





MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE **CONVENTION2025**



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Child Care is Infrastructure - Why Communities Can't Function Without It



HOW CHILDCARE IMPACTS
MICHIGAN'S WORKFORCE
PRODUCTIVITY AND THE
STATE ECONOMY



U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Foundation

Untapped
Potential in

MI

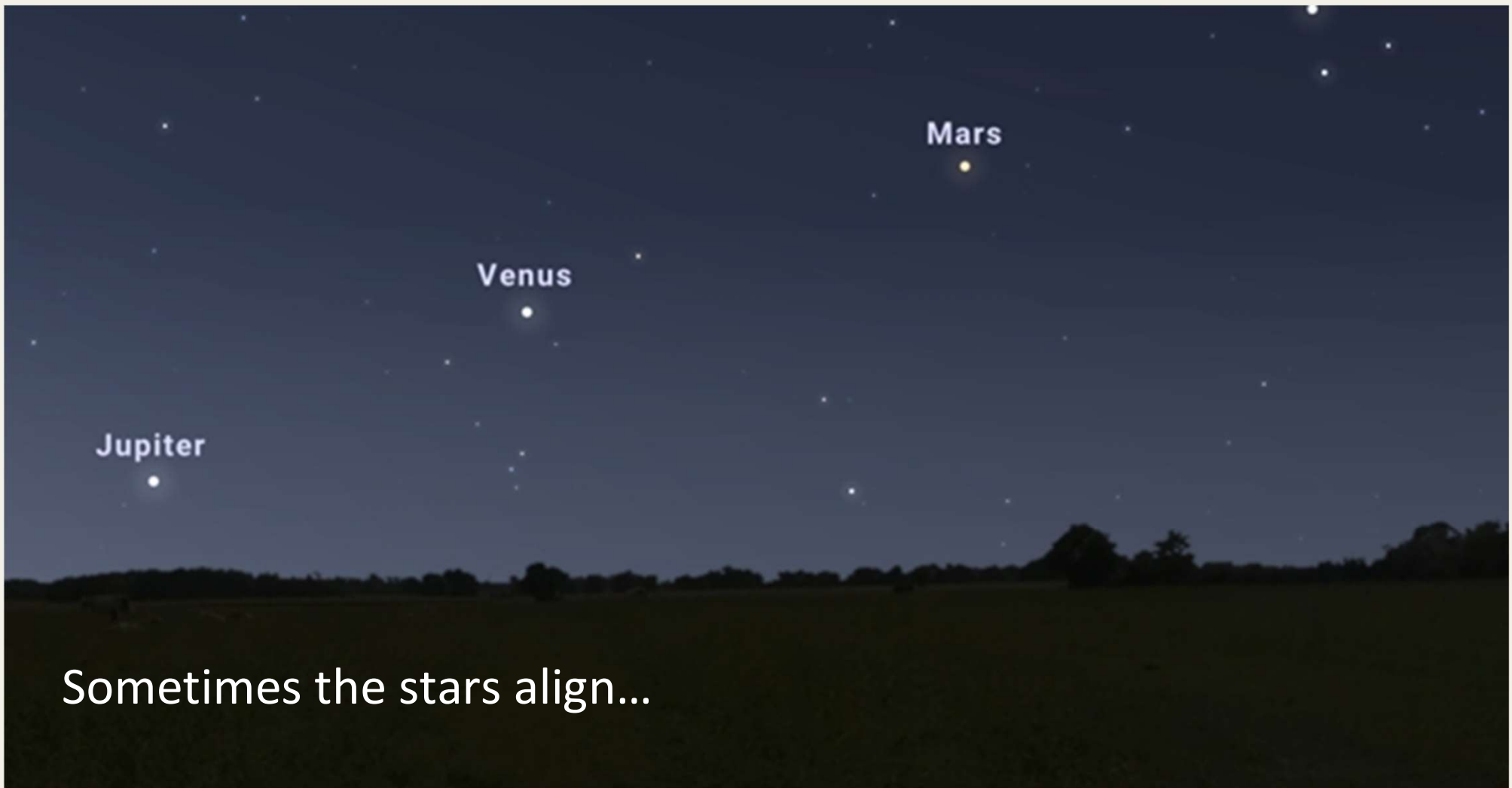


INTRODUCTION

**Michigan ranks
39th in labor force
participation
relative to other
states, and our
findings indicate
many parents
may not be able to
continue working
without adequate
childcare options.**

UNTAPPED POTENTIAL IN MICHIGAN

2



Sometimes the stars align...

