



# No Child Home Alone Summit

July 21, 2020

Presented by the Montana VOAD Child Care Sub-Committee  
Facilitated by Sarah Corbally



<b>Meeting Goals</b>	<b>Meeting Values</b>
Understand the problem from the Child Care and Out-of-School Time care experts	Environment is changing fast
Collect questions/concerns/emerging strategies	It is important to remain flexible
Create a collective commitment to solving this problem together	The VOAD knows they cannot solve this problem alone and everyone has a role to play in planning how to care for our children while parents are at work
Define potential next steps	We understand this is a difficult topic and acknowledge the trauma that can be experienced by those participating

**Throughout the meeting be thinking about:**

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- 1) What matters most to you that you want to share with others today?**
- 2) What will you walk away with from today's meeting?**
- 3) What solutions are most intriguing to you and why?**

**We will ask you to contribute your responses in the chat box at the end of the meeting.**

# What is MT VOAD?



MT Child Care Resource and Referral Network



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**ENHANCE**

**Essential Child Care Needs COVID & Beyond**

**Amber Caldwell**

***sciGaia***

# ENHANCE

Help us understand how COVID-19 has impacted you and what needs you have moving beyond COVID-19.

## Essential Child Care Needs Covid & Beyond

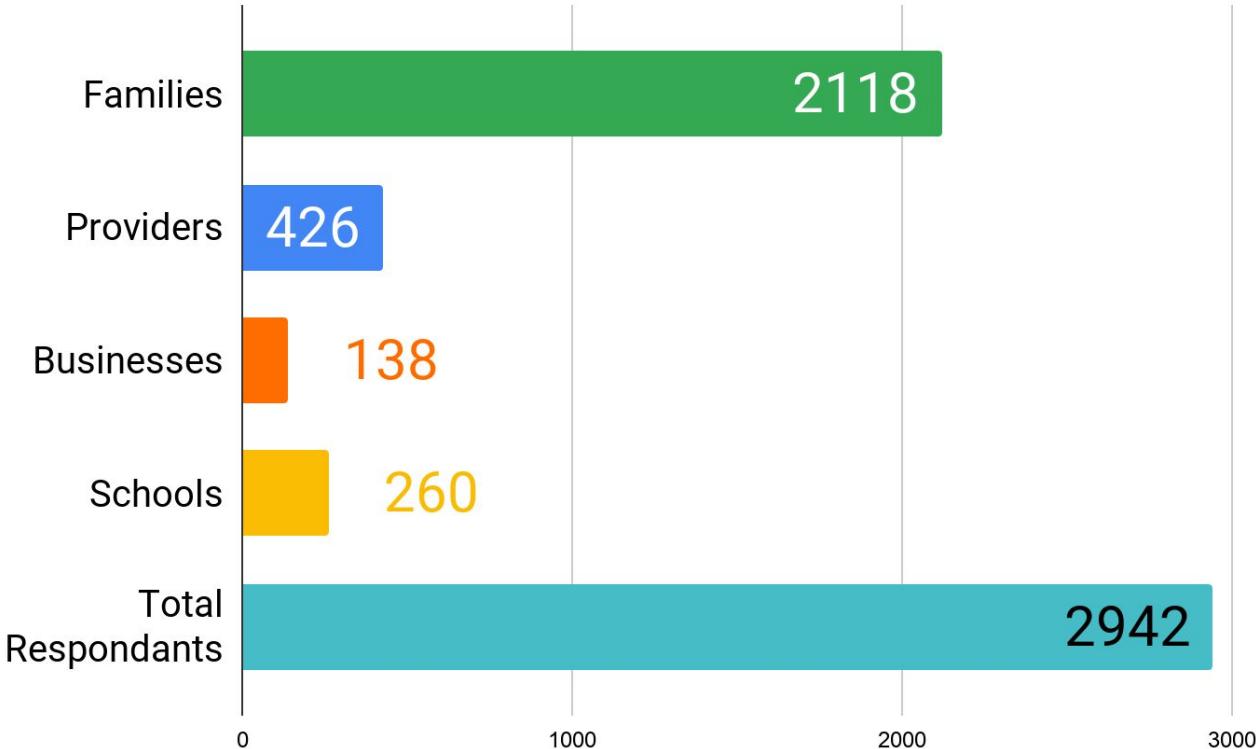
ENHANCE is a collaborative initiative to address child care needs across the state of Montana. Due to COVID-19 school and business closures resulted in cascading affects to families, providers, businesses and schools. The statewide socio-economic impact of COVID-19 is significant. Moving beyond COVID-19 child care has a direct correlation to the resiliency and ability for the state to re-open. ENHANCE has a mission to ensure Montana re-opens more resilient by addressing the cascading affects and resources needed across families, providers, businesses and schools.

The results of this comprehensive survey will be publicly shared through a free webinar to introduce action plans that engage with community leaders including care providers, schools and businesses.

