

## A STRONGER OKLAHOMA MEANS SUPPORTING OUR YOUNGEST CITIZENS. IT'S TIME TO INVEST N KIDS.

## **Supporting Families.**

Strong families are the building blocks of a strong society. Parents deserve to have the tools they want and need to support young children with stable, nurturing environments in their earliest years, to help achieve thriving and healthy families and communities. Early investment is crucial.

## Early Care and Education Today. Quality Workforce Tomorrow.

Child care facilities employ more than more than 13,000 Oklahomans, with locations spread across all 77 counties. Statewide, there was a 21% decrease in licensed Oklahoma child care facilities from 2016 to today. Child care providers are true economic engines for our communities. They are small businesses that hire people, pay taxes, and buy equipment and supplies. They also contribute to the local economy by providing other local businesses with a reliable workforce and molding and shaping our future workforce.

## Child Care is a Business & Keeps Okahoman Business Open.

Child care programs employee more than 13,000 Oklahomans across the state. These small businesses are true economic engines to our communities by being employers that pay taxes and buy supplies, as well as providing other businesses with a reliable workforce while molding and shaping our future workforce.

Our mission is to lead Oklahoma in coordinating an early childhood system that strengthens families and ensures all children are ready for school. **Here's how you can make your mark on quality child care in Oklahoma.** 

Support Oklahoma Human Services' budget request for Child Care Services increase.

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Oklahoma Human Services provided immediate support to child care businesses through an increased \$5/day, per child reimbursement. This support is as critical today as it was in the beginning days of the pandemic to stabilize the industry. A \$30 Million/year investment to support Oklahoma's workforce and high-quality early learning environments for our youngest citizens.

MAKE TEMPORARY INCREASES TO CHILD CARE BUSINESS REIMBURSEMENTS PERMANENT.



okschoolreadiness.org I (405) 429-4219