Building Prosperity in Our State

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) oversees a range of tools, programs, and funding opportunities that advance three interwoven strategies.



Child Care is Infrastructure



Imagine trying to build a community without roads, schools, or *child care*. It just doesn't work. **Child care is infrastructure** - our economy and families can't function without it. It's time to invest in affordable, accessible child care for all.

#ChildcareIsInfrastructure #BuildForTheFuture"

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Systems Change Partners



Pulse at the W.E. Upjohn Institute is dedicated to transforming the early childhood landscape by equipping communities with data-driven solutions and actionable roadmaps. Pulse bridges the gap between research and practice, ensuring that every child, family, and provider has access to the resources they need to thrive. Through collaborative efforts with stakeholders across Michigan, we drive sustainable change in childcare accessibility, workforce development and policy innovation.

Early Childhood Investment Corporation

We have a vision... that all young children and their families in Michigan thrive.

- **Created in 2005 to be a statewide leader in early childhood, ECIC collaborates to:**
 - Increase public and private investment in the earliest years
 - Elevate issues affecting young children and their families
 - Continuously improve Michigan's comprehensive early childhood system, ensuring every child has the opportunity to succeed in school and in life.
- **In order to make this vision a reality, we work to ensure:**
 - Race, culture and community are celebrated assets in a young child's life
 - Our work is informed by research and driven by the voices of diverse populations to achieve equitable outcomes for all children
 - Collaboration is central to our work, and we strive to co-create knowledge and innovation for the field



Child Care Innovation Fund

First-of-its-kind effort to reimagine Michigan's child care sector through common-sense, cross-sector solutions.

Expand equitable access to high quality, affordable child care for working families.

Since 2021, the Fund has leveraged nearly \$20 million in public funds and private funds, over 75% of which has been granted to local and regional partners.

Implementation learnings and data gathered from our investments are used to educate and advocate for scaling promising child care solutions across Michigan.



Regional Child Care Coalition Leads & Co-Leads

Region 1

Gogebic, Ontonagon, Houghton, Keweenaw, Baraga, Iron, Marquette, Dickinson, Menominee, Delta, Alger, Schoolcraft, Luce, Mackinac, Chippewa

- Lead: **Lake Superior Community Partnership**
- Co-Lead: Community Coordinated Child Care Association of the Upper Peninsula

Region 2

Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford

- Lead: **United Way of Northwest Michigan**
- Co-Lead: Networks Northwest

Region 3

Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon

- Lead: **Northeast Michigan Council of Governments**
- Co-Lead: Develop Iosco

Region 4

Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa

- Lead: **Vibrant Futures**
- Co-Lead: The Right Place

Region 5

Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland, Saginaw

- Lead: **Middle Michigan Development Corporation**
- Co-Leads: Gratiot Isabella RESD & Midland County ESA

Region 6

Genesee, Huron, Lapeer, Sanilac, Shiawassee, St. Clair, Tuscola

- Lead: **Child Care Network**
- Co-Lead: Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership

Region 7

Clinton, Eaton, Ingham

- Lead: **Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP)**
- Co-Leads: Capital Area MI Works! & United Way of South Central Michigan

Region 8

Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Van Buren

- Lead: **Sturgis Community Foundation**
- Co-Lead: Southwest Michigan First

Region 9

Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Monroe, Washtenaw

- Lead: **Child Care Network**
- Co-Lead: Ann Arbor Spark

Region 10

Macomb, Oakland, Wayne

- Lead: IFF
- Co-Lead: None

Regional Child Care Action Plans



Access Regional Child Care Action plans created in FY24 at the QR code below:



CHILD CARE
INNOVATION
FUND





CONTINUED GAPS

- Facilities
- Start-Up Funding
- Wages
- Profit Margins
- Chronic Understaffing
- Persistent Supply Shortages
- Potential Community Opposition to Child Care Facility Development

MI PROGRESS...

- Pre-K For All
- Regional Child Care Coalitions
- MI Tri-Share
- Early Educator Wage Sustainability Grant
- SBAM Benefit Pilot
- Pulse Roadmaps
- RRC Child Care Readiness Toolkit



Greetings from







MICHIGAN'S CHILD CARE CHAMPIONS 2025

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Commongrounds
Alcona Community Schools
Wolverine Coil Spring
Hemlock Semiconductor
Vantage Plastic
Genesee County – HR Department
Michigan State University Federal Credit Union
Bronson Hospital
Kalsec

Coming in 2026: MUNICIPAL CHILD CARE CHAMPIONS!

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How Can You Support Child Care Where You Live?



RRC
**CHILD CARE
READINESS
TOOLKIT
2024**



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