



EVERYONE CAN HELP SUPPORT IOWA'S CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

In lowa—where we lead the nation in the number of parents who work outside the home—child care is the engine that drives our economy.

When parents don't have access to quality, affordable child care, they are often forced to take time off the job, scale back to part time, or drop out of the workforce altogether. As a result, our families, businesses, and communities as a whole suffer along with them.









We cannot accept these numbers. The lowa Women's Foundation is calling on businesses, churches, civic organizations, schools, nonprofits, local leaders, and individuals from every facet of our community to do their part to support local child care providers. Here's how:

Sharing Resources to Strengthen Iowa's Child Care Industry

By pooling community resources, we can make it easier for providers to access the tools and support they need to make it financially viable.

Child care providers rely on goods that many businesses can either donate, or provide at a reduced cost. Additionally, many business support services used by one child care provider could be easily replicated for another. Child care facilities can also share the resources they have at their disposal with other providers to strengthen their local industry.

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The following is a sampling list of shared services that would be valuable to lowa's child care providers:





VOLUNTEER

Staffing support ▶ Board membership ▶ Fundraising ▶ Professional expertise



SERVICES

Lawn maintenance ▶ Snow removal ▶ Cleaning ▶ Construction ▶ Trash pick up

Handywork (painting, plumbing, electrical, windows) ▶ Human Resources assistance ▶ Accounting



SPACE

Rent ► Storage ► Utilities ► Water ► Heating & Cooling



MATERIALS/SUPPLIES

Washers/dryers ► Cribs ► Tables/chairs ► Storage cabinets ► Play equipment
Safety equipment ► Cleaning supplies/laundry detergent ► Office supplies ► Paper products
Toys/books ► First aid supplies/gloves ► Diapers/clothes ► Formula ► Gift cards
Monetary contributions



CONNECTIONS

Business support (accounting, management, marketing, HR, tax, financial) ► CPR/first aid training
Technology support ► Gym memberships ► Museums/libraries/zoos/community activities
Employee appreciation

¹lowa State University, Department of Human Development and Family Studies: Estimated Cost of Child Care Shortage in Iowa, February 2020 ²US Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Untapped Potential in Iowa: How Child Care Impacts Iowa's State Economy, February 2020 ³US Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Untapped Potential in Iowa: How Child Care Impacts Iowa's State Economy, February 2020 ⁴US Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Untapped Potential in Iowa: How Child Care Impacts Iowa's State Economy, February 2020