

MEMORANDUM

September 20, 2011

TO: Health and Human Services Committee
Education Committee

FROM: Vivian Yao, Legislative Analyst 

SUBJECT: **Status report - Child care industry in Montgomery County**

The Health and Human Services and Education Committees will receive a briefing on the state of the child care industry in Montgomery County. Committee members requested this briefing earlier in the year after discussing child care subsidy programs and expressed interest in receiving information on the challenges being faced by the child care community.

The following individuals are expected to participate in the discussion:

- Kate Garvey, Chief, Children, Youth and Families, Department of Health and Human Services
- Firoza Salahuddin, Family Child Care provider, Care A Lot Daycare
- Jerraine Johnson, Bright Eyes Child Care
- Arjumand Gala Zubairi, Family Child Care Association of Montgomery County
- Gloria Salazar, Director, Mary Hart Child Care
- Shaun Rose, President, Board of Directors, Rock Spring Child Care and Provider Representative on the Commission on Child Care
- Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta, Centro Nia

Ms. Garvey will be providing an update on child care demographics in Montgomery County and the status of state and local child care subsidy programs.

Participating child care providers will provide information to the Committees on the many challenges that child care providers are facing including the rise of unlicensed care, efforts to fulfill credential requirements and move beyond licensing, supporting the increasing needs of families, and working with child care subsidy programs.

Written comments from Ms. Zubairi and Ms. Salazar are attached at ©1-4. In addition, Montgomery Child Care Association Interim has submitted written comments to the Committees on MCCA's experience with child care subsidy programs and other challenges at ©5-6.

CHILD CARE STATUS OVERVIEW

Kate Garvey will present an overview on current child care demographics and provider statistics. The presentation will draw from the 2011 Child Care Demographics report¹ for Montgomery County attached at ©7-18 and the Child Care At-A-Glance fact sheet attached at ©19.

The following chart shows trend data taken from the Child Care Demographics Reports from 2008-2011:

Child Care Information Categories	2008	2010	2011	% Change 2008-2011	% Change 2010-2011
Child Care expenses as % of family income	18.8%	21.5%	22.2%	3.4%	0.7%
Median family income for family of four	\$106,716	\$106,616	\$106,248	-0.4%	-0.3%
Average weekly cost: center-based FT care for 0-23 mos	\$269.93	\$305.12	\$306.69	13.6%	0.5%
Average weekly cost: family childcare for 0-23 mos	\$202.96	\$219.90	\$223.80	10.3%	1.8%
# family child care providers/capacity	1,018/ 7,341	1,016/ 7,364	1,000/ 7,308	-1.8%/ 0.4%	-1.6%/ -0.8%
# center-based programs/capacity	429/ 27,041	441/ 28,039	456/ 29,118	6.3%/ 3.7%	3.4%/ 3.8%

Some trends and highlights from the reports include:

- Changes in the indicators reported from 2010 and 2011 are, for the most part, minimal; however, changes from 2008-2011 are more substantial.
- Although the median family income declined slightly from 2008 to 2011, child care expenses as a percentage of a family's income increased from 18.8% to 22.2%.
- Despite stagnant family incomes, the average weekly reported cost of child care increased in all categories of care and for all age groups -- with increases as much as 22% for full-time center-based care for children 2-5 years old. Council staff notes that the data reported is provided through self report and may not be inclusive of all providers in the County. Some providers may not have increased their rates to the extent reflected in the report, if at all, during this period.
- The number of family child care providers has decreased in the last three years by 1.8% while the number of center-based programs has increased by 6.3%. However, the number of accredited family child care homes has increased by 16% (from 18 to 21) in the last year, while the number of accredited center-based programs has decreased by about 1% (from 73 to 72).
- The graph at ©14 shows steady annual growth in the numbers of anticipated center-based providers from 222 full-day programs in 2006 to 292 in 2015 (32%

¹ Data from the 2010 census was not available for incorporation into the 2011 Child Care Demographics report.

growth over the 10-year period); however, the number of family child care providers is anticipated to remain fairly level over this period (1003 to 1004 providers).

CHILD CARE SUBSIDY PROGRAMS

The State's Purchase of Care (POC) and the County's Working Parents Assistance (WPA) programs are the two child care subsidy programs that serve Montgomery County residents. In discussing the status of the child care subsidy programs earlier in the year, the Committees learned that the State had instituted a wait list for the POC program and anticipated that a wait list for the WPA program would likely follow. Committee members also heard about the substantial co-pays required of families to participate in the WPA program and expressed the need to revisit childcare subsidy policies when the economy rebounds.

In July, the DHHS Director notified the Council that a wait list for the WPA was implemented at the end of June, effective July 1, 2011 (©20-21). The Department reports that as of August 31, there were 1,116 children and 670 families on the POC wait list and 56 children and 39 families on the WPA wait list.

Additional update information for the child care subsidy programs is attached at ©22. In FY11, \$1,842,210 was expended for the WPA program, and as of February 2011, \$5,957,031 was expended for Montgomery County children.

DISCUSSION ISSUES

The Committees may want to further explore the following topics with meeting participants:

- ***Family Child Care and Center-based Trends:*** The number of center-based child care programs has been steadily increasing and is anticipated to continue increasing through 2015 while the number of family child care providers is expected to remain fairly level. What are the reasons for this trend? What impact will this trend have on families seeking affordable care options? Are there cost neutral ways to support more family child care providers in becoming licensed or maintaining licensure? To what extent is the increase in center-based programming attributable to services delivered in federal facilities?
- ***Child Care Subsidies:*** Has the State provided any indication about how long the POC wait list will be in place? What information and/or resources are made available for families needing child care but who do not qualify for subsidies or are put on a wait list for services? Council staff recommends that the Committees request a status update on wait list and expenditure issues regarding child care subsidy programs during FY13 budget discussions.

Honorable members of the Council, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to present to you today.

My name is Arjumand Zubairi and I have been a licensed Family child care provider in Montgomery County since 1992 and currently serve on the Executive Board for the Family Child Care Association of Montgomery County. During this time, I have provided care for many children and many have gone on to become honor students and be accepted into various private schools and magnet programs in the area.

The success of children in childcare depends upon many factors including a parents' desire to cultivate the minds of their child and also a provider's ability to provide a quality and stimulating learning environment to nurture, challenge and grow each child in achieving their maximum potential. As a provider, this is not possible without there being a central guideline or certification process to adhere to.

I can confidently say on behalf of the Family Child Care Association of Montgomery County that we recognize the importance of licensing and quality enhancements such as credentialing and tiered imbursement. As well as the importance of the subsidy program, the USDA Child & Adult Food program and other professional programs for child care. Such County programs enable us to better handle challenges associated with child care and help us become better, more professional child care providers. Additionally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire team associated with the Child Care Resource & Referral Center and our many license specialists for their continued efforts and guidance.

It's important to understand today that the landscape for being a child care provider has changed. There are increased regulations, state quality initiatives and at the same time there is significantly increased competition from the rapidly increasing number of non-licensed caregivers. These issues pose numerous challenges for licensed child care providers:

For example, with the challenging economy, we are seeing in our County an increase in the number of people offering unlicensed care. This creates many obstacles and impacts the safety of children. It also dilutes the value of those licensed child care providers who are constantly getting professional training and following outlined guidelines and regulations. This increase in non-licensed care can create a deterrent for new providers who want to go through the licensing process and diminish the value of care being provided. In fact, there are many providers who at one time were licensed and are **not** renewing their license because of the competition from unlicensed caregivers. In 2011, there was a decrease in the number of licensed family child care providers in Montgomery County. The reality is many experienced providers are closing their doors as they simply cannot compete with cut rate costs provided by

unlicensed caregivers. Think about it for a minute. If you were a parent in these challenging economic times and have a choice to send your child to a licensed provider at a higher cost than an unlicensed provider offering their services at a much, much lower cost, what choice would you make?

