

# Early Childhood Resource Center

The mission of Early Childhood Resource Center is to promote the healthy development of young children by strengthening families, improving the quality of early learning experiences, increasing school and community readiness, and informing public policy.

## **CHILD CARE SERVICES PROVIDED**

- · Workforce recruitment, retention, and onboarding
- · Staff coaching, training, and quality improvement
- · Administrative business support and leadership development
- · Credentialing and business start-up services
- Family engagement support

## **OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED**

- · Child care referrals
- Fatherhood services
- · Parent education and ambassador services
- SPARK Kindergarten Readiness Program
- · Foster, adoptive, and kinship resources



## EARLY CHILDHOOD RESOURCE CENTER

A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System



#### Published March 2025

CANTON Primary Office 1718 Cleveland Ave. NW Canton, Ohio 44703 AKRON 37 N. High Street, Ste. D Akron, Ohio 44308 **BOARDMAN** 6414 Market Street Boardman, Ohio 44512

CONTACT US 877.691.8521 | 330.491.3272 | ecresourcecenter.org



**OUR SERVICE AREA** 

Early Childhood Resource Center is the state-appointed Child Care Resource and Referral agency serving Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, and Trumbull counties.



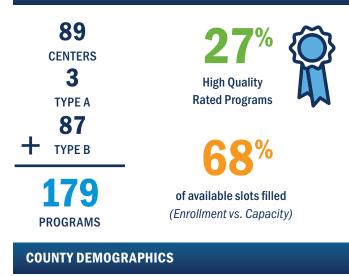
## Mahoning County AT-A-GLANCE



Mean Wage

(State of Ohio)

## LICENSED CHILD CARE PROGRAMS



#### **Population of** % % **Children Under Age 5** Living in Poverty Mahoning Mahoning County County Population Population of Children Living in Poverty Under age 5

## **OHIO KINDERGARTEN READINESS ASSESSMENT (KRA)**



## **64% NOT DEMONSTRATING READINESS** (Percentage of students not on track)

The KRA is a tool used by the state to gauge each child's preparedness for kindergarten instruction

based on Ohio's kindergarten standards, focusing on foundational skills and behaviors. At the beginning of each school year, children entering public and community school kindergarten programs, and those chartered non-public schools that have opted to participate, are given the assessment, which measures a child's knowledge and abilities in four areas of early learning: 1. Social foundations (including social and emotional development and approaches toward learning); 2. Mathematics; 3. Language and literacy; 4. Physical well-being and motor development

## **CHILD CARE WORKFORCE**

## **Reported Challenges**

- · Staffing: low qualifications, wages, lack of benefits, and turnover
- · Decreasing enrollment: high cost of care, non-traditional hours needed

Average Turnover **Total Mahoning County Child Care Workforce** 

## **COST OF CHILD CARE**



MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME

63%

The Breakdown: A family with two children, making the median income in Mahoning County would spend 63% of their income on child care.

## WHY INVESTMENTS MATTER

- 90% of brain development takes place by age 5
- · Investments in high quality care have a 13% return on investment



• Parents rely on high quality, affordable child care to participate in the workforce

Investing in high quality early care and education boosts economic growth, increases workforce participation, enhances earnings, improves business productivity, and leads to better child outcomes.

Published March 2025

SOURCES: Ohio Department of Children and Youth; US Bureau of Labor Statistics; *Ohio Department of Education and Workforce; United States Census Bureau;* Groundwork Ohio; Surveys of Child Care Providers in Mahoning County, Ohio; The Heckman Equation

EARLY CHILDHOOD **RESOURCE CENTER** A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System