



Child Care Solutions Activation Plan Arcola, Illinois



Opportunities & Outcomes Workshop Summary

- ✓ The Big Opportunity
- ✓ Community Organization
- ✓ Support Space & Licensing
- **✓ Economic Development**



Economic Development

Unlock Community Potential with Child Care as an Attractor







Support Business & Job Development, Attract New Residents, and Support Great Outcomes for Children & Families!



Key Outcomes

- 1
- Organize: Arcola Early Education Association

- Create: Child Care Business Start-Up Support & Incentives Program
- **Launch:** Arcola Early Education Center





Community Organization

An Organized Approach to the Future

Arcola Early Education Association

- Real-Time Engagement & Understanding with Providers
- Keeps Stakeholders Informed & Engaged
- Coordinates Community Connections
- Raises Supporting Funds
- Promotes Community Awareness on Importance of Early Education

Spearhead New Initiatives:

Local Transportation Access for Early Ed

Small Scale Local Substitute Program

Organic Talent
Development
Opportunities

Community Education
Approach

Family & Consumer Sciences (FACS)

Child Development Associate® (CDA)



Organize: Arcola Early Education Association

The desired outcome of creating a new association dedicated to early education and child care is to create structure for organization, fundraising, and promotion of opportunities.

- **1** Mission & Outcomes Definition
- 2 Legal Organization
- **3** Board Development

A new 501c3 will create a fiscal structure to attract contributions and investments to support community efforts.

4 Launch & Engage



Create: Child Care Start-Up Support & Incentives Program

Reimagine & Refresh Opportunities

Recognize & resource existing child care businesses with supports and local funding to revitalize and update program components. This could also include a touch of appreciation for FFN and other informal care providers.

Incentive Grants to Existing Licensed Programs

Example: Participation in business and quality initiatives and receive \$300 per licensed slot

Incentives for New Licensed Child Care Programs

Increase licensed care for micro-needs by offering a local start-up grant and support program, which also facilitates the transition of unlicensed care providers.

10 new licensed 8-slot family child care businesses \$2,000 per slot on milestone award basis

Total Investment - \$160,000



Workshop Identified Needs: Non-Traditional Hours Care

Children with Special Needs Care Wrap-Around Child Care

Example of Milestone Awards Approach

Incentives for Licensed Care

 Business Exploration & Model Exercise

15% of grant award

 Environmental Setting Scan & Survey Exercise

25% of grant award

- Licensing Application & Approval
 40% of grant award
- Illinois ExceleRate Bronze Quality Attainment

20% of grant award





Attract & Grow New Child Care

- ✓ Community Messaging
- ✓ Local Promotion with Partners
- ✓ Drive Referrals

Welcome

Business of Child Care with Community Connection

Exploration Support & Child Care Business Bundle Experience

One-on-One Consultation & Business Orientation Support

Start-Up Budget & Expert Space Set-up Support from Lakeshore Learning

Local Introductions & Connections & Handoffs

Monthly Business Check-ins



Formal Services & Support for the Hispanic Community

Activation Plan Summary Arcola, Illinois

Create sustainable services and support for children and families

Family, Friend, & Neighbor Supports (FFN)

Leverage connections and community networks to connect resources and supports to this integral informal child care network.

Provider Development Support

Highlight and promote Spanish language resources and support for those interested exploring starting a new child care business.

Early Education Family Services

Ensure that early education interventions and supports are accessible to all families in the community.



Summer Programming was highlighted as another opportunity to grow!

These supports are available through existing State of Illinois services including early intervention and FFN programming.



Arcola Early Education Center

- Community Supported Space for Early Education
 - Operating agreement for licensed child care center
 - Facility and grounds support provided
 - Partnership with Arcola School District
- Expanded School-Based Programming for At-Risk Families
 - TBD slots for preschool experience
 - Bilingual Language Offering
 - Enhanced Evening Family Education Opportunities

Expected Development Investment - \$ TBD



#DareToDreamBigger





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