Also, the recent MSDE requirements which doubled the amount of ongoing training providers have to take has caused a substantial increase in out of pocket expenses for licensed child care providers. In turn this is prompting many childcare providers to close their businesses. It's simply too expensive and not worth the time and costs.

Effective licensing regulations and quality enhancements allow children to be cared for in a safe, secure, and appropriate environment by knowledgeable, well trained child care professionals.

Thank you very much for this opportunity and for your time.

Arjumand Zubairi

Good afternoon and thank you members of the County Council for your kind invitation to speak today. My name is Gloria Salazar and I represent Maryland Child Care Services, a company composed of four educational centers in the Montgomery County area. I have been the director of one of those centers, which is located in Rockville, Maryland, for about five years. Our center serves about 40 children between the ages of two and twelve years old.

One of the most significant issues I have observed in the past two years in the center is the ability of the families who receive subsidies to pay the center fees. This happens because, although these families have vouchers available for that purpose, even those which provide three units, they do not cover 100% the weekly fee, but leave an open co-payment that must be covered by the family. Let me explain this with an example. The weekly average fee of our center is about \$210. The voucher pays \$160, so the family still needs to pay the difference of \$50 per week, or \$200 per month, which for some parents is more than they can afford. This is where the problem starts. We the administrators have as a priority to provide the best to the children and their low income families, but on the other hand, we have fixed expenses that we must cover such as salaries, rent, utilities, food, materials, etc. If we were to help these families we would never be able, for example, to improve the salaries of our teachers. My question is why doesn't the office of subsidies do a more complete analysis based on a true and current average of the cost of care to estimate better the voucher amount so the burden on the family is affordable? On my experience, a co-payment of \$50 or more per week would never be an amount that many of my families can afford.

At Maryland Child Care Services we have made a commitment to serve our community and support our subsidized families. For that reason, and even though it is a situation that in some way is not beneficial financially to the company, we have in our files twelve children whose families only provide vouchers as a method of payment, which means that they do not pay 100% of the weekly fee. This decision was taken after making a case by case analysis which led us to determine that indeed these families were not able to make any additional payments on top of the vouchers. I think that it is of extreme importance that these problems be studied so we can get to a resolution that is beneficial for both sides.

I also want to take the opportunity to speak about another issue that has been occurring these past years and is linked to the imbalance between teachers' qualifications and their salaries. Our programs strive diligently to go beyond licensing standards and offer a quality child care program to our families. Our centers have pursued accreditation and participated in enhancement projects, which include using approved curriculums. We support and encourage our staff to participate in the Maryland Child Care Credential Program. As a participant, our staff is able to access up to \$400 a year as an incentive to enroll in different seminars and courses as part of their professional development. Typically this works as a reimbursement, meaning that the teachers must pay for these courses and seminars out of pocket and then request a reimbursement. However, there is a lack of coordination between the program and the Department of Reimbursements. I am aware than in more than one case, no reimbursement has been issued to the teachers or this has taken up to six months or even past the time when the teachers must renew their credentials. This discourages them to keep improving their curriculum through additional training. As you can see, the personal and professional motivation exists, but sometimes the economic means are an obstacle.

In reference to this topic too I want to thank the team from Montgomery County Child Care Resource & Referral Center because they have made it possible for teachers to get low cost training and get involved in valuable projects and initiatives.

To summarize, I just want to leave an open reflection to the audience. Let's think of what can be done so that we as administrators can serve our children and their families in any case no matter their financial situation, but at the same

time get the adequate earnings so we can offer our teachers honest salaries which are enough not only to sustain them financially, but to help them grow professionally.

Thank you.



September 19, 2011

Dear Council President Ervin,

Thank you for the opportunity to share our concerns about the status of the child care industry in Montgomery County. Montgomery Child Care Association (MCCA) is the County's oldest and largest non-profit child care provider. We opened our first program in 1968 and today we serve approximately 1000 infant through school age children from families of all income levels, at 14 licensed, accredited child care centers in Montgomery County.

When the Maryland State Dept. of Education assumed the supervision of child care programs in 2005, Montgomery Child Care Association embraced their new quality initiatives. Our child care programs now pursue MSDE accreditation and use an MSDE-approved research-supported curriculum. New curriculum and training for our preschool classrooms will cost us \$50,000 in the next two years. Our teaching staff participates in the Maryland Child Care Credential, and we award bonuses for each step of the Credential they achieve, about \$10,000 this year. This year we are exploring ways to help more of our child care teachers achieve AA degrees in education, a requirement of MSDE accreditation. Tuition of about \$500 per course will add up quickly.

These initiatives are expensive, especially in these rough economic times, but we invest in them because we know the critical importance of child care for our children's optimal growth, development and education, and we support Montgomery County and our State in their plans for high-quality early education. So it is troubling that at the same time we are increasing our investments in high-quality child care, Montgomery County and the State of Maryland are reducing theirs. We need your help.

Child Care in Public Space

Nine MCCA child care programs lease space in County buildings, and we are very grateful for the below-market rents that enable us to focus more of our resources on our programs, but we have serious problems with maintenance and repairs. Because of budget cuts to the Department of General Services, we have been told to request only maintenance work that will affect our license or the health and safety of our children. This hurts our business. First, it is difficult to attract customers to child care programs that are visibly in need of paint and repairs, so it is no coincidence that our two lowest enrolled programs are in retired County school buildings in serious need of work. Second, preventive maintenance is shortchanged. As a result, we had two air conditioning emergencies this summer that required us to remove children from overheated classrooms and, in one of those cases, to ask parents to leave work early and pick up their children. It took a few days to complete repairs, and only a break in the hot weather enabled us to keep our programs open to provide child care for our families.

Repairs are also hampered by red tape. With the loss of HHS's Program Manager for Child Care in Public Space in summer 2010, child care programs no longer have a liaison with our County landlords, the Department of General Services, and other County agencies, making it very difficult for us as tenants—and also for the agency people we work with—to navigate between departments for information and needed services.

Montgomery County Child Care Resource & Referral Center

As Maryland ramps up for the federal Early Learning Challenge grants and implementation of Preschool for All, child care providers face new requirements for training, a new quality rating system, "Maryland Excels," and new pressure to have more of our teachers complete AA degrees. We turn to the Child Care Resource and Referral Center for technical assistance to meet these demands, but the R&R has also suffered from budget cuts, and now has only 6 staff members to provide training and assistance over 400 child care centers and about 1000 family child care homes. We need more help and so do they.

Child Care Subsidies

The children who would benefit most from our high quality programs—children from low-income families—are the children least able to access them. Here's why:

1. The family income eligibility limit is too low. In 2002 Maryland set the income eligibility limit at 50% of the State median income. While the State median income has increased over the last 9 years, the eligibility limit has remained at 50% of the 2002 SMI, effectively lowering the rate and excluding many low-income families (*Maryland Family Network Public Policy Handbook 2011-2012*).
2. Child care subsidy payments are too low. While the federally recommended subsidy rate is the 75th percentile of current market rates, in 2011 **Maryland's subsidy rate has fallen to the 14th percentile**—this means 86% of child care programs charge more than the subsidy rate (*Maryland Family Network*).
3. Co-payments are too high. The subsidy voucher is part government funds and part an assigned family co-payment based on income. Our subsidized families' average co-pay is \$150/month and ranges as high as \$300/month for families with multiple children.