**[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY!](#)**

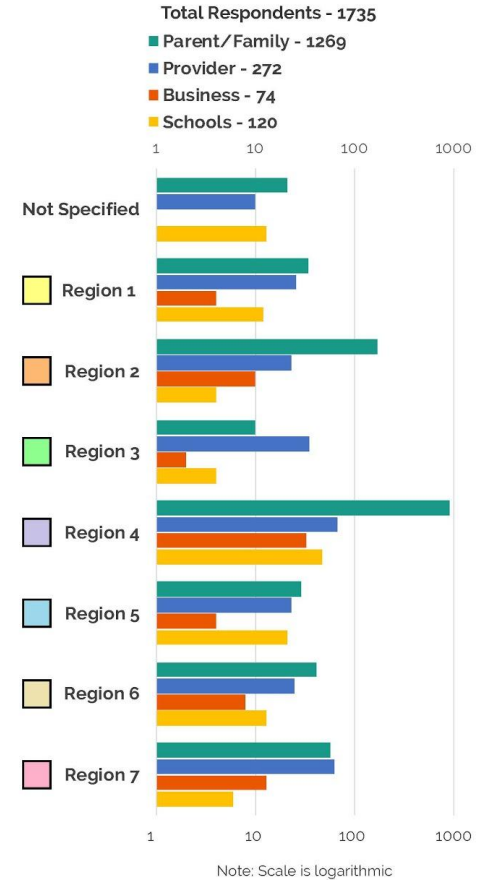
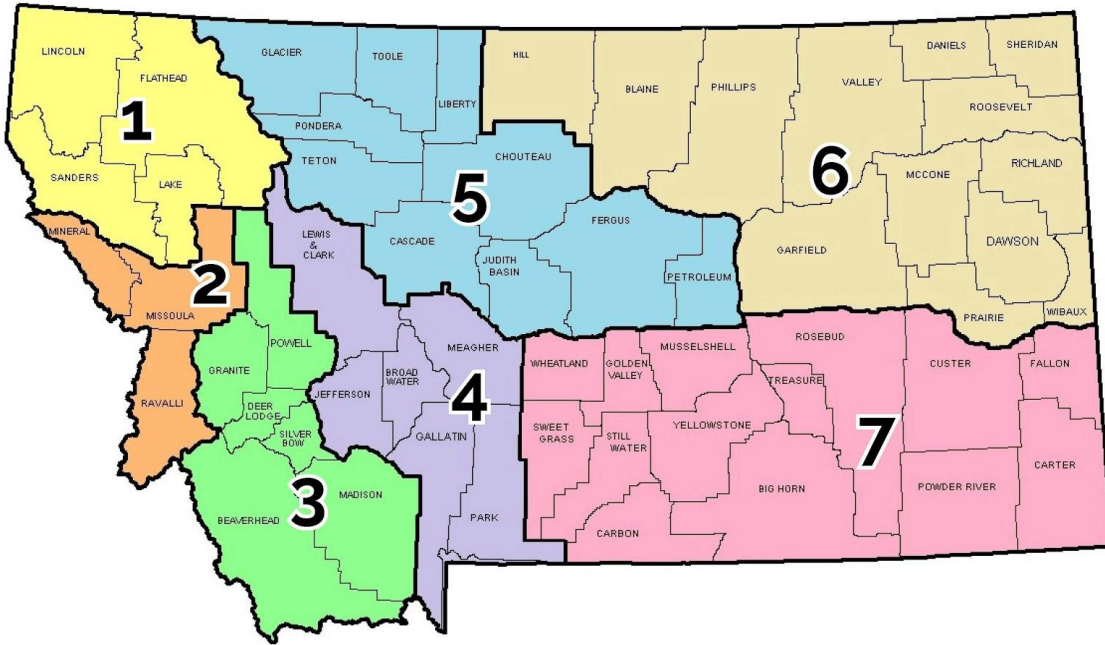


