



Women's Fund Childcare Initiative

*Expanding access to high-quality, affordable
childcare in Ashland County*

THE ISSUE

Childcare barriers keep parents out of the workforce

- Only 82 licensed infant and toddler spaces in our county
- No Type B home-based care providers
- No licensed childcare available past 6 p.m.
- 2/3 of parents struggle to find care; 11% have turned down a job due to lack of care
- Childcare for single parent with two kids = 74% of median income

OUR SOLUTION

Build a new onsite daycare in our city's industrial park (27 businesses; 1,200 FTE)

- Collaborative venture with innovative funding model
- Plan is based on survey data from Ashland Business Park employees; 40% of employees surveyed meet 200% poverty threshold
- Survey respondents who are "very likely" to use the center have a combined 214 children
- 23 infant, 33 toddler, 39 preschool, 36 school-age spaces to be added
- Hours of operation to include non-traditional work hours

OUR PROGRESS

Excitement generated, momentum built

- Strategic partners secured
- Measurable goals set
- Budget created: \$3.5 million construction & start-up + \$1 million endowment = \$4.5 million goal
- Property secured (3 acres) and building designed (12,400 sq. ft. with room to expand)
- Nonprofit in place to own and operate the center, Foundations Community Childcare
- Capital campaign designed to run March-October 2022 (\$1 million match secured)

THE IMPACT

Supporting families, developing our workforce, impacting our community

- Help parents enter/remain in the workforce, advance careers, provide for family
- Provide children with safe, stable, educational environment to thrive
- Help employers recruit workers, retain talent, reduce absenteeism, increase productivity
- Allow Ashland to keep up with current growth and build workforce capacity for future growth
- Make Ashland a more desirable place to locate/expand business
- Create jobs at childcare center, plus student internships, volunteer and research opportunities
- Community is lifted when businesses and families thrive