



County of Santa Barbara
Childcare Sector Relief and Recovery Initiative

American Rescue Plan Act

Presented by Michelle Robertson, Assistant Director
First 5 Santa Barbara County



ARPA Childcare Sector Overview

Relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, and businesses.

Dollars for stabilization of the childcare sector including additional support for working families, the childcare workforce, and promotion of equity and access.



Performance Measures

1 Increase the number of childcare work force qualified to work in infant and toddler classrooms.
(Sub-recipient – Santa Barbara Foundation)

2 Increase affordability of infant-toddler care by expanding scholarships for families who do not qualify for full subsidy.
(Sub-recipient – United Way of Santa Barbara)

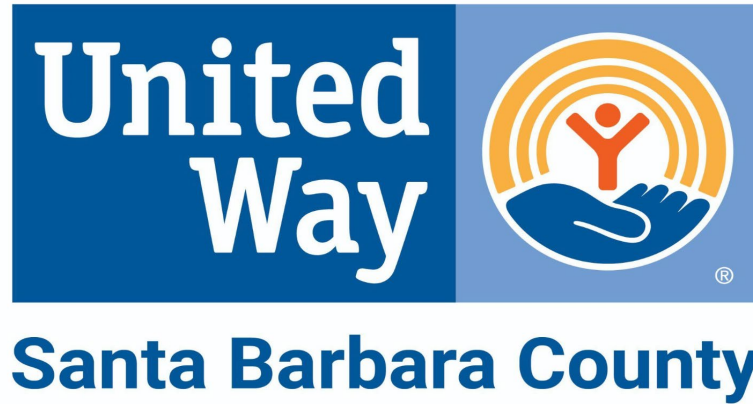
3 Create a **coordinated system of business support** for the child care sector.
(Sub-recipient – both)

4 Create an **enhanced infrastructure initiative** to support the childcare sector in meeting the need for infant-toddler spaces.
(Sub-recipient – both)

5 Increase available infant-toddler spaces by a minimum of **10%** in the county.
(Sub-recipient – both)

6 Develop an **Emergency Childcare Plan for Santa Barbara County** First Responders and Essential Workforce.
(Sub-recipient – United Way of Santa Barbara)

7 Develop a **County of Santa Barbara Childcare Facilities Master Plan**.
(Sub-recipient – Santa Barbara Foundation)



Brighter Futures Childcare Initiative

A county-wide, cross-sector effort to improve access to **high-quality childcare** for parents from all economic backgrounds while generating **innovative solutions** that will support new and existing childcare centers with **sustainable expansion**.

Brighter Futures Childcare Initiative
ARPA | SCOPE OF WORK

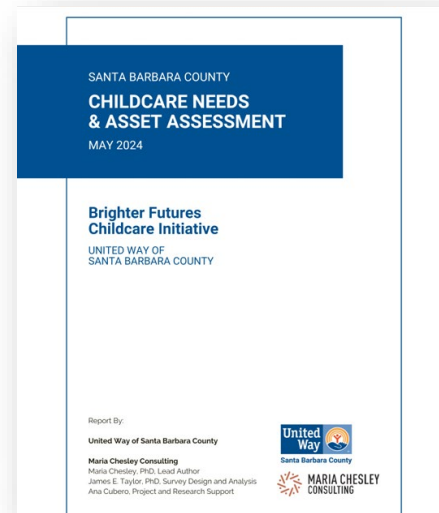
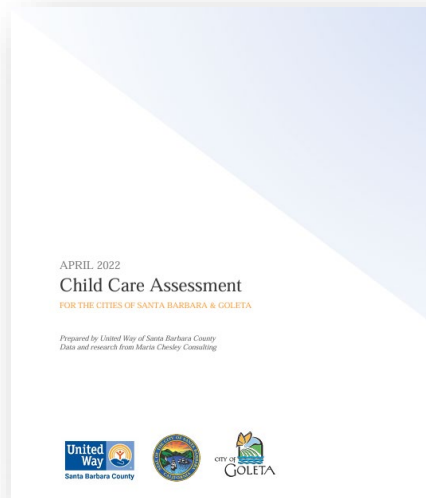
- Identifying and assisting new childcare providers
- Supporting existing childcare providers in infant and toddler care
- Identifying childcare facility gaps
- Increasing the overall number of licensed childcare slots serving our youngest children