# Survey Responses | Total Responses 2,942





# Number of Survey Respondents by Type across Montana Regions



# EMPLOYMENT

**78%** of Families have had a  
**negative\*** employment impact  
due to COVID

*\*Furloughed, Fired/Laid-off, Reduced Pay, Reduced Hours, or  

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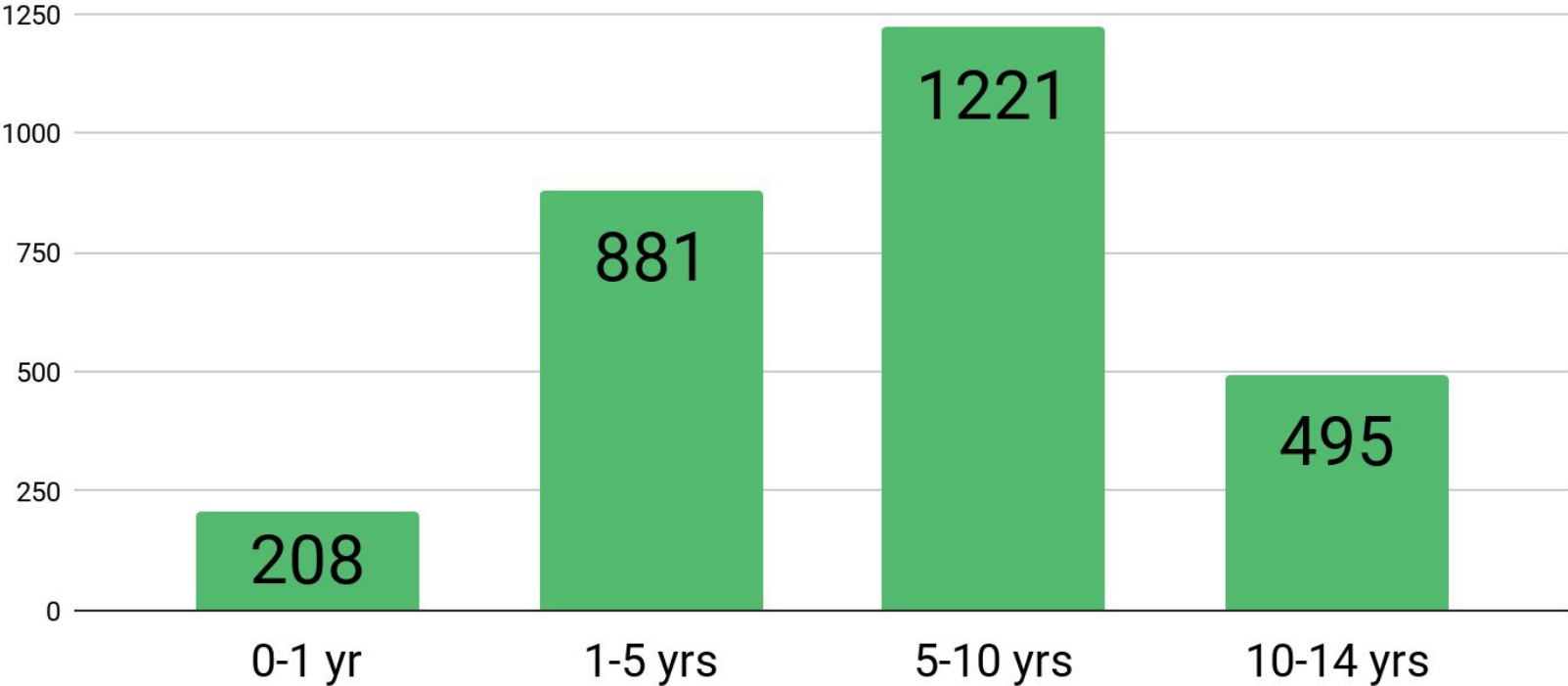
shifted to work from home*

