-1188