



# CHILDCARE SUPPORT PILOT PROGRAM

FUNDING ALLOCATION & FUNDING AGREEMENTS

**CITY COUNCIL | OCTOBER 27, 2020**

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# WHY CHILD CARE MATTERS TO BUSINESS

RESEARCH SHOWS THAT BABIES FORM OVER



of the brain connections that determine how they talk, think, and grow by the time they are 5 years old.

ON AVERAGE, HALF OF PARENTS MISS



of work due to child care issues.



of parents would leave for another job that provided child care.



THE NUMBER OF CHILD CARE HOMES HAS DECLINED BY 22% SINCE 2012, A LOSS OF

**266**  
PROVIDERS

AS A RESULT OF THE 2017 WILDFIRES, 15 LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTERS WERE DESTROYED, DISPLACING

**444**  
CHILDREN

from their child care providers. As of today, all of these programs are still dealing with facility issues.

# SONOMA COUNTY CHILD CARE CRISIS

[2019 Data]

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ON A WAITLIST FOR CHILD CARE:

**2,557**



# PANDEMIC RELATED DATA

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**66%**

SR-based %  
of SoCo  
open  
programs

**50%**

Potential  
Permanent  
Program  
Closures  
(6,000 slots  
in SoCo)

**60%**

Reduction in  
spaces  
available

Sonoma County  
providers closed  
since March:

**+/-30%**

home-based  
providers

&

**+/- 55%**

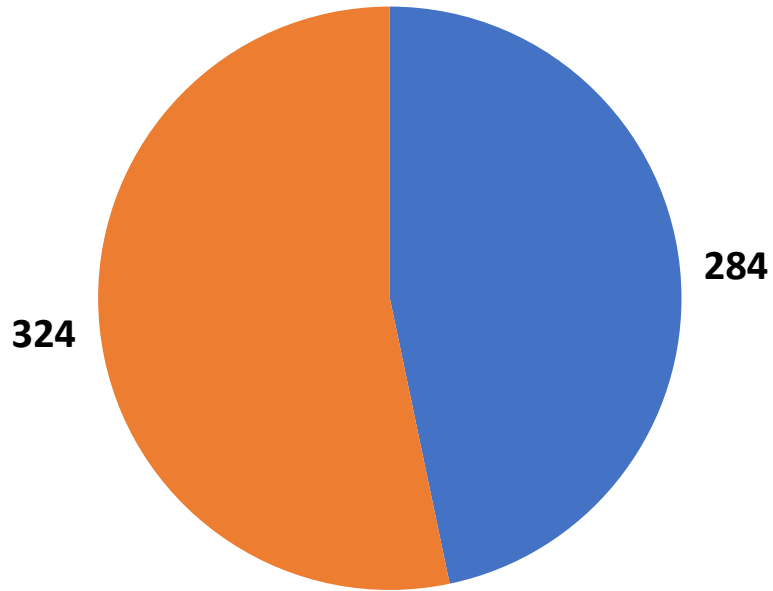
center-based  
providers



# PANDEMIC RELATED DATA

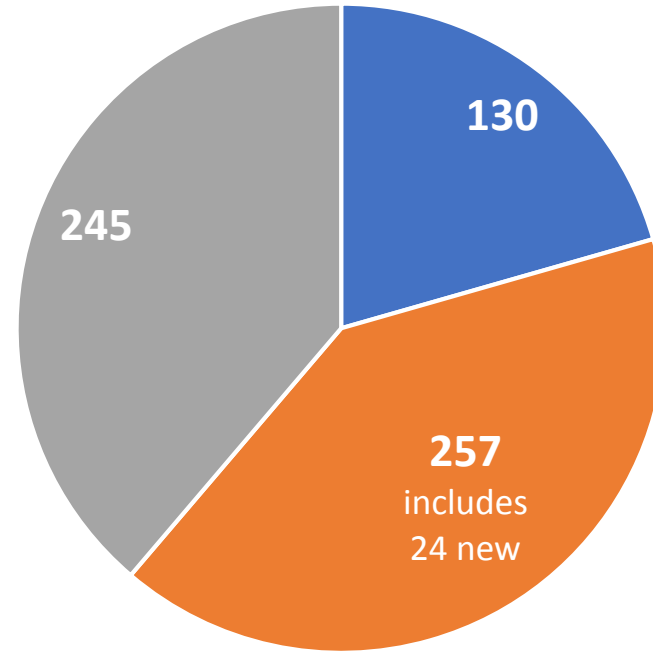
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Available Facilities Pre-COVID