Because of low subsidy rates, the full value of a child care voucher falls far short of MCCA's tuition—a \$300 monthly shortfall for preschool care—and this gap grows every year. At MCCA we do not charge families for the difference. Instead, we **"subsidize the subsidy,"** covering the tuition gap with our own funds, and accepting the voucher as payment in full. This has been our policy for years, and we have never—yet—set a limit on our subsidy.

In the past, our MCCA subsidy cost us \$40,000 to \$50,000 annually. At the end of the 2009-10 school year, it jumped to \$75,000, and **at the end of this school year we had spent \$83,000**. Our subsidy of the child care subsidy gave about 65 low-income children access to the high-quality accredited programs our State and County want for them, at considerable expense to MCCA.

While Montgomery Child Care is contributing more, Montgomery County has cut their subsidy budget by \$50,000 this year, and started a waitlist on July 1st. Maryland closed its child care subsidy program to new applicants even earlier, on February 28th. Over 1000 Montgomery County children are now on the State waitlist, with over 7000 children statewide. They and thousands more are being denied access to the safe, nurturing high-quality child care programs that we know can improve their school readiness and later success in life.

If new revenue cannot be found to restore much needed services to child care programs and to re-open and improve the child care subsidy programs, we ask you to re-examine your budget priorities, and put more money where it will do the most good. While the savings on child care are short term, the developmental and educational harm to our children—and the cost for Montgomery County and Maryland—will be long term. We need your help. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Linda Dunphy

Linda Dunphy, MSW
Interim Executive Director
Linda.dunphy@mccaedu.org

Maryland Child Care Resource Network
 Montgomery County Child Care
 Resource and Referral Center

Child Care Demographics

Montgomery County Report

Montgomery County is Maryland's most populous jurisdiction. Its 495 square miles border on Washington, D.C., and is 34 miles southwest of Baltimore. Major business concentrations are along the I-270 corridor and the Route 29 corridor in eastern Montgomery County. High technology, especially telecommunications and biotechnology, is the principle economic activity. The County also is home to a number of Federal research and development installations.

The County's 32,800 companies employ 375,000 workers. Some of its major private employers include BAE Systems, Discovery Communications, GEICO, IBM, Lockheed Martin, Hughes Network Systems, Adventist Healthcare, National Institutes of Health Medical Research, Marriott International, and Westat.

Source: Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) 2009-2010.

Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center, the Maryland Child Care Resource Network and Maryland Family Network, Inc. are co-publishers of this Montgomery County Report for the Network's Maryland Child Care Demographics Report series. The series includes reports for the State, for each of Maryland's 23 counties and the City of Baltimore.

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Frequently Requested Child Care Information

Child Population 2000

Age Group	Number in age group
0-1	24,043
2-4	36,130
5-9	63,303
10-11	26,248
Total	149,724

Source: Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), 2000 Census Summary File 1.

Child Care Costs as Compared to Other Major Household Expenses

The estimated current median family income in Montgomery is \$106,248⁶. A family of four that included a couple and two children ages 1-2 and 3-5 years can be expected to have the following yearly household expenses:

Expense	Cost	% of Income
Child Care	\$23,603	22.2%
Infant ¹	\$11,637.60	
Preschooler ²	\$11,965.72	
Food ³	\$ 9,532	9.0%
Housing ⁴	\$18,924	17.8%
Taxes ⁵	\$26,846	25.3%
Total	\$78,905	74.3%

¹ Average cost of full-time care in a family child care home (LOCATE, 2010). ² Average cost of full-time care in a child care center (LOCATE, 2010). ³ National average cost of food at home based on a moderate cost plan (Cost of Food at Home Estimated for Food Plans at Four Cost Level, September 2010), U.S. Average, United States Department of Agriculture). ⁴ Based on U.S. Bureau of the Census 2000 median selected owner costs with a mortgage; included mortgage, taxes, insurance and utilities. ⁵ Federal, state, and local income taxes, Medicare, and FICA taxes per IRS and Maryland Office of Comptroller (2010). Taxes do not reflect Earned Income Credit. ⁶ Current income as shown in the 2nd Quarter 2010 EDIS Report. This data cannot be compared to previous data.

Average Weekly Cost of Full-time Child Care

Montgomery County	Family Child Care Programs	Child Care Centers
0-23 months	\$223.80	\$ 306.69
2-4 years	\$194.04	\$ 230.11
5 years ¹	\$178.76	\$ 214.83
School Age Full ²	\$165.95	\$ 181.07
School Age B/A ³	\$111.76	\$ 120.24

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/10.
¹ Average cost of full time care for a 5 year old. Defined as child being in full time child care or being in kindergarten and out-of-school child care, i.e., holidays, school closures and summers. ² Average cost of full time care for a 6+ school age child (out-of-school child care, i.e., holidays, school closures and summers). ³ Average cost of before and after school child care.

Number of Montgomery Children under 12 with Mothers in the Work Force¹

116,250 – 77%² of total 2010 child population under 12 (150,974).

¹ Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care. ² Percent based on 2000 census data. Total population number based on Geolytics, Inc. Estimate Professional 2010/2015. Data is not directly comparable to earlier reports.

Population Information

Child Population¹

	1990		2000	
	Montgomery	Maryland	Montgomery	Maryland
0-3 years	35,121	216,136	35,779	209,218
3-4 years	22,017	141,682	24,394	144,175
5 years	10,765	69,456	12,246	74,546
6-9 years	39,632	262,917	51,057	316,772
10-11 years	18,248	124,328	26,248	162,481
Total	125,783	814,519	149,724	907,192

¹Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census Summary Tape File 1A (STF 1A), 1990, 2000 Censuses. Age breakdowns prepared by MFN.

Female Population (selected ages)

Age Group	1995 ¹	2000 ²
20-24	23,061	21,948
25-29	30,152	29,724
30-34	40,031	36,155
Total	93,244	87,827

¹Source: MDP Population Projections 7/97.

²MDP Census 2000 Summary File 1.

Work Force Information

Total Population Ages 16+ in Work Force

	Montgomery	Maryland
1990		
Female	212,277	1,238,003
Male	236,007	1,401,893
2000		
Female	230,995	1,351,034
Male	246,128	1,418,491
Change		
Female	8.8%(+)	9.1%(+)
Male	4.3%(+)	1.2%(+)

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census. Prepared by MDP, April 2002 based on STF 3A.

Females (16+) with Children

Age Group	2000	1990	Change
Total females (16+) with children under 6	29,250	49,777	41.2%(-)
Total females (16+) with children under 6 in the work force	19,676	33,157	40.7%(-)
Total females (16+) with children 6-17	64,240	47,250	36.0%(+)
Total females (16+) with children 6-17 in the work force	50,541	38,447	31.5%(+)

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 census. Prepared by MDP, April 2002 based on STF 3A.

Total Population

	Montgomery	Maryland
2000	873,341	5,296,486
1995	810,000	5,046,079
1990	757,027	4,780,753
1980	579,053	4,216,975

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census Summary Tape File 1A (STF 1A), 2000, 1990, 1980 Censuses of Population and Housing and Maryland Department of Planning Data Services, Revisions, 6/95.

