



First Children's Finance

Ortonville Town Hall

Summary

Overall Ideas/projects:

1. Workforce Development

- a. Child care development classes and work experience opportunities for high school students
- b. Business owned/operated child care

2. Community Partnerships/Other

- a. Regular meetings with potential partners (OAHS, BST, Saputo, School, County, City/"Bob's")
- b. Expand volunteer opportunities
- c. Provide information to providers on how to use Amazon Smile

3. Facilities

- a. Create an inventory of available buildings – business/county/city/churches

4. Financial Supports/ Incentives

- a. Explore opportunities for businesses to engage with financial supports (funds or supplies/items), either for startup costs or for ongoing operations
- b. Provide bonuses and operating grants utilizing public dollars
- c. Public incentives (EDA) to acquire or rehab a facility to start or expand a child care program
- d. Explore opportunities to provide benefits (or student loan forgiveness) for child care providers

5. Recognition & Community Education

- a. Newspaper/Radio and MNBump appreciation spotlight
- b. "Adopt a Provider"
- c. More/Ongoing employer education on the need for child care

6. Training

- a. Provide more local, in-person trainings
- b. Training on financial awareness – running a business, coaching/counseling for startups
- c. Provide mental health supports for providers

7. Infant & Toddler Care

- a. Find a building
- b. Build a new building/addition
- c. Build a new center for 6 weeks – 5 years



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1. Workforce Development

Core Team Lead: Carrie Bendix

Sticky Wall Notes:

- Business employs the staff for higher wages and benefits
- Offer flexible scheduling, discounts, and other benefits
- Expand peer tutors to help out in child care during the day
- Child/youth education – babysitter certified for youth
- Career development in High School – classes to prepare for child care career
- Provide education/awareness about “legal unlicensed” opportunities



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2. Community Partnerships/Other

Core Team Lead: Kari Dorry & Laura Laub

Ideas on Sticky Wall:

- "Tiny Tot" summer program for school aged kids (8am-6pm, structured activities, lunch, field trips)
- Joel Stattelmann – connections
- Jim Kaye – connections
- 4H/Boy scouts/ Girl scouts/ lunch buddies to keep older school age kids entertained
- Retired people that could fill in for providers/already background checked
- BST/ OAHS/ Saputo/ School
- Utilize Midwest Fire & Safety for fire extinguishers/inspections



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3. Facilities

Core Team Lead: Amy Weir & Trisha Lien

Ideas from sticky Wall:

- City-owned location with paid utilities/taxes
- Start a daycare in a county building
- Space in the hospital?
- Fairway View – add on?
- Basement of Methodist church
- Northridge Nursing Home
- Old nursing home
- Trinity Lutheran Church (Clinton)
- Fire Hall
- Churches
- St. Johns or New Life Baptist Church
- Smaller homes in the community to use as family daycare
- Pod system



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4. Financial Support/Incentives

Core Team Lead: Matt Karels & Scott Marquardt

Ideas on Sticky Wall:

- Monetary incentives/bonuses for providers (example: 1 year = \$1,000, 5 years = \$2,500)
- Operating grants on a monthly basis as opposed to lump sum
- EDA investments
- Employer investment in Child Care Centers
- Promote child care as an employee benefit – employer sponsored child care
- Provide/offer benefits
- Offer some type of insurance package/benefits for providers
- Fundraisers
- Certified “substitutes” to fill in for family child care providers
- Amazon Smile/“Clear the List” on Facebook, Teacher resale groups



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5. Recognition & Community Education

Core Team Lead: Vicki Oakes

Sticky Wall Notes:

- Newspaper/Radio Appreciation
- More employer education on need
- Pull in local groups to adopt a provider



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6. Training

Core Team Lead: Marge Knudson

Sticky Wall Notes:

- Joint trainings with other local providers
- Offer free training leading to higher wages
- Coordinate trainings with divine house/school
- Enhanced mental health supports for providers
- Mental health and first aid training
- Coaching/counseling for someone thinking about opening a daycare to discuss what they are getting into (informed choice)
- Training/financial awareness of running a business
- Offer CPR or other training to everyone through OAHS or Ambulance
- Bring in training LOCALLY!!
- Offer more local training



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7. Infant & Toddler Care

Core Team Lead: Brenda Zahrbock & Sara Wollschlager

Sticky Wall Notes:

- School Provide 6 week – 3 year old care
- Co-op parental volunteer to offset high enrollment cost
- Birth-2 at school