# McPherson County Child Care Task Force

Tuesday February 18 4:00 PM (third Tuesday of even months)

McPherson County Community Foundation Child Care Task Force seeks to understand the multifaceted hardships of the child care system in McPherson County. In hopes that in more fully understanding the problem we can more efficiently and effectively impact positive change.

# **Attendees**

Leign Ann Montoy, Laura Parks, Brenda Holopirek, Christy Clarkson, Jennifer Burgardt, Andrew Conard, Betsy Davis, Austin Regier

#### Agenda

### Introductions and Powerful Question

What do we see as needs going into 2025?

Find solutions for parents' ability to pay and livable wages to providers, Shift work coverage, Substitutes, subsidy support, Multi-payer system, Raising awareness for not not immediately impact, Consistency, bridging the gap between what parents can pay and what is needed to run a center.

## Last Meeting Follow-up

- 1. Child Care Aware of Kansas Community Partnership Grant Application- Received However funding is frozen (thawed)
- 2. Kansas 2024 Cooperative Convening

3. Kansas Children's Cabinet 2024 Report Highlights

#### **New Business**

- 1. <u>Child Care Zones</u>
  - a. Opportunity to work collaboratively with other communities to address the challenges.
    - i. Small Center pilots
    - ii. Working on work force- might have some state opportunities
    - iii. Shared services
    - iv. <u>Subsidy usage</u>
- 2. Amplifying Voices- Videos
  - a. Christy might be able to have some
- 3. Match Day Opportunity- March 3-7
- 4. What are some immediate needs or Concerns?
  - a. Strong need for Infant and Toddler
  - b. Second Shift
  - c. How can we collaborate with Higher Ed?

# **Notes/Resources**

- All In for Kansas Kids Child Care Innovation Communities
- ECE Resources Kansas
- https://online.flippingbook.com/view/1037794395/20/

### **Action Items**

- 1. CCAKS- IRA and CE reimbursement Spread the word
- 2. Continue to be child care advocate
- 3. Grant Workshop February 27, 2025
- 4. Zero to Thrive in Five is doing a <u>podcast about the impact of childcare on families</u>

# **Next Meeting Agenda Items**

• Upcoming provider trainings- working with KCCTO and CCAKS

Next Meeting Date: April 15, 2025