

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Andy Beshear**GOVERNOR | **CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES****DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES****DIVISION OF CHILD CARE**275 East Main Street, 3C-FFrankfort, Kentucky 40621Phone: 502-564-2524Fax: 502-564-3464 | **Eric Friedlander**SECRETARY**Lesa Dennis** ACTING COMMISSIONER |

**Announcement**

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department for Community Based Services, Division of Child Care (DCC) is pleased to announce a new grant opportunity designed to increase high-quality early education services by providing a pilot project for Intergenerational Early Education Services.  This pilot project will be utilized to better understand the unique care and supports that intergenerational services could provide to two vulnerable populations.

**Background and Purpose**

The Division of Child Care has seen a decline in child care services across Kentucky within the past several years. With this decline in available child care, families are left without options for care, are forced to quit their jobs, or to utilize services that could be unsafe for their children.

DCC is committed to expanding early education opportunities for our most vulnerable population that encourage safe, healthy, and quality atmospheres that promote learning at a young age.  DCC will utilize the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to increase access to quality child care services by providing matching funds to four pilot areas that are looking to start a new intergenerational program that supports Kentucky’s young children in ways that enrich the lives of participants and builds on the positive outcomes the young and older generation have to offer each other.

This pilot opportunity will assist in creating new high-quality child care options in Kentucky while also supporting the workforce. The goal of the Intergenerational Care Pilot Project is to provide financial support to four programs up to $250,000.00 of matching funds, to establish a new child care program. This financial support would allow communities to focus on high-quality services and operate a functional child care program within a senior citizen center.

Building the child care structure within counties that are lacking regulated, high-quality services will assist parents in choosing programs that are best suited for their children and families.  This will assist in building strong support systems for our youngest citizens and build high-quality structures for children in our most vulnerable areas.

**Key Definitions**

**Child Care Desert -** Any census tract with more than 50 children under age 5 that contains either no **child care** providers or so few options that there is a lack of services.

**Senior Center -** A community focal point where older persons (as individuals or in groups) come together for services and/ or activities.

**Requirements**

* This grant opportunity is for the start-up of new child care programs only. The center may not be licensed at the time of award.
* Governing Organization must provide demographic information about the child care program and the main agency information.
* Governing Organization must partner with two community organizations that will provide supports to the program. One may be supporting the senior citizens and their needs while the other may provide supports to the early education program. Each organization will need to provide a statement of support along with detailed information on their role within the partnership with how the collaboration efforts will support their community.
* Governing Organization will need to explain the need for child care in their area with the utilization of data to drive the need.
* Governing Organization will need to partner with their local Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (CCR&R) and explain the partnership this agency will provide. (A list of CCR&Rs will be provided with this document).
* Governing Organization will need to provide an inclusion and equity statement of the program.
* Governing Organization will provide a business plan for the child care program that includes an environment scan of the community.
* Governing Organization will provide an annual budget for the program.
* Governing Organization will provide a plan for becoming an All STARS Level 3 or higher program within two years of opening the program.
* Governing Organization will provide the overall capacity of the number of children they are looking to serve by age group.
* Governing Organization must show proof of matching funds.
* Governing Organization must apply to become a Licensed Type I Facility.
* Governing Organization will ensure that they accept children who utilize the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP).
* Child Care Program will provide care for infants and toddlers.
* Child Care Administrators must complete the Strengthening Business Practices training within 6 months of receiving the grant funds.
* Child Care Program must be licensed within 12 months of receiving funds.
* Child Care Program must stay open for a minimum of two calendar years.

This grant opportunity is a competitive RFA process and will be granted to 4 applicants based on a point system. The rubric is provided. The deadline for all applications and supporting documentation is June 21st, 2023, at 5pm. No exceptions will be permitted. Please return the application and supporting documentation to Jessica Cain at Jessica.Cain@ky.gov. Applicants will be contacted by July 1, 2023, of award notification.

**APPLICATION TEMPLATE AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR A COMPETITIVE APPLICATION**

Information in this section will provide direction to the applicant in the completion of the application.

**Rubric**

**Demographic Information: Section Maximum points=15 points**

* Up to 5 points for center demographic information
* Up to 5 points for Community Organization demographic information.
* Up to 5 points for Partnering Senior Citizen Program that will be in Partnership with the main agency.
* This is required. Without this information, the application will not proceed to the next round.

