



# PARTNER UP!

Helping businesses secure affordable child care slots for employees

Through Partner Up!, businesses can reserve slots in regulated local child care programs. The business will contribute at least 25% of the true cost of care for each slot reserved, and Partner Up! will contribute the remaining amount. This lets workers receive accessible, high-quality child care at little-to-no out-of-pocket cost to them.



83% of millennials say they would leave their job for one with more family-friendly benefits.<sup>1</sup>

## CHILD CARE THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

A local Business Child Care Advocate will help your employer every step of the way, including with the application process.

If you already use a regulated child care program, it's likely you could keep that provider. If you don't have existing child care, Partner Up! will match your business with regulated local child care providers with open slots so you can begin receiving care.

Partner Up! is currently funded through 2023.

Ask your employer to contact Child Care Partnership for more information. Applications open Feb. 28 - April 4. Apply by March 14 for priority consideration.

[projectgrowth.wi.gov](http://projectgrowth.wi.gov)

## AN ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEE BENEFIT

- Participating workers will receive child care at little-to-no cost to them. Only if a provider's rates are higher than the Partner Up! payment amounts will the family be responsible for paying the difference out-of-pocket.
- Having reliable child care from a regulated program means you can focus at work knowing your children are safe and in a high-quality environment.
- It's likely you can remain with your current child care provider as long as their program is regulated and in good standing with WI DCF, and they agree to participate in Partner Up!
- Partner Up! will match your business with local regulated child care providers with open slots, so you don't have to search for a child care provider.

When companies provide child care, employee absences decrease by up to 30% and job turnover declines by as much as 60%.<sup>1</sup>

## WHY CHILD CARE?

The ongoing child care crisis means Wisconsin parents are struggling to find and afford child care. Two-thirds of children under age five now live in homes where both parents work, and U.S. businesses lose \$3 billion annually to employees missing work because of child care breakdowns.<sup>1</sup>

Wisconsin relies on its workers. Connecting these professionals to quality and affordable child care is critical to keeping Wisconsin's economy thriving.

In a six-month period, nearly half of all parents are absent from work at least once due to child care issues, missing an average of 4.3 days.<sup>1</sup>

Contact Child Care Partnership for more information!

Laura Lash  
[laura.lash@wdeoc.org](mailto:laura.lash@wdeoc.org)  
715-831-1700



Supporting Families Together Association



<sup>1</sup> Leading the Way: A Guide for Business Engagement in Early Education, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, <https://www.uschamberfoundation.org>