Male Population (selected ages)

Age Group	1995 ¹	2000 ²
20-24	23,989	21,736
25-29	27,556	27,839
30-34	37,127	32,849
Total	88,672	82,424

¹Source: MDP Population Projections 7/97. Spread of ages by LOCATE: Child Care

²MDP Census 2000 Summary File 1.

Households

	1990	2000
Total household population	749,257	863,910
Total # of households	282,228	324,565
Average household size	2.65	2.66

Census 2000 Summary File 1. Produced by the Source: Maryland Department of Planning, Planning Data Services

Census Information

Families and Poverty

	1990	%	2000	%	%Change
All Families	200,522	100%	224,225	100%	11.8%(+)
Families Below Poverty Level	5,541	2.7%	8,428	3.8%	52.1%(+)
All Families w/Children Under 6**	45,478	100%	27,701	N/A*	N/A*
Families w/Children Under 5 Below Poverty Level	2,112	4.6%	2,808	N/A*	33.0%(+)
All Families w/Children Under 18	100,531	100%	113,665	100%	13.1%(+)
Families w/Children Under 18 Below Poverty Level	4,352	4.3%	6,110	5.4%	40.4%(+)

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census. Prepared by MDP, May 2002 based on STF 1, STF 3A. Measurements of poverty status are based in income received from the previous year.

*Comparable data not available from 1990 Census.
**Data collected in 1990 was for children under 5.

Educational Attainment

	Montgomery	%Adult Pop. Over 25 Yrs	Maryland	%Adult Pop. Over 25 Yrs
High School Grad or Higher	536,558	90.3%	2,930,509	83.8%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	324,080	54.6%	1,099,360	31.4%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000. Prepared by MDP, April 2002 based on STF 3A.

Children and Poverty

	1990	%	2000	%	%Change
Total Related Children Under 18	174,609	100%	205,941	100%	17.9%(+)
Total Children Under 18 Below Poverty Level	8,580	4.9%	13,516	6.6%	57.5%(+)
Total Related Children Under 5	56,219	100%	54,753	100%	2.6%(-)
Total Children Under 5 Below Poverty Level	2,796	5.0%	3,698	6.8%	32.3%(+)
Total Related Children 5-17	118,390	100%	151,188	100%	27.7%(+)
Total Children 5-17 Below Poverty Level	5,784	4.9%	9,818	6.5%	69.7%(+)

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census. Prepared by MDP, August 2002 based on STF 3A. Measurements of poverty status are based in income received from the previous year.

Families

	Montgomery		
	Total	Total # of All Families With Related Children Under Age 6	Total # of All Families With Related Children Under Age 18
1990	200,522	45,478**	100,531
2000	224,225	27,701	113,665
Change	11.8%(+)	N/A*	13.1%(+)

	Maryland		
	Total	Total # of All Families With Related Children Under Age 6	Total # of All Families With Related Children Under Age 18
1990	1,256,327	281,342**	649,622
2000	1,359,318	150,011	662,172
Change	8.2%(+)	N/A*	1.9%(+)

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 and 2000 Censuses. Prepared by MDP, April 2002 based on Summary tape File 3A (STF 3A). See "Census of Population and Housing" in definitions section for additional information.

* Comparable data not available for 1990 Census.
**Data collected in 1990 was for children under 5.

Income, Unemployment and Housing Information

Annual Wage Rate Information

Public School Teacher Salary Average (Montgomery County)	\$74,846
Public School Teacher Salary Average (MD)	\$63,436
Nonpublic School Teacher Average (Maryland)	\$49,291
Family Child Care Provider (Maryland)	\$28,937
Child Care Center Director (Maryland)	\$36,926
Center Senior Staff/Teacher (Maryland)	\$24,818
Center Aide (Maryland)	\$17,347

Sources: MSDE, Oct 2009; Association of Independent Maryland Schools (AIMS), 2010-11 school year, and MFN's 2010 Statewide Survey of Family Child Care Providers and Child Care Centers.

Family Income

Median Family Income, 2000 Census

Montgomery	\$84,035
Maryland	\$61,876

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census. Prepared by MDP, May 2002 based on STF 3A.

Median Household Income¹:

Montgomery	\$93,999
Maryland	\$70,005

Percent Households

Distribution	Montgomery	Maryland
under \$25,000	9.0%	15.1%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	15.2%	19.9%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	15.2%	18.5%
\$75,000+	60.6%	46.6%

Source: ¹Brief Economic Facts of Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development, 2010. Data is not directly comparable to 2010 or earlier reports. Note: percentages may not total 100% because of rounding.

Unemployment Rate

	Montgomery	Maryland
1996	2.7%	4.9%
1997	2.4%	4.7%
1998	2.4%	4.3%
1999	1.8%	3.3%
2000	1.6%	3.4%
2001	2.6%	4.0%
2002	2.5%	3.9%
2003	2.5%	4.1%
2004	2.2%	3.9%
2005	2.8%	3.9%
2006	2.7%	3.7%
2007	2.7%	3.6%
2008	3.3%	4.5%
2009	5.3%	7.1%
2010	5.5%	7.3%

Source: Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR), Sept 2010.

Housing Information

	Montgomery	Maryland
Owner-Occupied housing	223,017 (69%)	1,341,751 (67.7%)
Renter-Occupied housing	101,548 (31%)	639,108 (32.3%)

Note: Percentage is based on total occupied housing units.

	Montgomery	Maryland
Mean value of Owner-Occupied Housing	\$221,800	\$146,000
Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs With a Mortgage	\$1,577	\$1,296
Median Gross Residential Monthly Rent	\$914	\$689

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census STF 1A and STF 3A, 2000 Census. Prepared by MDP, May 2002. Percentage based on total occupied housing units prepared by MFN.

Supply of Regulated Early Childhood Programs and Education

Children's Programs by Type with Capacity/ Enrollment

	# of Programs	Capacity
Family Child Care Providers	1,000	7,308
*OCC Licensed Group Programs	456	29,118
8-12 Hour Child Care Centers	255	17,383
Infant/Toddler	132	1,707
Part-Day	93	N/A
Before/after School (School & Center-Based)	302	N/A
Employer-Sponsored Centers	13	1,170
Youth Camps	153	N/A
Nursery Schools	125	N/A
Kindergarten	86	N/A
**Head Start/Early Head Start	34	enrollment: 976
***Public Pre-Kindergarten	65	

* Note: Numbers do not total because facilities may have more than one type of program. Unless otherwise indicated, all programs are privately funded.
 = federally funded *= state funded. ¹Enrollment figures are unofficial.

Source: MFN/LOCATE Child Care, 7/10; Maryland State Department of Education; Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

Education

Public and Private Schools (Elementary and Middle)

	Public	Private
Elementary Schools	131	21
Middle Schools	38	1
Combined	0	35

Elementary School Enrollment

	Public	Private
Pre-Kindergarten	3,426	8,354
Kindergarten	10,630	1,886
Grades 1 - 6	51,506	9,974
Total	65,562	20,214

Source: MSDE, 2009-10 school year. Enrollment figures are for September 30, 2009. Private schools include MSDE approved schools and those operated by a tax-exempt religious organization which hold a letter of exemption from approval in accordance with State law.

Supply of Regulated Early Childhood Programs and Education

Density of Family Providers and Center Programs by Community/Zip Code

The following chart shows the number of registered family child care providers and licensed full-day child care centers in Montgomery as of July 1, 2010.