**Community Early Education Awareness Program: Section Maximum Points = 50**

* Up to 25 points for detailed information and plan of implementation of the Intergenerational early education program.
* Up to 25 points for detailed information on all collaborating partners that will assist in the implementation of the Intergenerational early education program.
* This is required. Without this information, the application will not exceed to the next round.

**Community Partners: Section Maximum Points = 40**

* Up to 10 points per agency for demographic information, letter of support, and detailed information on their role within the partnership.
* This is required. Without this information, the application will not exceed to the next round.

***Business Plan, Budget, and Environmental Scan*: Section Maximum Points= 60**

* Up to 20 points awarded for a thorough business plan explaining the implementation of the business.
* Up to 20 points awarded for an Environmental Scan of the community needs and other child care facilities in the community.
* Up to 20 points awarded on a one-year budget that will explain the business income and expenses.

***Program Implementation:* Section Maximum Points= 140**

* Up to 10 points for each of the six questions in this section, based upon the quality of response and ability to demonstrate that children will receive high-quality services.
* Up to 20 points explaining services that will be provided.
* Up to 20 points explaining partnerships and collaborative efforts with other early childhood professionals within the community to provide ongoing support and services to the children within the community.
	+ Up to 20 points awarded for a thorough plan of becoming an All STARS Level 3 center within two years of opening.
	+ Up to 20 points awarded for a thorough inclusion and equity statement.

**CCR&R Partnership: Section Maximum Points=10**

* Up to 10 points for CCR&R partnership demographic information and detailed information on partnership within the grant.
* This is required. Without this information, the application will not exceed to the next round.

***Staffing*: Section Maximum Points= 40**

* Up to 20 points based on the quality of the response.
* Up to 20 additional points based upon the described qualifications of staff policy and procedures.

***Program Assurances*: Section Maximum Points= Zero points**

Failure to fully complete the Program Assurances in the affirmative will result in disqualification of the proposal.

**Address of Applicant Agency**:

Fully complete with street address, city, state, zip code, and county of the applying program. The address provided should align with that of the program applying for funding.

**Applicant Eligibility:**

To meet application eligibility for the Community Partnership Matching Grant Opportunity, the applicant must:

1. Provide demographic information about the program;
2. The child care program can not be licensed at the time of award nor can an existing program have been in the location designated as the center address within the last 3 years;
3. Partner with two different community organizations to provide services and one must be a supporting agency for senior citizens and the other early education. Each organization will need to provide a statement of support along with detailed information on their role within the partnership with how the collaboration efforts will support the program;
4. Explain the need for child care in their area with the utilization of data to support the need;
5. Partner with their local CCR&R and explain the partnership this agency will provide. (A list of CCR&Rs is included with this RFA.);
6. Provide an inclusion and equity statement of the program;
7. Provide a business plan for the child care program that includes an environmental scan of the community;
8. Provide an annual budget for the program;
9. Provide a plan for becoming an All STARS level 3 program within two years of opening the program;
10. Provide how many slots applicant wants to secure within the center space and age groups served;
11. Provide proof of matching funds;
12. Apply to become a Licensed Type I Facility;
13. Accept children who participate in the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP);
14. Accept infants and toddlers;
15. Become an All STARS Level 3, 4, or 5 program within two years of opening the program;
16. Complete the Strengthening Business Practices training within 6 months of receiving the grant funds;
17. Become licensed within 12 months of receiving funds; and
18. Must stay open for a minimum of two calendar years after receiving funds.

Verifications will occur. ONLY applications in which ALL assurances are verified will be considered for funding.

Summary of Grant Request (5 points):

This section of the application asks for the following information:

**Amount of funds requesting**

Include the amount of funds requesting. The provider must show proof of available funds and the amount requesting cannot exceed $250,000.00. The funds requested may not exceed the amount of funds the organization has available.

**County which center must reside in**

The child care facility must reside in the county of the organization or the counties that the organization serves.

**Program Description/ Work Statement**

Each question must be answered completely with enough detail to understand exactly what is being proposed.

**Demographic Information**

**Center information**

Center Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Center Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Governing Agency Information**

Agency Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person Information: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

FEIN Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Amount Requesting: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Partnering Agency Information**

Agency Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person Information: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Partnering Agency Information**

Agency Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person Information: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Questions**

**Partnership and Collaboration:**

This section has three questions that ask applicants to describe collaborative relationships.

Collaborations play a key role in supporting a successful early education program and significantly impact multiple aspects of a program’s operation.