# CHILD CARE NEEDS

**92%** of Families have same  
or greater child care needs  
due to COVID impact

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# CHILD CARE NEEDS BY AGE



Total Responses = 2,805 \* 178 Children with Special Needs

# AFFORDABILITY

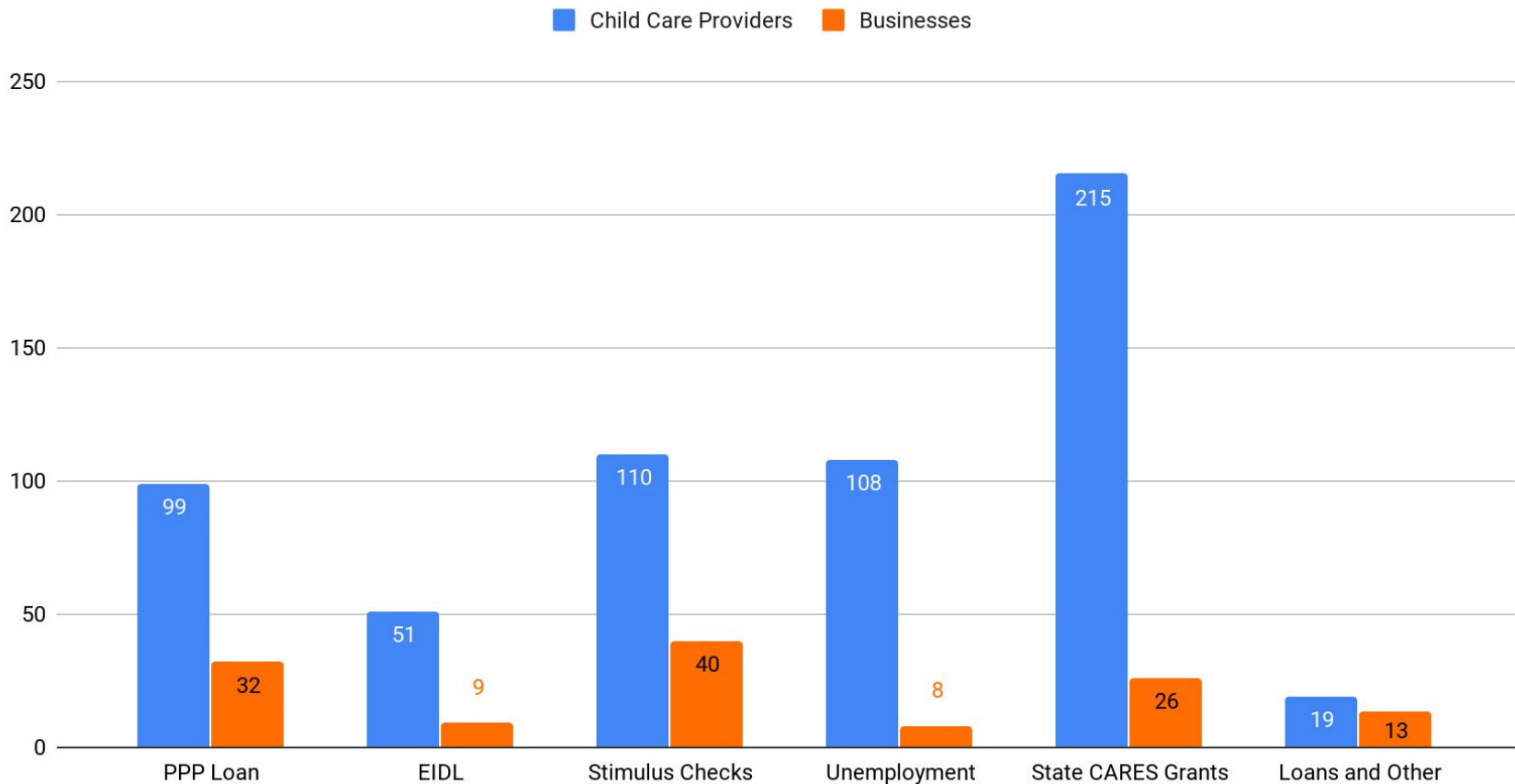
Only 72% of Families  
can currently afford  
Child Care

# STABILITY

**More than ¼ of care providers\* (28%)  
expressed concerns of permanent  
closure in the next 6 month**

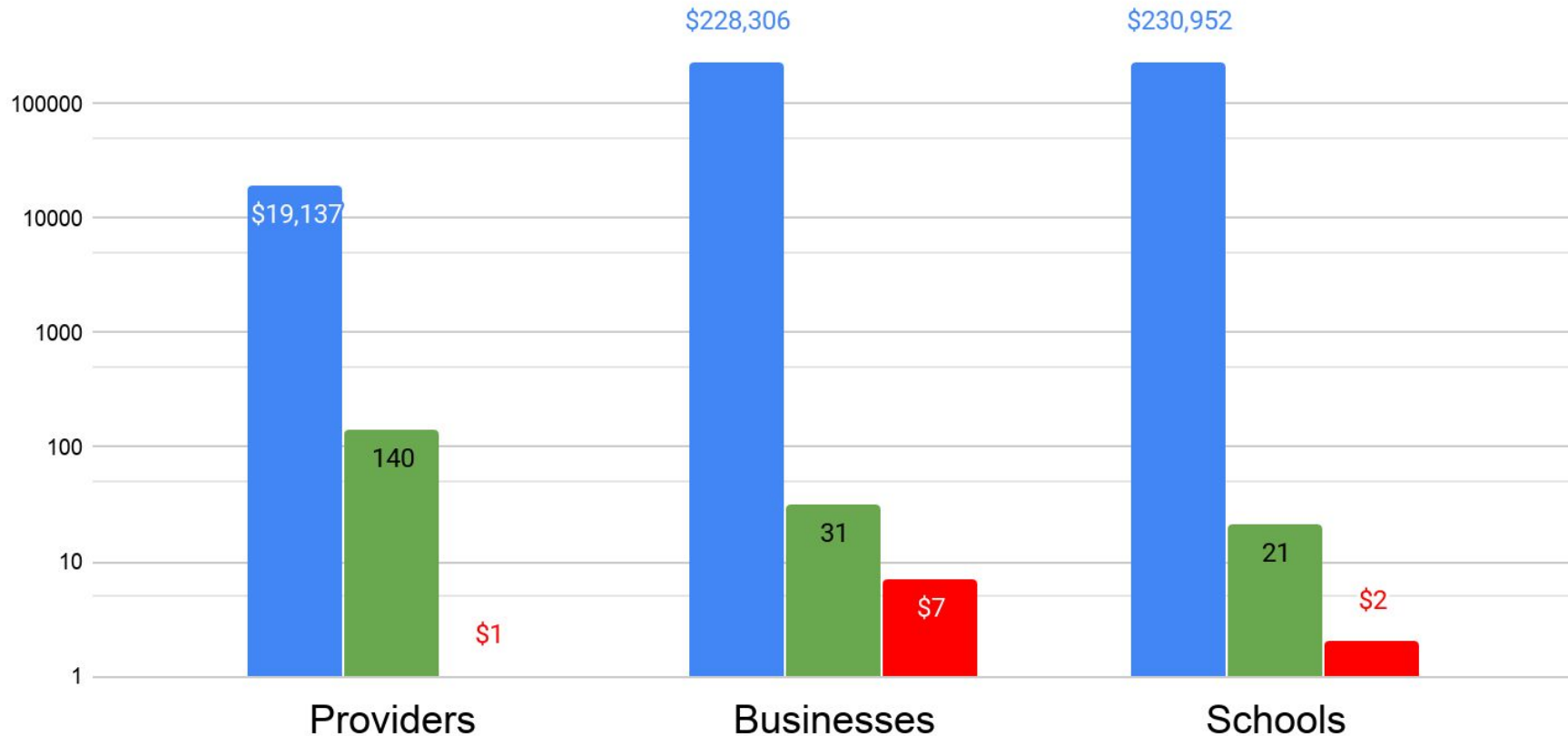
**\*Includes: Child Care Centers, Group Home at a Private Home, Family Home, Registered Family/Friend and Neighbor FFN Care, Summer Camps, After School Program, Pop-Up Emergency Child Care Services, Other)**