Community/ Zip Code	Family Providers	%	8-12 Hour Centers	%
Ashton 20861	2	0.2	0	0.0
Bethesda 20814	8	0.8	13	5.1
Bethesda 20815	1	0.1	0	0.0
Bethesda 20816	2	0.2	6	2.4
Bethesda 20817	22	2.2	10	3.9
Bethesda 20892	0	0.0	2	0.8
Boyd's 20841	19	1.9	2	0.8
Brookeville 20833	5	0.5	0	0.0
Burtonsville 20866	26	2.6	3	1.2
Cabin John 20818	1	0.1	1	0.4
Chevy Chase 20815	3	0.3	3	1.2
Clarksburg 20871	21	2.1	3	1.2
Damascus 20872	19	1.9	5	2.0
Darnestown 20874	4	0.4	0	0.0
Darnestown 20878	1	0.1	1	0.4
Dickerson 20842	1	0.1	0	0.0
Derwood 20855	8	0.8	3	1.2
Gaithersburg 20877	32	3.2	10	3.9
Gaithersburg 20878	41	4.1	11	4.3
Gaithersburg 20879	59	5.9	4	1.6
Gaithersburg 20882	8	0.8	1	0.4
Gaithersburg 20886	6	0.6	0	0.0
Gaithersburg 20899	0	0.0	1	0.4
Garrett Park 20896	0	0.0	1	0.4
Germantown 20874	96	9.6	21	8.2
Germantown 20876	65	6.5	6	2.4
Kensington 20895	20	2.0	3	1.2

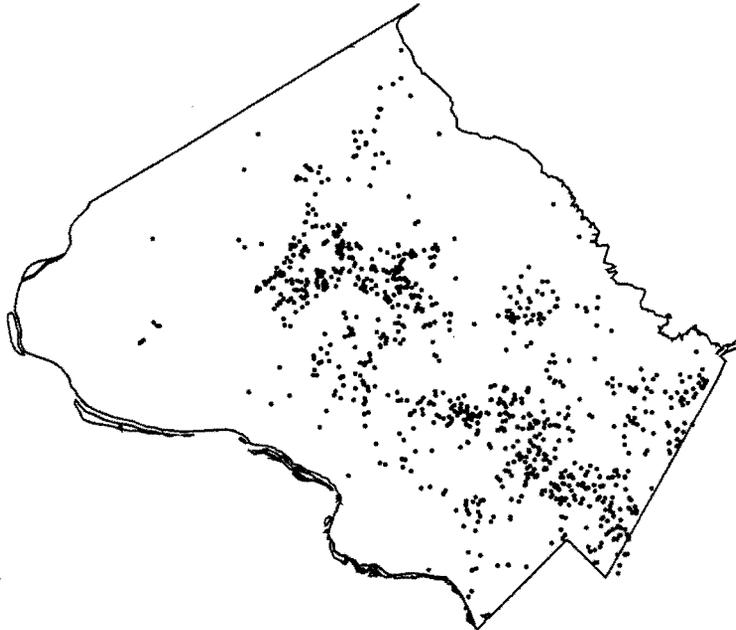
Laytonsville 20882	2	0.2	0	0.0
Mt. Airy 21771	1	0.1	0	0.0
Montgomery Village 20886	36	3.6	3	1.2
North Potomac 20878	16	1.6	5	2.0
Olney 20832	38	3.8	7	2.7
Poolesville 20837	5	0.5	2	0.8
Potomac 20854	21	2.1	12	4.7
Rockville 20850	38	3.8	17	6.7
Rockville 20851	33	3.3	5	2.0
Rockville 20852	17	1.7	15	5.9
Rockville 20853	39	3.9	6	2.4
Rockville 20854	1	0.1	0	0.0
Rockville 20855	7	0.7	4	1.6
Sandy Spring 20860	3	0.3	1	0.4
Silver Spring 20901	48	4.8	5	2.0
Silver Spring 20902	58	5.8	10	3.9
Silver Spring 20903	13	1.3	1	0.4
Silver Spring 20904	43	4.3	13	5.1
Silver Spring 20905	19	1.9	5	2.0
Silver Spring 20906	60	6.0	13	5.1
Silver Spring 20910	11	1.1	10	3.9
Spencerville 20868	1	0.1	0	0.0
Takoma Park 20912	12	1.2	8	3.1
Wheaton 20902	7	0.7	2	0.8
Wheaton 20906	1	0.1	1	0.4
Totals	1,000	100.0	255	100.5

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/10. Note: Percentages do not total 100% because of rounding.

Supply of Regulated Child Care

Density of Regulated Family Child Care Homes in Montgomery County

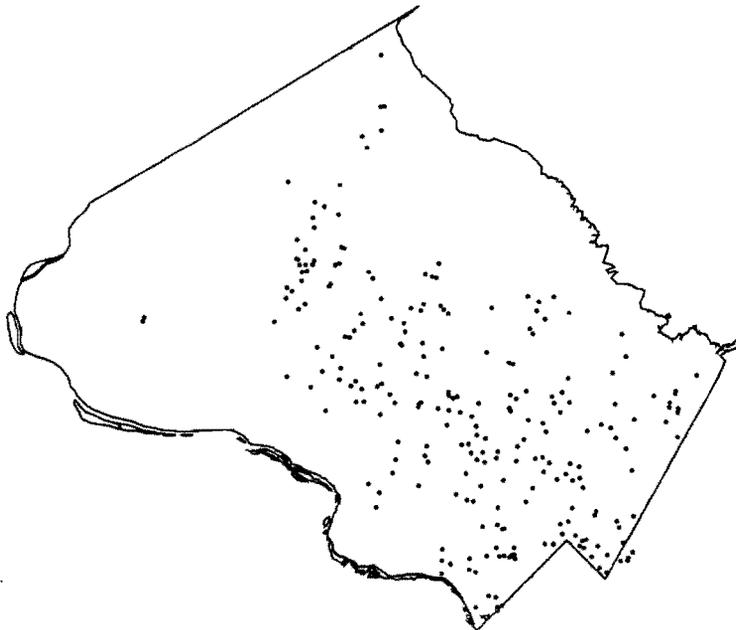
1 dot = 1 home



Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/10.

Density of Licensed 8-12 Hour Child Care Centers in Montgomery County

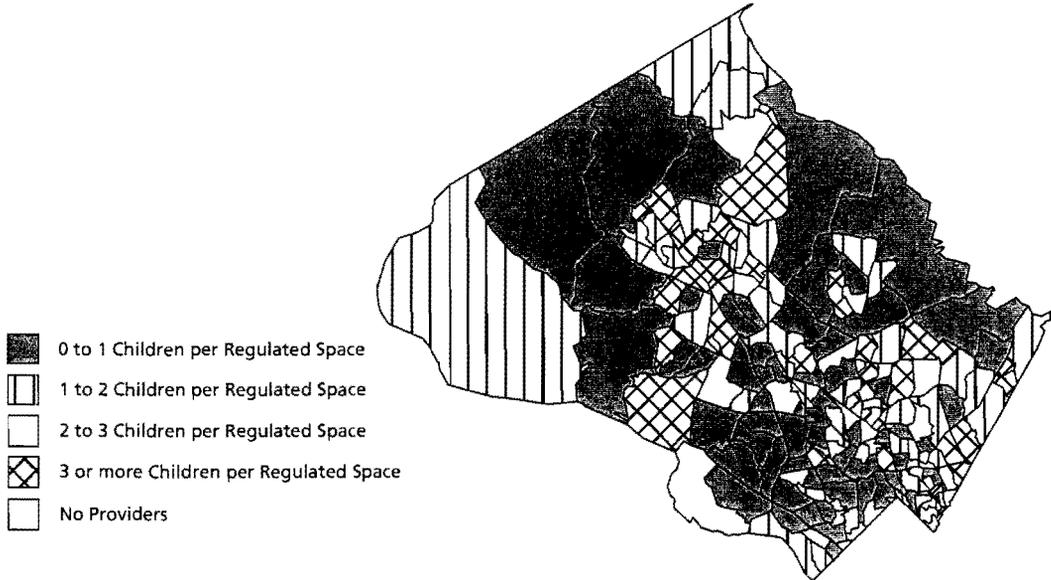
1 dot = 1 center



Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/10.

