

## Q2 Impact Report - FY2020

### Special Edition: Jan. - May

As the global COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold, young children, their parents and families and members of the early childhood workforce will be especially vulnerable. Here's how ECIC, in collaboration with partners across Michigan, is supporting families and the early childhood field during these challenging times – we're in this together.

## Impact of COVID-19 on Families with Young Children

The pandemic may create even greater early childhood inequities in Michigan. Early childhood programs, specifically child care, will never be the same.

**The coronavirus pandemic could lead to permanent loss of nearly 121,000 Michigan child care slots, 41% of the state's licensed child care supply.**

Center for American Progress, April 24, 2020



64% of surveyed child care providers say they wouldn't survive a closure of more than one month without significant public investment. Currently, across all provider types, **60% of programs are fully closed and not providing care to any children.**

Bipartisan Policy Center and Morning Consult, April 10, 2020



Nearly two-thirds of parents report having difficulty finding child care. For children of parents in the essential workforce, just **22% of essential workers said they have been able to continue using their previous care arrangement during this time.**

Bipartisan Policy Center and Morning Consult, April 10, 2020



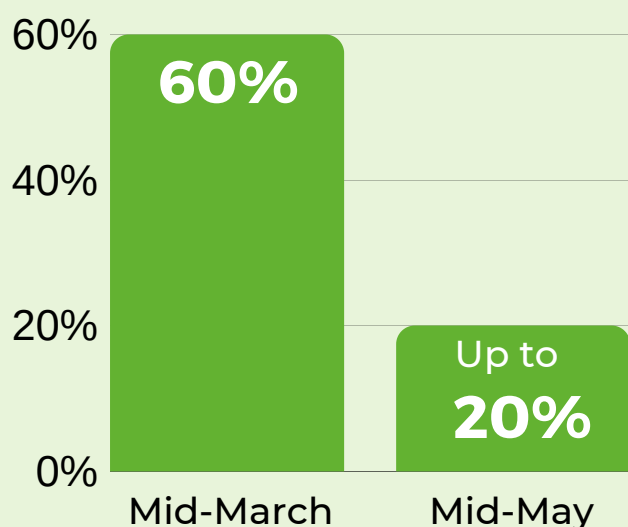
The closure of K-12 schools further exacerbates child care challenges for families. In Michigan, an estimated **60% of children ages 6 to 12 (over 500,000 children) will need child care while schools remain closed.**

American Community Survey, 2018

## Responding to the Need

In March, at the request of the Governor's Office and the Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators, ECIC expedited a survey of the licensed child care field, connecting child care providers to local coordinating bodies, providing critical data about closure/open status and capacity to help support local efforts to match families in need with providers who were able to remain open.

### Child Care Providers Remaining Open:



Most child care programs operate as small businesses in Michigan and are essential for parents and their employers. Throughout this crisis, child care providers have stepped up to continue providing care for Michigan's children.

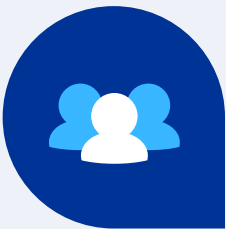
In mid-March, 3,742 child care providers responded to the survey, and 60% were open or willing to remain open. In mid-May, as few as 5-20% of child care providers were open, according to a report to the State Board of Education.