■ Centers ■ Family Childcare

Available Facilities - Current

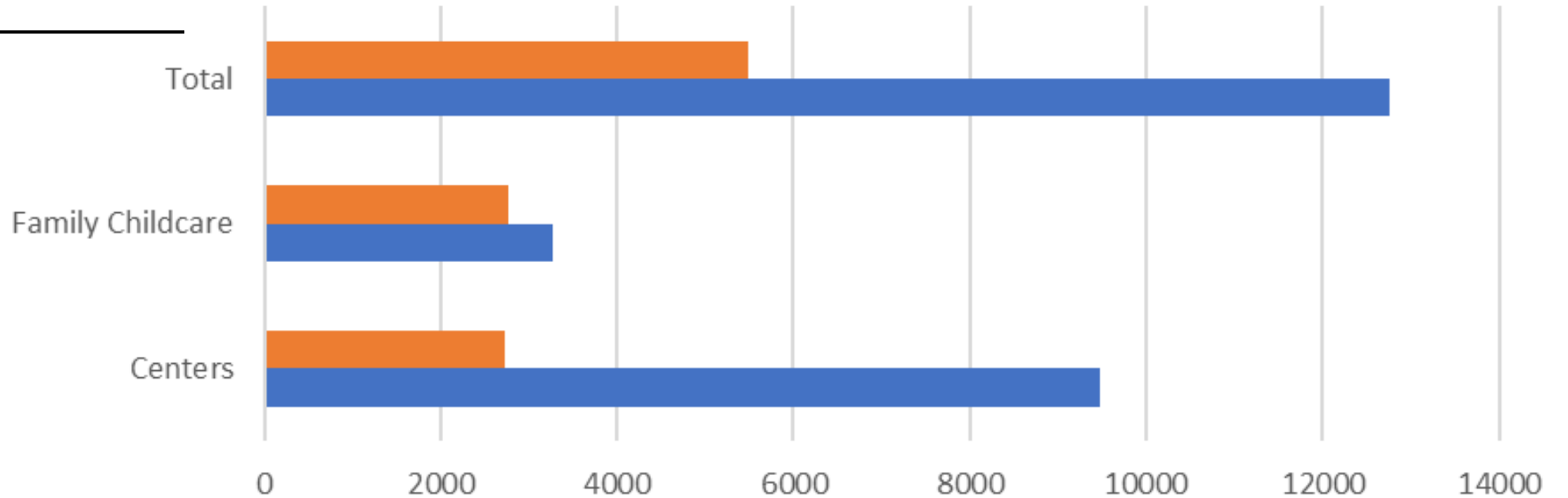


■ Centers ■ Family Childcare ■ Closed + Inactive



# PANDEMIC RELATED DATA

## Childcare Spot Availability



	Centers	Family Childcare	Total
Current	2731	2766	5497
Pre-COVID	9472	3277	12749

Current Pre-COVID



# Childcare Support Pilot Program

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## Goals:

- Stabilize business (short-term)
- Expand capacity (mid-term)
- Enable new and rehab existing facilities (mid- to long-term)

## Initial Investment Requested:

- \$600,000 CARES Act funds

## Partner Organizations:

- First 5 Sonoma County
- Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs)
- Community Foundation of Sonoma County



# Sonoma County Child Care Resiliency Fund

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## STABILIZING BUSINESSES

### Overview:

- \$500,000 City funds for one-time grants to licensed and license-exempt childcare providers
- Can be used for broad range of needs

### Purpose:

- Provide direct support to local childcare businesses in support of economic recovery and stability by ensuring families can return to work





# Use of Grant Funds

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## Costs that most support business sustainability, including:

- Costs to maintain a safe environment
- Operating costs
- Cost of equipment and furniture to accommodate distance learning

## Priority Weighting:

- Provide childcare services to the most vulnerable residents
- Demonstrate fiscal sustainability
- Participated in Quality Counts Sonoma County prior to 3/1/2020



# Program Eligibility

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- A. Children in operator's care are between birth to 12 years old
- B. Operator provides care in:
  - A private childcare center
  - A large or small family childcare home
  - A license-exempt setting (e.g. parent cooperative care)
- C. Operated as a childcare business prior to 3/17/2020
- D. Currently open, or if closed due to COVID, have feasible plan to re-open by 1/15/2021
- E. Non-profit agency, private business, or governmental agency



# Child Care Initiative Project

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## EXPANDING CAPACITY

### Overview:

- \$100,000 City funds to expand the Child Care Initiative Program to build the supply of infant/toddler care

### Program Elements:

- Teacher training and licensing assistance
- Business startup guidance and assistance
- Disaster planning training



# Desired Outcomes

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- 50% of prospective providers enrolled in CCIP receive licenses
  - Measure: # of providers who receive childcare license
- Available infant and toddler care capacity increases by 2%
  - Measure: comparison of baseline care capacity



# Next Steps



## ENABLE NEW FACILITIES | REHAB EXISTING FACILITIES

### Overview:

- Goal of \$1,400,000 for additional and expanded programming, including
  - Subsidizing childcare center integration into new development projects
  - Rehabilitating existing sites for childcare uses

### Program Elements – draft priorities:

- Integrated into mid- to high-density development
- Located within a transit priority area, priority development area, specific plan area
- Council approval required for new program elements and expenditures



# Recommendation

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It is recommended by the Economic Recovery Task Force that the Council, by resolution,

- allocate \$2,000,000 to the Childcare Support Pilot Program from General Fund reserves made available by reimbursements of COVID-19 expenditures from CARES Act funding, and
- approve funding agreements totaling \$600,000 with First 5 Sonoma County and Community Child Care Council (4Cs) Sonoma County for childcare related services.