**Question 1**: Early Intervention/ text response character limit 5000 (20 points)

* *Detail the programs’ inclusion policies and practices.*
* *How will your program work with community members and Early education professionals to collaborate services within your community?*

**Question 2**: Community Members/ text response character limit 5000 (20 points)

* *Does your program collaborate with any community members around early education or family support services? Yes or No*
* *If so, what type of programs or services would you be collaborating with?*

**Question 3**: Community Supports/ text response character limit 5000 (20 points)

* Please explain how all of your community partners will assist in supporting the program.
* Detail each agencies role within the program.

**Program Implementation:**

This section has five questions.

**Question 1**: Classroom Capacity Building/ yes/no response and text response character limit 5000 (20 points)

* *What type of care is most sought out within your community?*
* *Infant and toddler care*
* *Preschool care*
* *Afterschool care*
* *Special needs care*
* *Medically fragile care*
* *What types of care are you planning to provide?*
* *What is your plan to provide services to each one of these groups?*
* *How many slots would your program be able to serve through this grant opportunity?*
* *Infants 0-12 months:*
* *One Year old’s – 12-24 months:*
* *Two year old’s – 24-36 months:*
* *Three year old’s- 36 to 48 months:*
* *Preschool Age Children: 4 and 5 year old’s:*
* *Afterschool Age Children: 6 to 12 years of age:*

**Question 2**: Continuity of Care/ text response character limit 5000 (20 points)

Relationships are at the heart of high-quality care. It is the trusting relationship children establish that builds the foundation for all later development. Applicants should describe the model(s) that will be used to structure classrooms to assure children can build strong relationships.

* *Describe the program’s approach to assure continuity of care. How will classrooms be structured to assure children build positive and long-term relationships with their caregivers and with other children?*

**Question 3**: Curriculum/ text response character limit 5000 (20 points)

Children have unique development needs. Applicants should describe the program’s curriculum model, and the ways in which this model meets these unique needs. Applicants should reference the *Kentucky Early Learning Standards* in crafting a response to this question*.*

* *Describe the programs’ type of curriculum used for each age group. Describe the ways in which the Kentucky Early Learning Standards will be used in coordination of the curriculum to ensure all developmental areas are being reached.*

**Question 4**: Family Engagement/ text response character limit 5000 (20 points)

Including a child’s family in the early childhood experience is an important element that contributes to the overall success of a program and the children receiving services. Family engagement extends beyond point-in-time events, and requires vigilant planning, and an understanding of the diverse situations of each family.

* *Describe How you will include families in your program’s activities and the child’s early education success.*

**Question 5**: Business Responsibilities/ text response character limit 5000 (20 points)

Most providers got into the field for their love and passion of children and caring for them, not so much for their love of business reports and calculations. 80 % of child care providers that close their business do so because they have made poor business discissions and were unable to keep the doors open,

* How are you going to ensure that your business is sustainable?
* What tools will you utilize to ensure you are making sound business discissions?
* What Business training have you or other partners had to ensure business knowledge is implemented?

**Question 6**: The Intergenerational Care Pilot Project is a unique concept that is not seen widely across Kentucky but has seen amazing strides within other programs and states.

* Please explain how your program will intertwine the seniors with care in the early education program.
* How will you ensure the health and safety of all children with intertwined services?
* How will you evaluate the program’s success?
* Provide an outline of services that will be provided to both the seniors and the children.

**Staffing:**

This section asks one question related to staffing.

**Question 1**: Staffing/ text response character limit 5000 (40 points)

Staff recruitment is a barrier for most centers at this moment but are critical to ensuring the quality of programming. While recruitment allows for the acquisition of distinctive teachers, retention helps maintain classroom and program consistency. The applicant’s response should detail both recruitment and retention strategies and should include information regarding the provision for salaries and benefits to entice applicants and retain qualified staff.

* *How will funds be utilized to recruit and retain staff for your program?*

**FISCAL DOCUMENTATION /BUDGET**

will be assessed during the application process to ensure stability of the facility.

*Please attach a detailed budget that will explain the financial stability of this project for your facility.*

**PROGRAM ASSURANCES**

Applicants must provide assurance that they understand and have the capacity to meet the requirements for the program as outlined within the application assurances. Applicants will be asked to check each assurance box to indicate whether they can comply with the assurances.

For any questions regarding the application please email jessica.cain@ky.gov.

Submit all application information and supporting documentation by 5 pm on June 1st, 2023, to Jessica Cain at jessica.cain@ky.gov.

Governing Agency: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

