

## Senate Bill 2012

Senate Appropriations Committee Senator Brad Bekkedahl, Chairman

Supporting Working Families | Strengthening Our Workforce An Overview of the ND Child Care Proposal

## Why think about Child Care as a Workforce Solution?

$\checkmark$ North Dakota has more job openings than people to fill them.
$\checkmark 47 \%$ of ND job openings pay an average starting wage of less than $\$ 25 /$ hour.
$\checkmark$ To thrive communities need workers who want to work in both high-skill-required and low-skillrequired jobs.
$\checkmark$ The economic realities of child-rearing affect household decisions about employment.
$\checkmark$ There are 45,000 ND households who have children younger than age 5 .
$\checkmark 3$ of every 4 children households with children younger than age 5 have all parents in the workforce.


In-demand occupations that require specialized training or education are found in many different sectors of the economy


## Distribution of Job openings by typical entry level education

December 2022 Job Openings Report



Be Legendary.

## Distribution of Job Openings by Typical Training

December 2022 Job Openings Report


## Distribution of Job Openings by Typical Average Wage

 December 2022 Job Openings Report

| DEC 2022 |
| :---: |
| TOTAL |
| 16,133 |
| $\$ 30+$ |
| 5,892 |
| $\$ 25.00-\$ 29.99$ |
| 2,138 |
| $\mathbf{\$ 2 0 . 0 0 - \$ 2 4 . 9 9}$ |
| 3,602 |
| $\mathbf{\$ 1 5 . 0 0 - \$ 1 9 . 9 9}$ |
| 3,231 |
| $\mathbf{\$ 1 0 . 0 0 - \$ 1 4 . 9 9}$ |
| 1,131 |
| LESS THAN \$10 |
| 2 |
| UNASSIGNED |
| 137 |
| [Unassigned openings |
| excluded from pie chart |
| calculations] |

## Many ND communities are experiencing greater workforce shortages in 2022 than 2021 <br> December 2022 Online Job Openings report | ND LMI Center



The percent of ND children ages $0-5$ who have all available parents in the labor force has been steadily increasing since 2010


## 73\%

## Parents in workforce

$73 \%$ of the 44,237 North Dakota households who have children younger than age 5 likely have at least some need for child
care as all available parents are in the workforce

[^0]
## What does someone think about when they are looking for a job?

Interest Aptitude Purpose<br>Opportunity Location Income

Housing
$25-30 \%$

## What's missing from this picture?



Child Care


## Child care is one of the largest monthly costs for families with young children

2020 average monthly cost of licensed child care for Infants and Toddlers (ages 0-17 mo)
WHAT DOES CHILD
CARE COST?

## 84\% of Jobs in the ND labor market pay an average wage of \$35/hour or less



Source: Job Service ND 2020 Employment and Wages by Occupation dataset | mean wage by occupation; 710,910 jobs included in wage summary

## Most all households earning less than 150\% of state median income (SMI) will struggle with costs of child care

Families potentially eligible for child care assistance program (CCAP)

| Federal Poverty Level |  |  | 30\% SMI |  | 60\% SMI |  | 85\% SMI |  |  | 100\% SMI |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Household Size | Annual Income | Hourly Wage | Annual Income | Hourly Wage | Annual Income | Hourly Wage | Annual Income |  | Hourly Wage | Annual Income | Hourly Wage |
| 1 | \$12,880 | \$6.19 | \$16,238 | \$7.81 | \$32,475 | \$15.61 | \$ 46,008 | \$ | 22.12 | \$54,125 | \$26.02 |
| 2 | \$17,420 | \$8.38 | \$21,233 | \$10.21 | \$42,467 | \$20.42 | \$ 60,156 | \$ | 28.92 | \$70,778 | \$34.90 |
| 3 | \$21,960 | \$10.56 | \$26,230 | \$12.61 | \$52,460 | \$25.22 | \$ 74,316 | \$ | 35.73 | \$87,433 | \$42.04 |
| 4 | \$26,500 | \$12.74 | \$31,226 | \$15.01 | \$62,452 | \$30.03 | \$ 88,476 | \$ | 42.54 | \$104,087 | \$50.04 |
| 5 | \$31,040 | \$14.92 | \$36,222 | \$17.41 | \$72,444 | \$34.83 | \$ 102,636 | \$ | 49.34 | \$120,740 | \$58.05 |
| 6 | \$35,580 | \$17.11 | \$41,219 | \$19.82 | \$82,437 | \$39.63 | \$ 116,796 | \$ | 56.15 | \$137,395 | \$66.06 |
| 7 | \$40,120 | \$19.29 | \$42,155 | \$20.26 | \$84,310 | \$40.53 | \$ 119,448 | \$ | 57.43 | \$140,517 | \$67.56 |
| 8 | \$44,660 | \$21.47 | \$43,092 | \$20.72 | \$86,184 | \$41.43 | \$ 122,100 | \$ | 58.70 | \$143,640 | \$69.06 |

"Hourly Wage" is calculated by assuming 2,080 hours worked per year per annual income range noted. Multiple wage earners could combine earnings to attain the noted household income / hourly wage. Be legendary.

## When is child care affordable?

Average monthly cost of care in a Child Care Center compared to affordability standard of $7 \%$ of household income


## 1 child (9-month-old)

| Center-based avg \$838 | Household income needed? $\longrightarrow \quad \$ 143,600$ | $=$ combined hourly wage of \$69/hr |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 child (3-year-old) |  |  |
| Center-based avg \$726 | Household income needed? $\longrightarrow \quad \$ 124,400$ | $=$ combined hourly wage of \$60/hr |
| 2 children (1-year-old and 4-year old) |  |  |
| Center-based avg \$1,564 | Household income needed? | = combined hourly wage of \$129/hr |

## When is child care affordable?

Average monthly cost of care in a Family/Group Child Care compared to affordability standard of $7 \%$ of household income


Dakota

## A strategy of both comprehensive and targeted investment



## Target investments to ages 0-3

$\checkmark$ Age of highest developmental return for children
$\checkmark$ Period of greatest economic pressure for most young families
$\checkmark$ Critical decision point for individuallevel decisions about how/if to rejoin the labor force
$\checkmark$ Focus on working families employed in occupations where compensation doesn't offset the cost of child care needed to enable work


## Embrace an

all-of-the-above approach to child care
$\checkmark$ Quality early experiences can happen anywhere.
$\checkmark$ Working families should have meaningful choices about child care.
$\checkmark$ Principles of quality are knowable and transferrable to any setting
$\checkmark$ Sustainable child care businesses will support more sustainability within the workforce


Help working parents provide for their families
by supporting employment, training and education goals
$\checkmark$ Benefits are scaled to family need
$\checkmark$ Employers have meaningful vehicles to remediate child care as a barrier to work.
$\checkmark$ There are opportunities for children who are least likely to have access to quality early childhood experiences.

## Child care is a workforce solution that can make a difference for ND employers


\$27 million | Helping lower income working parents with child care costs | Public private cost share for employer-provided child care benefit for employees
\$22 million | Payments for Infant and Toddler care | Supporting more sustainable operations for child care entrepreneurs | Care during nontraditional hours | Child care worker career pathways | Criminal background checks
\$24 million | Best in Class program | Scholarships and Incentives for child care worker professional development |
Connecting child care payments to quality



## Contact information

## Jessica Thomasson

## Executive Director

Human Services Division
jthomasson@nd.gov
www.hhs.nd.gov


[^0]:    Source: ND Kids Count | US Census American Community Survey | Bureau of Labor Statistics

