



Kandiyohi County & City of Willmar
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

CHILD CARE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT

—○— SERVING KANDIYOHI COUNTY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS —○—

In November 2022 the Kandiyohi County and City of Willmar Economic Development Commission (EDC) received a grant for \$200,000 from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED).

- Kandiyohi County and the City of Willmar have committed to additional financial support. Communities throughout the county have been informed of support opportunities.
- The goals of the grant are to create new child care slots to fill a deficit of over 900 slots that the county currently faces and retain current slots through supporting existing providers.
- The EDC will administer the loans and receives the applications. Support will be provided by Mid-Minnesota Development Commission (MMDC) and a larger team of community leaders making up the Rural Child Care Innovation Program (RCCIP).

There are six areas of support

Forgivable Loans & Fee Reimbursements

will provide coverage of yearly fees (details to come) and forgivable loans up to \$12,500 for in-home providers and \$40,000 for centers. Loans ranging up to \$5,000 will be a 2-year term while those \$5,001 will be a 3-year term. After the length of term has been met the loan is forgiven 100%. If the term is not met repayment will be pro-rated (example 1 year left on a 2-year loan, 50% must be repaid).



Transportation Funding

will provide Central Community Transit tokens to providers to use for field trips for the children they serve or for personal use when hours of operation interfere with family transportation needs.



This work is supported by the partnership of numerous partners making up the RCCIP including:



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Mentorship Program

this program will support one-on-one opportunities for seasoned and new providers to work together. Stipend available for those who volunteer to be mentors.



Training & Professional Development

hosting opportunities for providers to keep up to date with the education requirements for licensing and providing technical assistance. Ideas are welcome.



Language Accommodation Program

will provide support to those who need translation services, including resources for basic care communication between parents and care givers. Additional opportunities to come.



Employee Assistance Program

provides free, discreet and confidential mental health counseling when you need it without question.



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