# RELIEF ACCESS



# MONETARY LOSS DUE TO COVID

■ Average \$\$\$ Loss   ■ Number of Responders   ■ Highest Loss in \$M







## **Major Insight Opportunities**

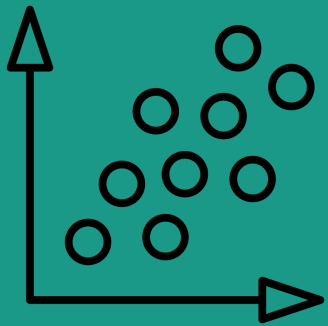
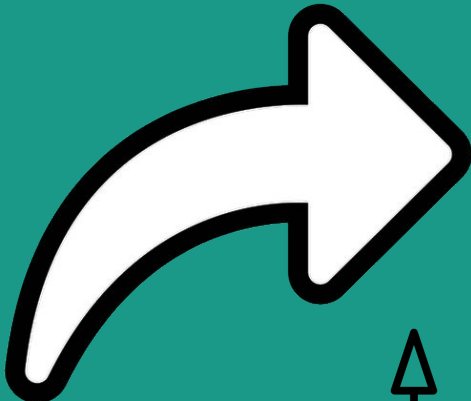
Social & Economic Impact of COVID-19

Prioritizing for Current & Future Needs

Readiness & Best Practices

Toolkit Resources

# ENHANCE Webinar



**You are Invited - Webinar**

**Share Full Survey Results**



**ENHANCEMT.org**

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# Child Care

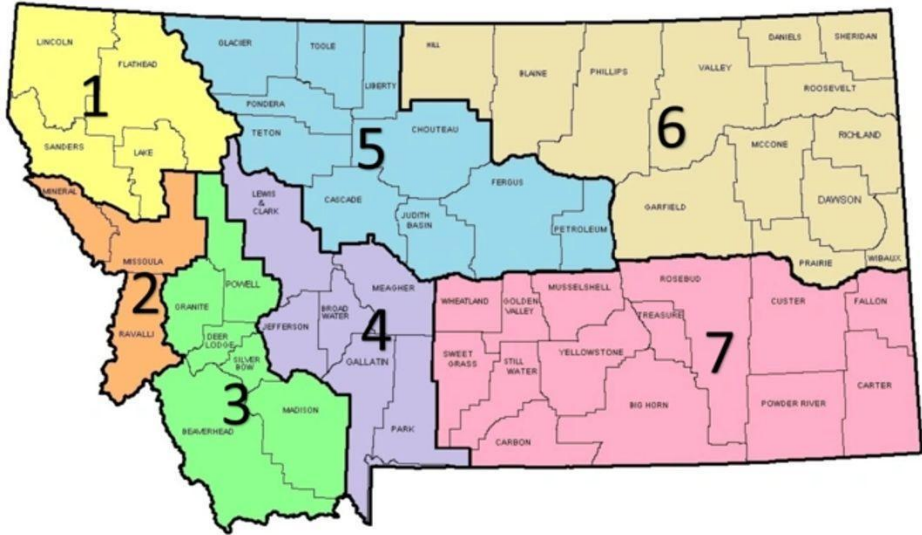
**Meghan Ballenger**

*Montana Child Care Resource and Referral Network*



# Mission

Coordinate efforts to build a high quality, accessible early childhood care and education system that supports young children, parents, early childhood professionals, and member organizations.