Brighter Futures Childcare Initiative

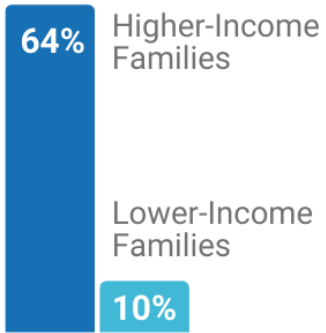
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Launch of the **Brighter Futures Childcare Fund** with an initial commitment of \$700,000
- Three published reports, including the **Countywide Childcare Needs & Asset Assessment**
- Leading in partnership with the **Brighter Futures Childcare Coalition**
- Launch of **Employer Sponsored Childcare Start-Up Grant** program
- Launch of **Brighter Futures Childcare Scholarship** program for middle income families
- **Technical Business Training for Childcare Providers** planned for early 2025

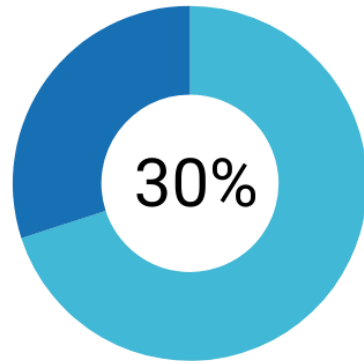


Brighter Futures Childcare Initiative

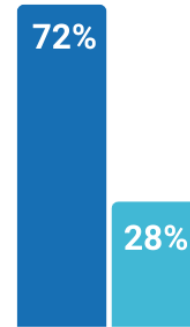
KEY REPORT FINDINGS



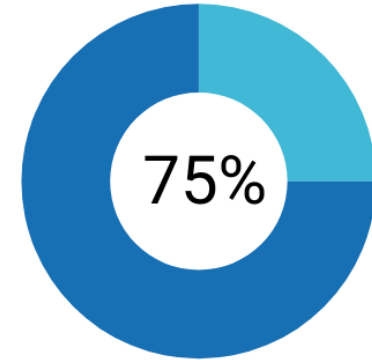
% of parents enrolled in center-based care



% of middle-income parents in SBC paying 30%+ of income on childcare.



% of local employers believing childcare challenges harmed workforce attendance



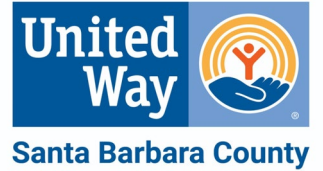
% of all parents reporting difficulty in finding available childcare spaces

“[Childcare] has been a constant stress in our lives for the past 6 years. We pay about a third of our income on childcare. Without this expense we would have invested in a second car, more community involvement, and maybe even starting a small business.”

-Local Parent

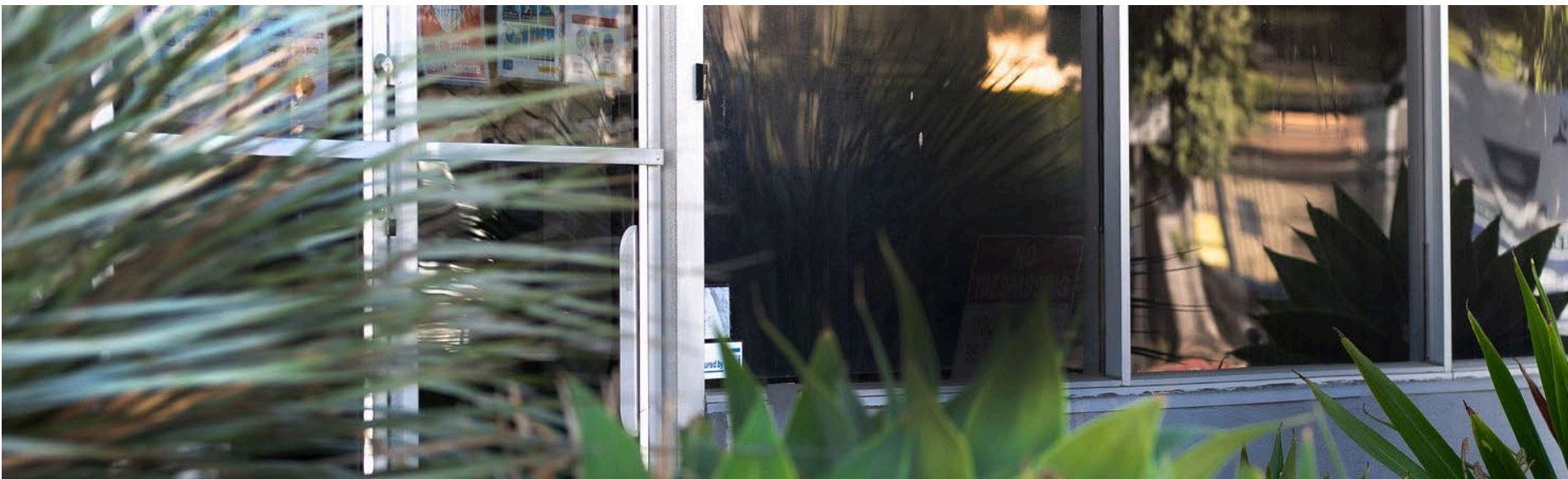
United Way of Santa Barbara Cities of Goleta & Santa Barbara Childcare Survey, 2022