Supply of Regulated Child Care

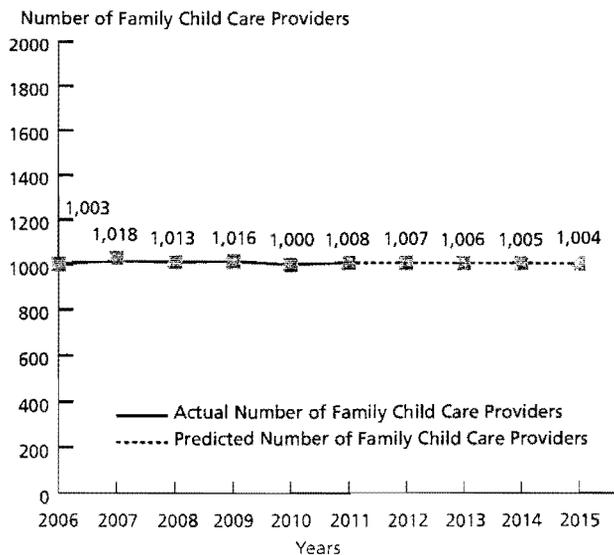
Number of Children 0-5 Years Per Regulated Child Care Space by Census Tract



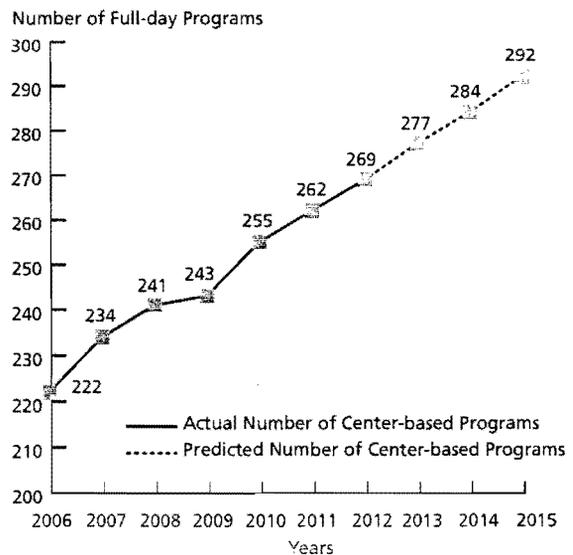
This map is based on the total population of children 0-5 yrs. Child population numbers are taken from Geolytics, Inc. Estimate Professional 2010//2015. When assessing the need for child care, the results of the National Child Care Survey 1990 also should be considered which indicate that approximately 66% of the working mothers surveyed used no supplemental care or utilized care by relatives, caregivers in the child's own home, or other arrangements. Only 34% utilized care in regulated out-of-home settings. See "National Child Care Survey 1990" in definition section for additional information.
 Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census STF 3B, 2000 Census; MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/10.

Past and Anticipated Growth Patterns for Family/Center Providers

Family Child Care Providers in Montgomery 2006-2015



Center-based Programs in Montgomery 2006-2015 Full-day (8 to 12 hours)

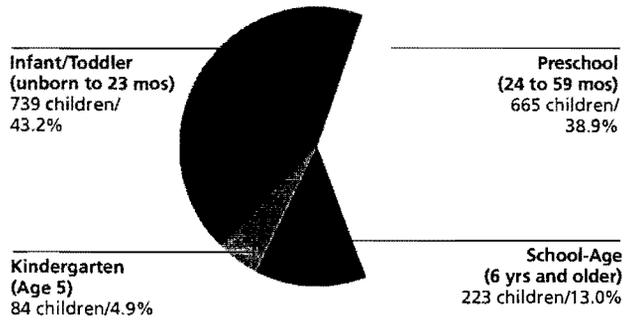


These predictions were generated with the use of the Cycle Regression Analysis Model. This model is being developed as part of the FORECAST system by Dr. LeRoy Simmons and Mr. George Wright of Loyola College. The predictions generated by the Model do not reflect the effects of current changes to social programs affecting child care.
 Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/10.

Demand for Child Care

Children Served by Age

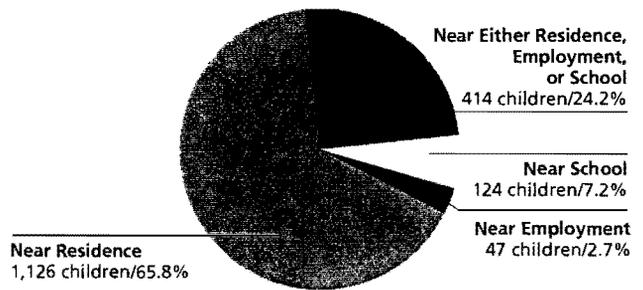
N=1,711



Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center (7/1/09-6/30/10).

Children Served by Locational Preferences for Care

N=1,711

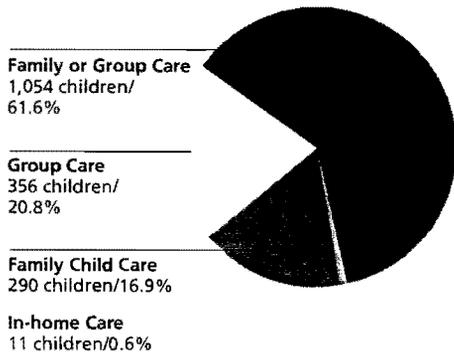


Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center (7/1/09-6/30/10).

NOTE: Percentages do not total 100% because of rounding.

Children Served by Type of Care Preferred

N=1,711

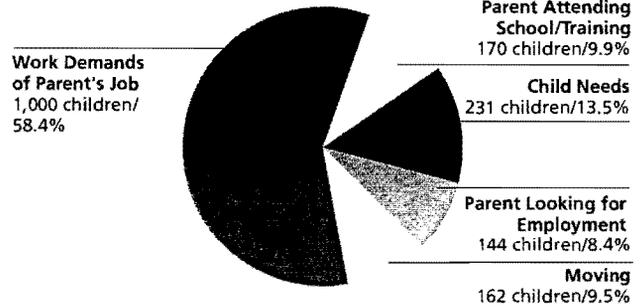


Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center (7/1/09-6/30/10).

NOTE: Percentages do not total 100% because of rounding.

Reason Child Care is Needed

N=1,711



Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center (7/1/09-6/30/10).

NOTE: Percentages do not total 100% because of rounding.

Demand for Child Care

Number of Children Served by LOCATE: Child Care
1,711 children (7/1/09-6/30/10)

Full-time or Part-time Care Needs of Children Served N=1,711

Full-time: 1,173 children (68.6%)
Part-time: 516 children (30.2%)
Other*: 22 children (1.3%)

* Includes requests for sick, backup and temporary care.
Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center (7/1/09-6/30/10).

Major Reasons Parents Could Not Find Child Care in Montgomery County

Reason	Count
Cost	98
No vacancies for infant	14
Other	13
Combination of ages	10
Special needs	9
Quality of care	8
Transportation/Escort	6
Schedule	6
Location	5
No vacancies for school age	3
No part time	2
No vacancies for preschool	1

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center (7/1/09-6/30/10).

