Kentucky can...

**Increase child care supports to allow more parents to work, kids to thrive, and local economies to grow**

Access to high-quality, reliable child care allows parents to get and keep a job, sets children up for success in school, and strengthens Kentucky’s economy. Yet, many Kentucky families struggle to afford any kind of child care, much less safe, high-quality care. Unstable child care translates into direct costs for employers through employee absenteeism, tardiness, and reduced productivity. As Kentucky promotes workforce development, child care assistance is critical to working parents’ success.

### Blueprint for Kentucky’s Children Solution:

1. **Adequate child care provider payment rates and increased eligibility for low-income, working families**

   While a recent increase in federal funding helped cover gaps in access to child care, additional state investment in the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) would further boost a crucial support to employed parents who are struggling to make ends meet.

2. **Safe, reliable, and accessible child care centers that can succeed as small businesses**

3. **Parents can go to work knowing their children are safe and learning**

4. **Thriving families and local economies across the commonwealth**

   **HALF of all Kentucky families** live in a child care desert, meaning there are either no child care providers or an insufficient number of child care slots.

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