



Improving the lives of Iowa's women & girls

IOWA WOMEN'S
FOUNDATION

Building Community Child Care Solutions: Invitation to Submit a Letter of Interest

Funding Opportunity

The Iowa Women's Foundation (IWF) has established the Child Care Solutions Fund (CCSF). The CCSF is a "field of interest" fund for grantmaking and action hosted by the Iowa Women's Foundation. In particular, the CCSF is designated to improve the lives of Iowa's women and girls through economic self-sufficiency and specifically by improving the availability of, and access to, quality affordable child care in Iowa. The funds in the CCSF are invested in organizations and institutions focused on innovative and sustainable strategies/solutions ensuring access to affordable quality child care that decreases the work force gap and ultimately increases women's economic security across Iowa.

Currently, too many women must opt out of the workforce because there is no child care available to them or their families. The availability of affordable, quality child care is a key component to diversifying, broadening and strengthening the work force and Iowa's economy. The IWF is proud to sponsor this grant that support solutions to this crisis.

Who is Eligible to Apply?

All potential programs must be or plan to be a registered child development home, licensed child care center or preschool, or a Department of Education preschool. You must provide a certificate of registration or license with your LOI. All programs must work to increase the availability of quality, affordable child care in the state of Iowa.

Ideal partners for the CCSF include, but are not limited to non-profit organizations, for-profit institutions, community partners, and entrepreneurs that are serious about creating and sustaining solutions for quality affordable child care in their areas. Unlike the IWF's Core grantmaking, this fund can be used to support community-based solutions such as: building and expanding a child care center, maintaining and increasing child care entrepreneurs, establishing before and after school programs, innovatively addressing child care for 2nd and 3rd shift workers and creating businesses and child care partnerships.

How to Apply

A Letter of Interest (LOI) form is available for completion electronically by clicking this [link](#). Letters must be submitted by Friday, July 29th, 2022, 5:00 pm. Please read the LOI [Guidelines](#) before starting your online request.

Statewide Information Session

An information session will be held via zoom for all that would like to learn more about the process and how to apply. Two sessions will be held on June 28, 2022 – 9:00 am and 6:00 pm. Please RSVP to ann@iawf.org for the link to attend.

Timeline

Each applicant will be notified by September 1 of their status. Those moving to the next round of review will be asked to complete a more detailed application at that time.

A panel of child care experts will review all applications. Those selected for a grant award will be notified by mid-November.

Funds are to be used during the 2023 calendar year. A mid- and year-end report will be required, and a site visit will be scheduled in 2023.

