

CHILD CARE ON THE BALLOT

THE GAP BETWEEN WHAT PARENTS CAN AFFORD TO PAY AND THE COST OF PROVIDING QUALITY CHILD CARE IS ONE OF THE KEY DRIVERS OF MICHIGAN'S UNDERSIZED CHILD CARE WORKFORCE AND SHORTAGE OF AVAILABLE CHILD CARE.

Elected officials have an important role to play in determining whether and how child care is funded and the types of assistance available to families.

WHAT THE RESEARCH SAYS

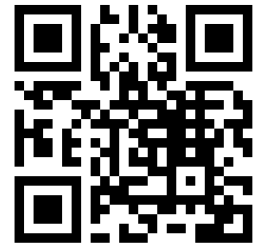
- There are **4 kids** under age 12 for every available child care spot in Michigan.
- **Affordable child care** is defined as costing no more than 7% of a household's income. A couple making Michigan's median income will spend about 14% of their income on center-based care for an infant
- Only about 10% of children aged 0 to 11 years in eligible households receive Michigan's **Child Development and Care subsidy** to help pay for child care.
- Early childhood educators are **7.3 times more likely to live in poverty** than Michigan K-8 teachers.
- Michigan misses out on \$2.88 billion annually in economic activity when **working parents struggle to find child care.**

ASK THE CANDIDATES

- What role should the federal and state government play in funding child care? Outside of government intervention, what are other avenues to address the child care shortage?
- What approaches do you think employers should take with respect to their employees' child care needs?



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