Brighter Futures Childcare Initiative
EMERGENCY CHILDCARE

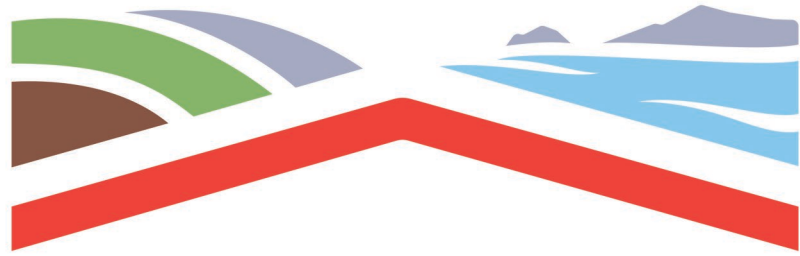


PLAN

- First in the nation plan to provide reliable childcare services for public employees serving as Disaster Service Workers
- Partnership between Office of Emergency Management, First 5, United Way of Santa Barbara County, and local childcare providers
- United Way is responsible for establishing MOUs with local childcare providers for their services in case of emergency and maintaining these relationships on a regular basis.



United Way
of Santa Barbara County



SANTA BARBARA
FOUNDATION

Board of Supervisors American Rescue Plan Act Child Care Update

Liz Thasiah, Santa Barbara Foundation VP of Programs

Michelle Graham, Children's Resource & Referral CEO

Jacqui Banta, Children's Resource & Referral COO

Christian Patterson, Child Care Planning Council Coordinator

Eileen Monahan, Eileen Monahan Consulting



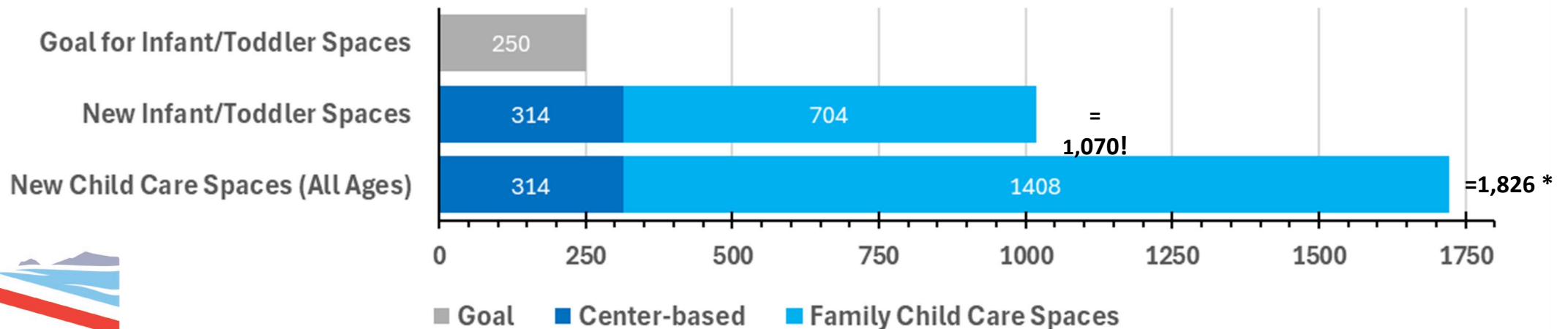


Grant programs for Center-based and Family Child Care Expansion

Goal: Identify and support nine (9) new or existing center-based childcare providers in Santa Barbara County. Create 250 new, licensed infant- toddler childcare spaces within the County of Santa Barbara.

Results:

- CRR Supported **17** Center-based providers (10 new, 7 expansion) creating **314** new infant/ toddler spaces.
- Licensed **189** new Family Child Care providers creating **756** new infant/toddler spaces.
- Created a record-breaking combined total of **1,070** new infant/ toddler spaces! *
- Provided Technical Assistance to **925** unduplicated child care businesses (through a total of **54,769** technical assistance service touchpoints) and leveraged additional external non-ARPA funding for additional provider grants.



*Note: resulted in an overall total of **1,826** new spaces for all ages.

ARPA Deliverable

Child Care Business Support Program

Goal: Create and establish one countywide childcare business support program to support owners and directors of private childcare programs in business sustainability best practices.

Results: 50 providers participated in Business Training cohorts in partnership with CRR using WEV business curriculum.