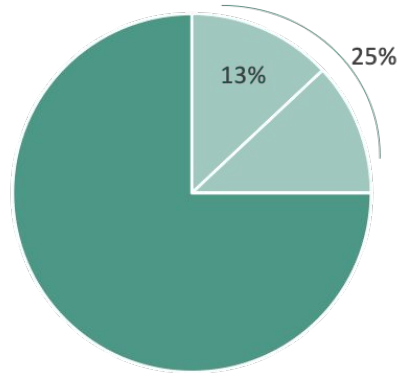
**Child care teachers  
are essential  
workers—let's treat  
them that way**

Early educators have always provided a critical service that allows other workers to do their jobs. But during this pandemic, they are being asked to serve children of other essential workers without the appropriate pay, health care, and personal protective equipment (PPE) or recognition that should come with risking their lives.

Source: [CSCCE COVID19 Infographic](#)

# Child Care in Montana

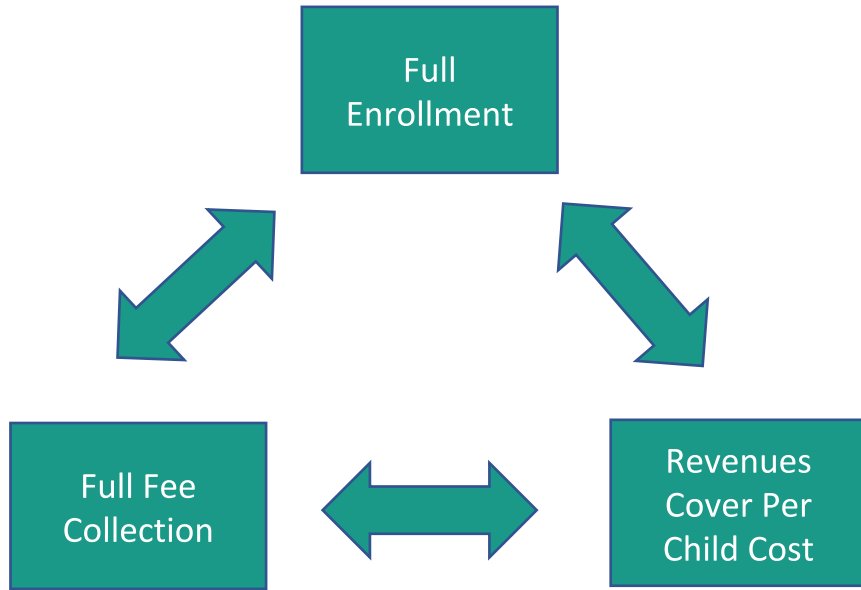
- \$9,000 per year for infant care
- \$8,000 per year for toddler care.
- \$17,000 per year for care of an infant and toddler



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

58% of Montana respondents indicated they would be unable to survive a closure lasting two weeks or more

# ECE Iron Triangle



Source: Stoney, L. *The Iron Triangle: A Simple Formula for Financial Policy in ECE Programs*. Opportunities Exchange

# Effects of COVID-19 on Child Care

- Decreased Enrollment
- Increased Expenses
- School Aged Care



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# Out-of-School Time Care & School Systems

**Laurie Bishop**

*Montana Afterschool Alliance*

# Out-of-School Time (OST) in Montana

## The role of the afterschool network:

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



## Montana OST Programs:

- 200+ Afterschool & Summer
- 40,000+ students PreK-12
- School & Community Based  
BGCs, YMCAs, Parks & Rec., Museums



[mtafterschoolalliance.org](http://mtafterschoolalliance.org)

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# Funding OST: Long Term & COVID-19 Impacts

## Secure Access for Low-Income:

- 21st CCLC 29 Grantees/91 Centers
  - COVID-19 = Sustainable, flexible \$ - virtual, distribute materials, PD & planning
- CCDF 5 School-Age Programs Licensed
  - COVID-19 = Expanded access for non-licensed - emergency & summer

## Other:

- Grants/Parent Fees/Community Support
  - COVID-19 = Unreliable, but not non-existent
- CARES Act
  - PPP, SBA, Social Services by programs / Schools can use funds as well

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# What OST Can Offer: This fall and beyond

- **Keep kids connected and learning**
  - Leverage existing relationships with kids and families
  - SEL and trauma-informed practices - integral to academic success
  - Targeted partners for academic recovery
- **Help parents return to work**
  - Partner with schools to address child care needs
  - Community-based programs with non-school staff may play unique role
- **Support safety and well-being**
  - Be a part of response for COVID-19 safety
  - Integral part of network for safety from abuse and neglect

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# Solutions from the Community

**Grace Decker**

*Zero to Five Missoula*

**&**

**Sarah Krumm**

*Greater Gallatin United Way*

# COORDINATION IS THE KEY

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- **Equity**
- **Effective Use of Resources**
- **Public Health Outcomes**



