

# Issues Facing Our Community:

# CHILDCARE

## UNITED WAY COMMUNITY IMPACT COALITION

The coalition's strategic intent is to create long lasting impact in our community in the areas of education, income, and health by serving as a resource in identifying and meeting community needs, as well as being a resource to one another. Meetings take place once a month and are open to the community.

Learn more at [www.uwdp.prg](http://www.uwdp.prg)

## OVERVIEW

Some type of child care arrangements are used by 600,000 families in Minnesota. In some part of the state, there are three times as many children as daycares. The Minnesota Department of Human Services reports from 2005-2015, the number of licensed in-home providers dropped 27 percent.

## SERVICES/ORGANIZATIONS

Local services that have programming or the ability to assist with childcare needs.

- Kingdom Kids
- 24 Hour home care providers
- After school programs
- Hope Community Church
- Child Care Aware
- EC/THRIVE
- Family Collaborative
- Pope Co. Day Care Association
- Unlicensed family care
- Preschools
- Home daycares

## NEEDS

- Availability
- Affordable care
- Quality care
- Service days/hours
- After school care
- Wrap around program
- More providers/centers
- Care for:
  - Special needs
  - Infants
- Back-up care for:
  - Illness
  - Holiday/vacation
- Providers:
  - Benefits
  - Respect
  - Appreciation
  - Support
  - Competitive wages



## BARRIERS TO MEETING NEEDS

Provider:

- Work/home separation
- Licensing process
- Regulations
- Paperwork
- Not profitable
- Long hours
- Restrictions
- Stigma
- Burn out

Parents:

- Paying when child is not in attendance
- Frustration with assistance programs
- Turnover in providers
- Cost for care
- Age slots
- Capacity
- Sibling openings



# POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Business providers  
Explore both business and service model  
Training for:  
• Special needs  
• Behaviors  
Application assistance  
Back-up care

Funding for:  
• Training  
• Scholarships  
• Licensing  
• Equipment  
Enforce contracts  
Focus on the profession  
Support from the state

Providers:  
• Recruit  
• Retain  
• Support  
• Mentorship  
• Advocates

POPE COUNTY

United Way of Douglas & Pope Counties