- Educators are eager to advance professionally, improve their environments, expand their licenses to serve more children, and pursue national accreditation.
- CRR provides quality coaches to elevate their expertise. These trainings open doors for their businesses while ensuring hundreds of children receive attentive, enriching care.
- Educators participating in The Steps to Quality receive pre- and post-environmental assessments: *Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale (FCCERS)*.



ARPA Deliverable



ECE Student Support

Goal: Expand enrollment of early childhood education students seeking infant/toddler qualifications for 100 students by 2025

Results:

Since CCPC launched the ARPA Stipend Program, **55** early childhood education students have completed infant/toddler coursework and received a stipend, exceeding goals to date. ARPA funding provided will support 100 students.

Gap:

CCPC identified **460** ECE professionals who had infant/ toddler units and could benefit from the stipend program. By offering this opportunity to current students and ECE staff returning to school, we provide an opportunity to backfill open positions and create room for program expansion.



ARPA

Infant/ Toddler Units Stipend Program

Thanks to the generosity of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors, Child Care Planning Council, in partnership with Santa Barbara Foundation and Children's Resource and Referral, is offering an exciting new opportunity for students completing Infant/Toddler courses!

Who is eligible?
Individuals completing Infant/Toddler units at an accredited college are eligible to apply.

What qualifies?
Infant/Toddler courses, including student teaching in an infant or toddler classroom, will qualify. Applicants are eligible to receive a stipend for **up to 12 units of coursework** and can reapply each semester until the 12 unit cap is met.
Individuals who have recently completed Infant/toddler coursework in Spring or Summer of 2023 are also eligible to apply for the Fall 2023 stipend.

How much?
Applicants are eligible for a minimum of \$100 per unit, plus an additional \$150 to support educational and materials costs. **This means for a 3 unit course, applicants would receive a minimum of \$450!**

When do I apply?
The ARPA stipend application for the Fall 2023 semester will be released at the beginning of the semester with applications due by **October 31st**.
A new application will be released each Spring and Fall semester until June of 2025.

For more information, please contact:
Christian Patterson,
Child Care Planning Council Coordinator
Desk: (805) 964-4710x4473 • Cell: (805)705-3756
Email: sbccpc@sbceo.org

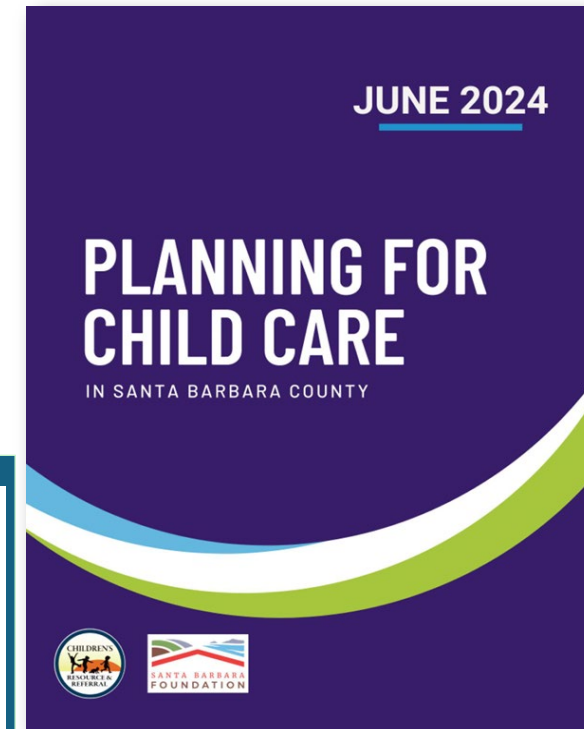
ARPA Deliverable

Facilities Master Plan

Conduct a countywide childcare facilities development needs assessment and report to better support child care facilities development across the County

Results:

Published the Child Care Facilities Needs Assessment, including asset maps by region, and the Planning for Child Care Land Use Report, including recommendations for improved processes for new and existing child care facilities, to inform the County of Santa Barbara Child Care Facilities Master Plan (May 31, 2025).



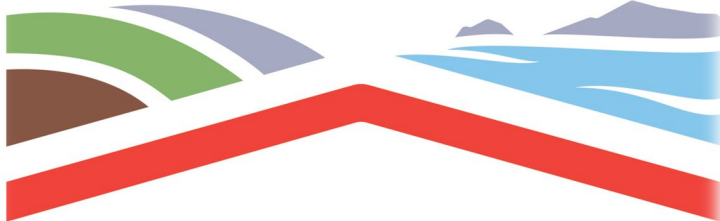
**CRR has established a database to track expansion and facility projects, county-wide data, and results.*



Thank you!



Santa Barbara County



**SANTA BARBARA
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