# ASSET MAPPING

## Community Experts

- Business
- Care, Enrichment, Education



## Facilities

## Sources of support

- Services for staff and families
- Supplies
- Funding
- Volunteers



# TYPES OF SOLUTIONS

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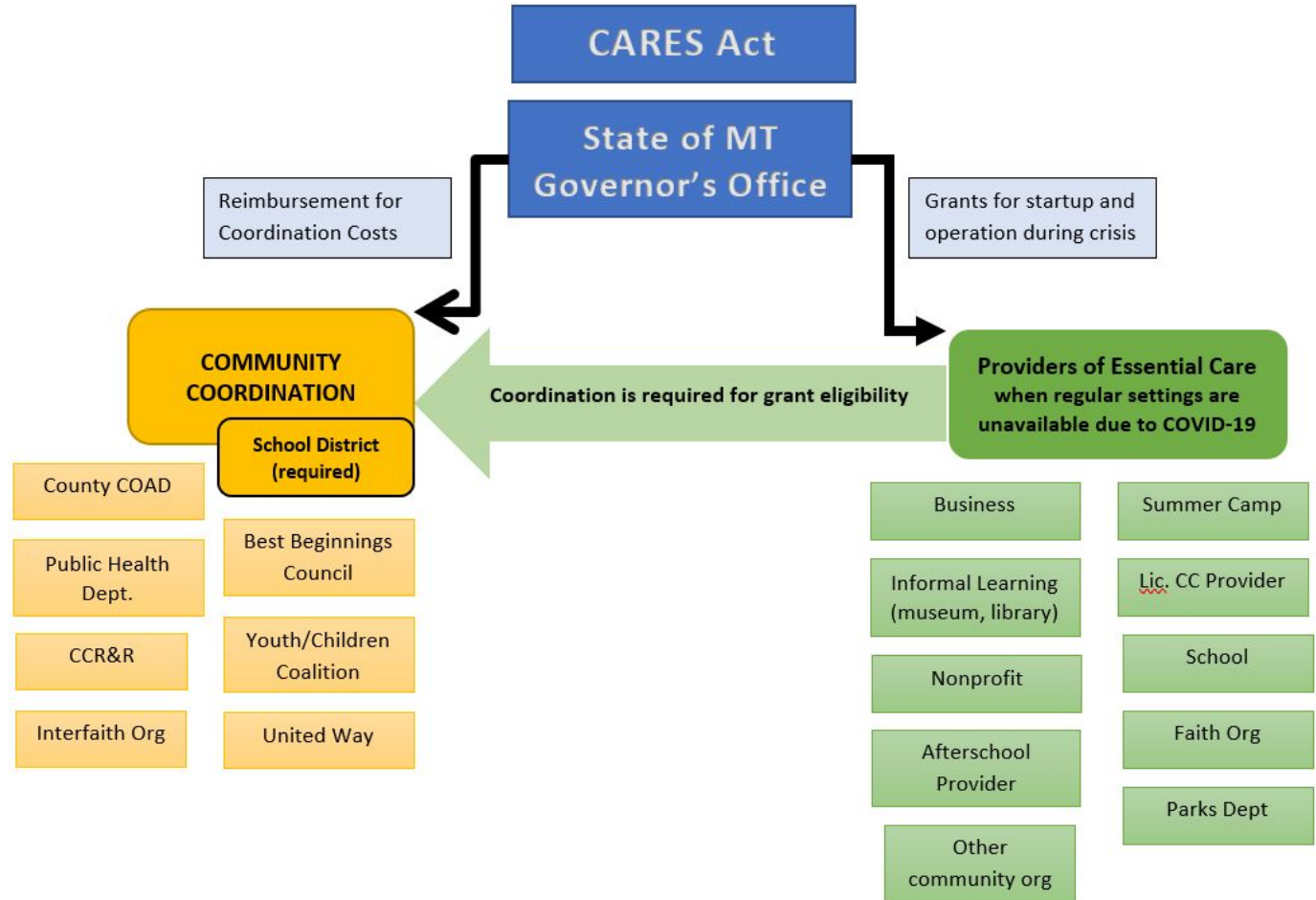
- Bubble
- Neighborhood Co-op
- Emergency Pop-up Care
- Provisional License
- Ancillary Support
- New Family and Group Providers





# What could it look like?

## Support coordination in a variety of different communities?



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# Montana's Current Resources

**Caitlin Jensen**

*Zero to Five Montana/Family Forward Initiative*

# FAMILY FORWARD

MONTANA

An initiative to  
strengthen  
Montana  
businesses through  
family friendly  
practices and  
policies



# TIERS OF PARTICIPATION IN FAMILY FORWARD MONTANA



The following tiers range from organizational practices a business could adopt with relative ease, to those requiring a more committed investment. While varied, each of these practices provide a win-win for businesses and families.