# Trusted Source for Information

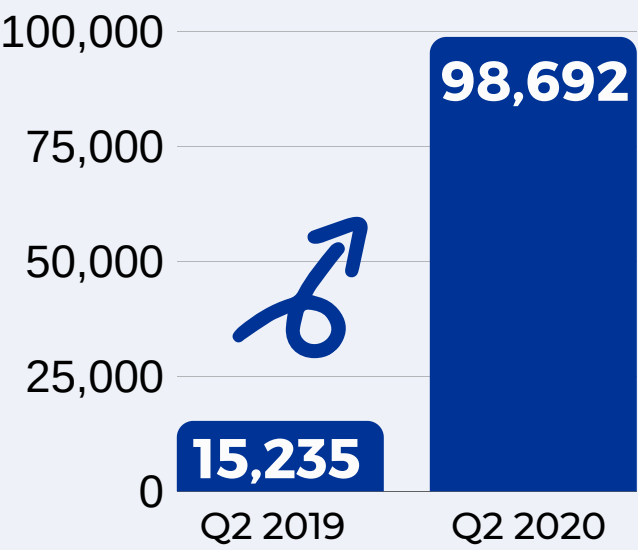
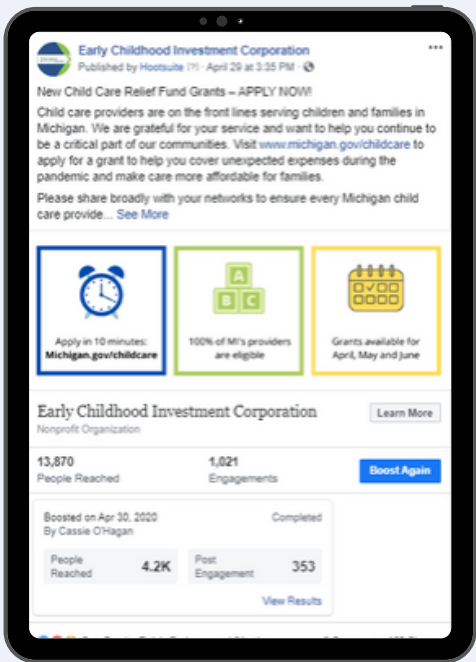
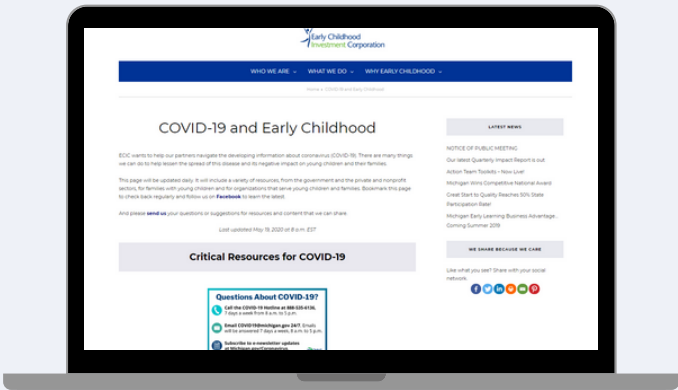
On March 23, 2020 ECIC launched a Crisis Resource site and social media campaign to help the early childhood workforce and families navigate the developing information about coronavirus (COVID-19).



Increase in website visitors



Nearly 6,000 visits to COVID-19 Crisis Resource Page



84% increase in social media reach

## Shifting Our Work

ECIC staff moved to 100% remote in mid-March and shifted to virtual programming to be a resource for families with young children and the early childhood workforce.



Group Sessions & Presentations



Virtual 1:1 Visits



5,005 Participants

Family and parent leaders in ECIC's home visiting virtual convenings elevated critical food insecurity needs for WIC-eligible families, and their voices shaped a critical policy solution at the state level within days.



Within one week of the stay at home order, ECIC converted mandatory health and safety training to virtual and equipped trainers statewide, activating child care subsidy payments for 174 providers.



Great Start to Quality extended quality rating deadlines, ensuring no program loses their reimbursement rate due to the crisis.



ECIC maintained an expedited process for Great Start to Quality Validation, averaging 28 days to complete the process compared with the 45 day requirement.



Despite the pandemic and likely due to the CARES grant incentives, ECIC received almost 200 new providers applying to be rated for the first time.

# Helping Early Childhood Recover Strong



## More than \$100 Million

In Relief Funding Grants for  
Child Care Providers

In addition to the public relief fund grants for child care, philanthropic leaders are answering the call to help early childhood recover strong. The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation reached out to ECIC to administer a Small Children, Small Grants fund for Washtenaw County, in partnership with Child Care Network. These \$2,000 grants were awarded to home based child care providers who stayed open during the pandemic to serve the essential workforce. ECIC also leveraged matching funds from the national Home Grown organization to build the fund to \$100,000.

"I would like to thank you for the grant. The children got new outside supplies to play with. I have been able to pay all of our bills up to date.

Thank you!"

-Denise, child care provider caring for children of the essential workforce  
Whitmore Lake, MI

## Out of Crisis Comes Opportunity

We're in this together. The ECIC team sends our deepest gratitude to all frontline workers, including early childhood colleagues. One of the best ways we can show our appreciation is by coming together with partners across the state and the country in a unified voice to advocate for a stronger, more equitable early childhood system for the future.



Learn more about ECIC's vision and our moonshot goals for the future at [ecic4kids.org](https://ecic4kids.org).