Major Factors Important to Parents Who Found Child Care in Montgomery County

Reason	Count
Proximity to home, work, school	215
Cost	145
Educational program	138
Environment	137
Caregiver	87
Hours of operation/part time	69
Nearby transportation	16
Only provider/program with vacancy	10
Escort	5
None	1

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center (7/1/09-6/30/10).

Child Care Subsidy Program (formerly POC)

Children Receiving Child Care Subsidy in April 2010
1,780

Children Receiving WPA in June 2010
308

NOTE: Purchase of Care is a statewide child care subsidy program funded with federal and state dollars and administered by the Maryland Department of Human Services*.

*WPA, The Working Parents Assistance Program is a County-funded subsidy program.

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center (7/1/09-6/30/10).

Supply of Child Care

Child Care Subsidy Program

Average Number per Month of Family Child Care Providers Serving CCS Children in Montgomery County
143 (14.0% of total family providers)

Average Number per Month of Child Care Providers Serving WPA Children in Montgomery County
133

Average Number per Month of Child Care Centers Serving CCS Children in Montgomery County
168 (69.0% of total centers)

Average Number per Month of Informal Providers Serving CCS Children in Montgomery County
98

Source: Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services Child Care Services, 12/09.

Montgomery County FY 11 Allocation
\$7,429,515 = 1,575 full-time children

Source: Maryland State Department of Education, Office of Child Care.

Special Needs Child Care

Family providers who serve/have served children with special needs
425 (42.5% of total family child care providers in Montgomery)

Centers who serve/have served children with special needs
165 (64.7% of total child care centers in Montgomery)

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/10.

Definitions

Before/After-School Care: School-Age child care offers care to children enrolled in Kindergarten or above. Care is provided before and/or after school and during school holidays/vacations. Programs are licensed by the Office of Child Care. Programs may operate from a school building or other licensed facility.

Census of Population and Housing: There are two versions of the 2000 Census questionnaire: a short form which asks a limited number of population and housing questions of all households, and a long form questionnaire which asks additional social and economic questions of a sample of all households. The data contained in the Census Summary Tape File 1 A (STF 1 A) are based on the questions which were asked of all persons, while the data from the Census Summary Tape File 3A (STF 3A) are based on the sample questionnaire. The user should note that data obtained from a sample are subject to sampling variability, and that there are limitations to many of these data.

Child Care: The care or supervision of a child when the child's parent has given the child's care over to another for some portion of a 24-hour-day as a supplement to the parent's primary care of the child. (OCC)

Child Care Center: Child care provided in a facility that, for part or all of the day, provides care to children in the absence of the parent. Centers are licensed by the Office of Child Care.

Child Care Subsidy Program (formerly POC): Provides financial assistance to eligible families in securing care for their children in registered family child care homes or licensed child care centers while parents/guardians are attending school, working, or in job training.

Children with Special Needs: Children who, because of a disability or other special educational, developmental, physical, emotional, behavioral, or medical condition, require additional care, or whose activities are restricted by a certain condition. (OCC)

Current Median Family Income: Current median family income is the value presented in the Economic Development Intelligence System, (EDIS) 2nd Quarter 2010 report.

Current Population Estimates: Current population estimates are based on GeoLytics, Inc. Estimate Professional 2010/2015.

Educational Attainment: The highest level of school completed or the highest degree received. Educational attainment figures were used for persons over 25 years of age. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Employer-Sponsored Centers: A child care center located on-site or off-site which is sponsored by a corporation, business, or other employer. Employees are given priority for enrollment slots.

Family Child Care: The care given to a child younger than 13 years old or to a developmentally disabled person younger than 21 years old, in place of parental care for less than 24 hours a day, in a residence other than the child's residence and for which the provider is paid. Regulations allow a family child care provider to care for as many as eight children at any time. (OCC)

Family Household Income: Family includes a householder and one or more persons living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. A household can contain only one family for purposes of census tabulations. Information on money income received in the calendar year 1999 was requested from persons 15 years and over. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Head Start: Project Head Start provides comprehensive developmental services for children from low-income families. Head Start is comprised of four components including Education, Health, Parent Involvement, and Social Services. Head Start Centers serve children from age 3 to school entry age from income eligible families.

Infant/Toddler: In the State of Maryland, "infant" means a child under 18 months old. "Toddler" means a child 18 months old or older but younger than 2 years old. (OCC) MFN reports "infant" as a child birth through 23 months of age.

Kindergarten: An instructional program for children who are 5 years old by September 1st of each academic year. Programs may be operated by a private or public school. Kindergarten is the year of school which precedes entrance to first grade.

The National Child Care Survey 1990: (NCCS) contains information on demand and parental preferences for care based on a nationally representative sample of families with children younger than age 13. The NCCS examined the type of care and education (excluding formal schooling) that parents use to supplement their own care of children. Employed mothers were surveyed regarding the primary supplemental care arrangements used for the most hours per week by their youngest child excluding school or kindergarten attendance.

Definitions, cont.

The results indicate that 66% of the employed mothers surveyed used no supplemental care, or utilized care by relatives, by caregivers in the child's own home, or other arrangements. Family child care homes or child care centers were used as the primary supplemental care arrangement by the remaining 34%. The mother's utilization of out-of-home care varied with the age of the child, with 42% of children under 3 years of age, 60% of children ages 3-4 years, and 21% of children 5-12 years placed in these settings for supplemental care.

Nursery Schools: An instructional program approved or exempted by the Maryland State Department of Education for children who are two through four years old. The maximum length of the program is 6 hours per day, however most operate only a few hours per day and may meet only two or three times per week for a nine month period.

Owner Costs with Mortgage (Selected Monthly): The sum of payments for mortgages, deeds of trust, contracts to purchase, or similar debts on the property; real estate taxes; fire hazard, and flood insurance on the property; utilities; and fuels. It also includes, where appropriate, the monthly condominium fees or mobile home costs. A housing unit is owner-occupied if the owner or co-owner lives in the unit even if it is mortgaged or not fully paid for. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Part Day: A program regulated by OCC with an educational focus for children one or two years before entering kindergarten. These programs are usually 2-3 hrs/day, 2-3 days/week, nine months/year.

Pre-Kindergarten: These are publicly funded pre-kindergarten programs for eligible 4-year-old children administered by local boards of education or qualified vendors. The programs have the overall goal of providing learning experiences to help children develop and maintain school readiness skills necessary for successful school performance. Local school systems shall enroll all 4-year-old applicants from economically disadvantaged or homeless families.

Poverty Level: The poverty guideline for a family of four persons was \$22,050 in 2010. (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, OCT 2010)

Renter Occupied Gross Monthly Rent: Monthly contract rent plus the estimated average monthly cost of utilities and fuels, if these are paid by the renter. All occupied housing units which are not owner-occupied, whether they are rented for cash rent or occupied without payment of cash rent, are classified as renter-occupied. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Unemployment Rate: Civilians 16 years old and over are classified unemployed if they (1) were neither "at work" nor "with a job but not at work" during the reference week, and (2) were looking for work during the last four weeks, and (3) were available to accept a job. Also included were civilians who did not work at all during the reference week and were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Youth Camps (Licensed): A day camp, residential camp, travel camp, or trip camp licensed by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

The Maryland Child Care Resource Network is a public/private partnership designed to expand and improve child care delivery. MFN manages the Network and operates as the Statewide Coordinating Entity.