## TIER 1: ORGANIZATIONAL PRACTICES

- Offer flexible schedule, such as a compressed work week
- Offer telecommuting options
- Offer voluntary reduced work time options
- Provide the option to bring an infant to work for a period of time (i.e. up to 6 months)
- Connect employees with community resources and educate expectant parents on health care, leave planning, and support while on leave

## TIER 2: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Offer Dependent Care Assistance Plans (DCAP)
- Provide Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA)
- Provide Child Care Subsidies
- Offer Paid Family Leave

## TIER 3: ACCESS TO CARE

- Provide onsite child care
- Reserve spaces at local high-quality provider
- Coordinate back-up/emergency child care services
- Create a co-op child care center to serve employees of participating companies
- Provide back-bone support for benefits to a local child care provider
- Invest in the quality of a child care center or family home provider through the purchase of STARS to Quality materials, trainings, educational supports, etc.

A photograph of a man, a woman, and a young child sitting on a dark wooden couch. The man is on the left, leaning towards the child. The woman is on the right, smiling and holding a large, colorful children's book. The child is sitting in the middle, looking at the book. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The text 'COVID-19 RESOURCES' is overlaid in large white letters on the right side of the image.

# COVID-19 RESOURCES

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

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# Funding

**Danica Jamison**

*Greater Gallatin United Way*

# State Investments to Date

## CARES CCDBG Funding of \$10.1 Million (\$10,113,887) through MT DPHHS:

- Provided \$7,911,637 funding to 818 licensed childcare providers to ease a portion of their COVID-19 related program costs & losses:
  - First Round: \$8,000 to centers, \$5,000 to groups, \$3,000 to family providers
  - Second Round: \$5,500 centers, \$3,500 groups, \$2,500 family providers
- Provided \$782,771 funding for 15 temporary emergency pop-up programs.
- Provided \$1,419,479 reimbursement to cover 100% of family co-pays and childcare providers authorized costs for their Best Beginnings Scholarship students for the months of March, April and May.
- NOTE: Approximate funding amounts presented are subject to change as MT DPHHS may receive additional application requests for funding.

**United  
Way**



**Greater Gallatin  
United Way**

**kidsLINK Afterschool Program**

[greatergallatinunitedway.org](http://greatergallatinunitedway.org)

# Resources Needed

## COVID-19 Extra Costs

- Higher staff to student ratio to reduce C-19 transmission risks
- Hazard pay needed to retain staff
- Health insurance, paid sick leave & PTO for staff
- Substitute staff on call
- Behavioral health consultation

## COVID-19 Extra Costs

- More facility space needed for social distancing requirements
- Training & support for staff
- Sanitation + PPE
- Admin costs
- Remote learning needs: equipment / internet / staff to support & connect with school
- Families need scholarships





# GROUP ACTIVITIES

**Sarah Corbally**

*Facilitator*



## **Group reflection:**

- Confirm assumptions of the problem**
- What have we missed?**
- Where is there disagreement?**



## Breakout Group Structure

- Choose a facilitator that will report out to the whole group at the end of the breakout
- Choose a Note Taker, take notes on shared google doc.
- Choose a Timekeeper
  - This activity is 35 minutes
- Discuss



## Breakout Prompts

- How do you see (yourself/your organization/your business) connected with the problem and the solution?
- Further define/fill in the gaps on the challenges
- Further identify solutions/ideas or supportive roles
- What do you see as the next steps that should or need to happen?



# Full group share out

Chat to everyone:

What matters most to you that you want to share with others today?

What will you walk away with from today's meeting?

What solutions are most intriguing to you and why?

# Next steps



**Montana VOAD Subcommittee  
on Child care point of contact:**

**Meghan Ballenger  
mballenger@mtchildcare.org**

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**Thank you!**

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**Don't forget to visit  
[www.ENHANCEMT.org](http://www.ENHANCEMT.org)  
for release of survey details!**



# Funding Needed to:

- Keep existing childcare facilities & OST open through June 2021
- Reimburse childcare & OST providers for COVID-19 related outstanding debts & lost reserves
- Guarantee minimum 50% of operating costs for OST & licensed childcare facilities - more if parent fees are not adequate to cover remaining 50% of monthly costs.
- Provide hazard pay (\$20 per hour minimum wage) to all childcare staff
- Provide 100% of costs of health insurance for all childcare staff in MT
- Provide 100% of costs for behavioral health program level consultation, training and ongoing support for staff
- Cover 100% of costs for facility expansion
- Cover 100% of Sanitation + PPE

**United  
Way**



**Greater Gallatin  
United Way**

**kidsLINK Afterschool Program**

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# Cost Calculations

## Cost per Student per Day

- \$73.00 for 7 hr school day pre-COVID
- \$40.00 for full day (10 hrs) PIR day programming pre-COVID 19
- \$72.50 for full day (10 hrs) Emergency Childcare under COVID-19 conditions

## Statewide Costs

- \$5.7 Million for 12 months of continued support for Best Beginnings Scholarship families
- \$31.65 Million min. needed for 12 months of continued support for licensed child care providers
- \$3.13 Million min. for 12 months of emergency childcare programs
- \$9.52 Million minimum needed for hazard pay + health ins + other  
[greatergallatinunitedway.org](http://greatergallatinunitedway.org)

**United  
Way**



**Greater Gallatin  
United Way**

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