MFN wishes to acknowledge the contributions of the Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center in the compilation of the Montgomery County Report. Funding for this publication was made available by MFN, the Maryland State Department of Education, and Maryland's business community.

For more information about this series, call or write Maryland Family Network, 1001 Eastern Avenue, 2nd Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202, (410) 659-7701.

For more information about the Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center, call or write the Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center, 332 W. Edmondston Drive/Rockville MD 20852, (240) 777-3110.

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Montgomery County
Child Care Resource
and Referral Center



MARYLAND
FAMILY
NETWORK



Achievement Matters Most



Child Care in Montgomery County At A Glance 2011



Program Capacity			
1457 Licensed Child Care Programs <i>(based on 2011 Child Care Demographics)</i>	Number of Programs	Capacity for all ages	
	1000 Family Child Care Homes	7,308	
	456 Center Based Programs	29,118	
Accredited Programs <i>(based on MSDE On-Line Report, 9/11)</i>	NAFCC= 21 Family Child Care Homes		
	MSDE = 29 Centers		
	NAEYC = 43 Centers		
Workforce Capacity			
4,000 Estimated Workforce in Licensed Programs	Estimated 55% of all child care programs have at least one staff person who speaks a language other than English.		
MD Child Care Credentialed Providers		<i>Family</i>	<i>Center Based</i>
	1	8	131
	2	3	85
	3	15	232
	4	6	53
	4+	7	6
	5	1	26
	6	3	58
	<i>Administrator</i>	1	2
Resources to Expand Capacity			
Training	80+ MSDE approved Agencies and Individual Trainers		
	203 trainings offered in FY11 (as advertised in the Training Bulletin) by 9 partners		
	152 trainings offered for the general public by MCCCRRRC*		
	Pre-K Child Care Curriculum Project offered by DHHS		
	Inclusive Child Care Project offered by DHHS		
Higher Education	Montgomery College	CEU's, 1 year Certification, CDA, AAS in ECE, AAT in ECE	
	Washington Adventist University	BA in ECE *degree with certification and non-certification option, alternative/accelerate schedule	
	Towson University @The Universities at Shady Grove	BA in ECE *degree with certification, alternative schedule	
Local: DHHS Quality Enhancement Awards	Credential Supports	Accreditation Support	
	CDA Assessment Reimbursement; Higher Education Scholarship; Evaluations of Foreign Credentials	Accreditation Support; Family Child Care Network; MCAEYC Accreditation Facilitation Project; Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation	
Local: Technical Assistance & Consultation	MCCCRRRC* Staff; Professional Development Coordinator, Nurse Health Consultation, Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation		
State: Maryland State Department of Education	Training Vouchers; Professional Development (Higher Ed) Scholarships	Curriculum Development Fund; Judith P. Hoyer Enhancement Grants; Accreditation Support; Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation	

**Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center (MCCCRRRC) is a program of the Department of Health and Human Services and member agency of the Maryland Child Care Resource Network funded by the Maryland State Department of Education and DHHS to provide free and low cost training and technical assistance to providers, child care referrals for parents and support to the community in identifying and addressing child care needs. MCCCRRRC administers local funds to support quality enhancement of child care providers*



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Memorandum

Uma S. Ahluwalia
Director

July 29, 2011

TO: Honorable Valerie Ervin
Council President and Chair, Education Committee

Honorable George Leventhal
Chair, Health and Human Services Committee

FROM: Uma S. Ahluwalia, Director *Uma*

SUBJECT: Update on Child Care Subsidy Wait Lists

Brief Description of the POC and WPA Programs: The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, Child Care Subsidy Programs (CCSP) provide child care subsidies to eligible families so that they can obtain and maintain employment and/or attend school or training programs. Two programs serve income-eligible Montgomery County residents as summarized below:

	Purchase of Care	Working Parents Assistance
Source of Program Funding	State/Federal funds	County funds
Ages of Children Served	0-12, up to 19 th birthday for child with special needs	0-13, up to 19 th birthday for child with special needs
Eligibility factors	Income; documented employment, school and/or training (full time or part time)	Income; documented employment, school and/or training (30 or more hours)
Subsidy Amounts	Vary by household size	Vary by household size, household composition and type of child care
Citizenship	The applicant must be a US citizen or a legal resident of the US or have a child that is a US citizen or legal resident of the US	The applicant must be a US citizen or a legal resident of the US or have a child that is a US citizen or legal resident of the US

Child care subsidies are provided in the form of a voucher for each eligible child. Parents may use the WPA voucher with any licensed child care provider within the County. Parents with the POC voucher may select any licensed child care provider within the State. The POC program will also subsidize certain authorized, informal child care arrangements.

Office of the Director

Honorable Valerie Ervine
Honorable George Leventhal
July 29, 2011
Page Two

Subsidy payments are made directly to the child care provider once a month. Income Assistance Program Specialists determine eligibility, provide program information, provide assistance choosing quality child care, encourage the pursuit of child support and provide information about other resources as necessary. With the exception of families receiving temporary cash assistance ("TCA"), most parents have to pay an assigned co-payment to meet the average cost of care. Given the rising cost of child care, that co-pay is often still too expensive for the families, even after the subsidies. Please note that issuing vouchers to all eligible families is based on the availability of funding.

Wait List Update: State Purchase of Care (POC) Wait List: The State POC program was closed to new applicants effective February 28, 2011. Families who were already enrolled at the date of the wait list will remain on POC as long as they continue to be eligible for the program. The wait list does not affect those families who receive Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI). As of June 30, 2011, there were 430 Montgomery County families on the POC wait list. This translates to 773 children: 181 infants, 319 pre-school and 273 school aged children.

If the applicant is eligible for the County's Working Parents Assistance Program (WPA) they may be served by WPA, as long as funds are available and if they meet the WPA eligibility requirements.

Working Parents Assistance Program Wait List: Since the implementation of the State wait list, we have seen the average number of WPA applications increase from an average of 48 per month to 105 per month. If a family meets the slightly different criteria of the WPA program, their application will be automatically considered for that program. From March 1 through June 30, our WPA enrollment rose from 1,333 to 1,439 families or approximately 150 additional new children being served by the WPA program.

Since many of the newly enrolled families would have normally been in the POC program they are, by definition, lower income. In the WPA program this translates to a higher monthly subsidy. Both the increased number of families and the amount of approved subsidy made it necessary to implement a wait list with very little notice at the end of June.

If you have additional questions regarding the status of the wait lists, please contact JoAnn Barnes, Deputy Chief, Children, Youth and Family Services, at 240-777-3850.

USA:kdm

c: Councilmember Philip Andrews
Councilmember Nancy Navarro
Councilmember Craig Rice
Vivian Yao, Council Staff

Child Care Subsidy Information	FY11	
	POC	WPA
# of applications received	3,978	809
# of applications approved	1,274	334
FY10 Average Monthly Subsidy	\$399	\$372
FY11 Monthly subsidy per child high/low	\$470/\$381	\$505/\$390
Expenditures*	\$5,957,031*	\$1,842,210
Wait List cumulative total as of August 31, 2011	eff. 2/28/11	eff. 7/1/11
Children/families	1,116/670	56/39
Notes		
* POC children paid and expenditure data as of February 2011 on MSDE website; reporting is delayed.		

Cost of Child Care in Montgomery County - August 2011

Average Weekly Cost of Child Care

Age Group	Family Child Care Programs	Child Care Centers
0 to 2 years	\$227.55 per week	\$320.50 per week
2 to 5 years	\$194.37 per week	\$239.50 per week
*School-Age	\$171.42 per week	\$197.73 per week