



Q1 Impact Report - FY2021

Vision & Moonshot Goals

Vision: All young children and their families in Michigan thrive.

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



Goal 1: Move Michigan toward becoming a lead investor in early childhood



Goal 3: Improve access to health care, including social emotional health



Goal 2: Make early learning and care affordable and accessible



Goal 4: Elevate family and parent leadership



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Policy and Investment

ECIC envisions a Michigan where all young children and their families thrive for every race, ethnicity, income and zip code. The impact of COVID-19 and the resulting economic crisis has had disparate impacts requiring us to center equity. ECIC will focus policy work on child care and will be a supportive partner in moving policy on health, economic well-being, safety and more.

Building a Racially and Geographically Diverse Policy Coalition



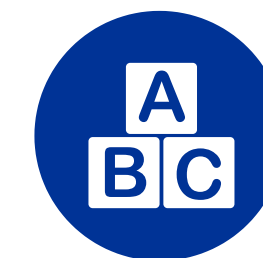
Recent Policy Wins:



Creation of early childhood role in Office of the Governor



\$30 million for Michigan Reconnect – provides tuition-free college for some Michiganders, including early childhood workers in the early care and education and health fields



\$26 million to expand access to child care for families by increasing the income eligibility from 130% to 150% of the federal poverty level impacting 5,900 total children and 1,357 infants and toddlers



Child care workforce is categorized as high-priority for COVID vaccine



\$100 million in federal CARES relief funding focused on child care



\$10 million in child care funding for school-age reimbursements



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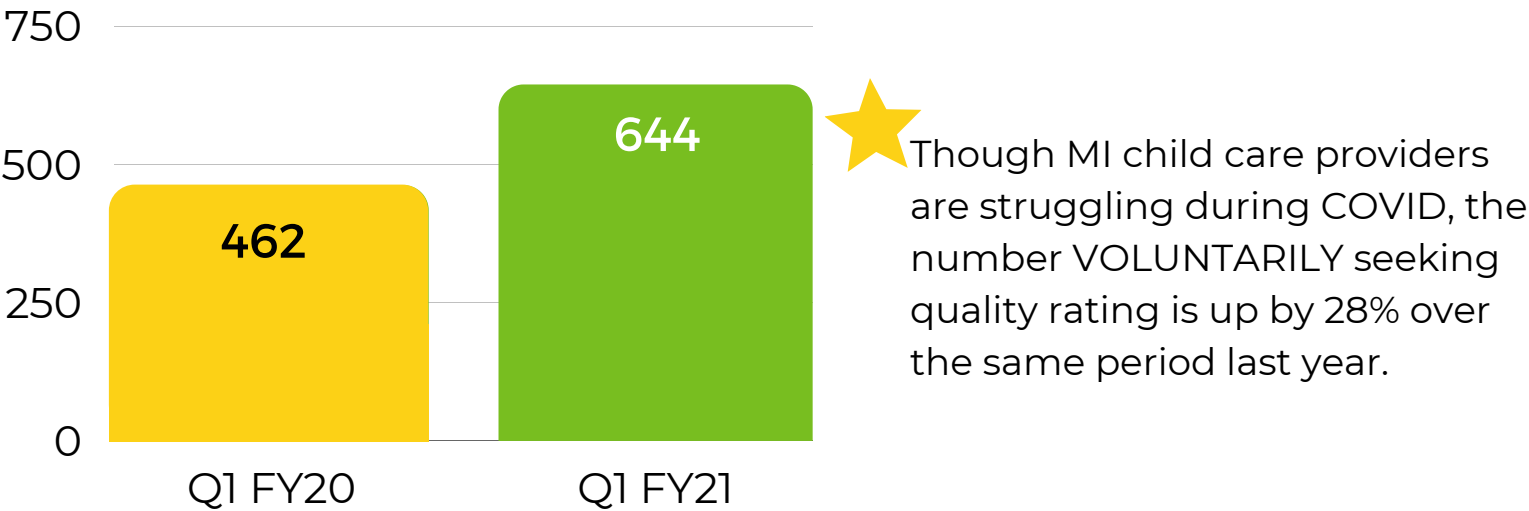
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Early Learning and Care

Great Start to Quality (GSQ)

- COVID-19 may force as many as 40% of child care providers in MI to close, impacting up to 120,000 children
- 52% of young children (ages 3 and 4) are not in school. Parents are challenged to find and afford quality early learning in care in their community, especially infant and toddler care.
- MI's Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) for 4 year-olds is one of the largest preschool expansions in the country while MI's child care subsidy eligibility levels and reimbursement rates are among the lowest in the country.
- A large portion of MI's children, whose families benefit from child care subsidy, are cared for in their own home by families, friends or neighbors who are not licensed.

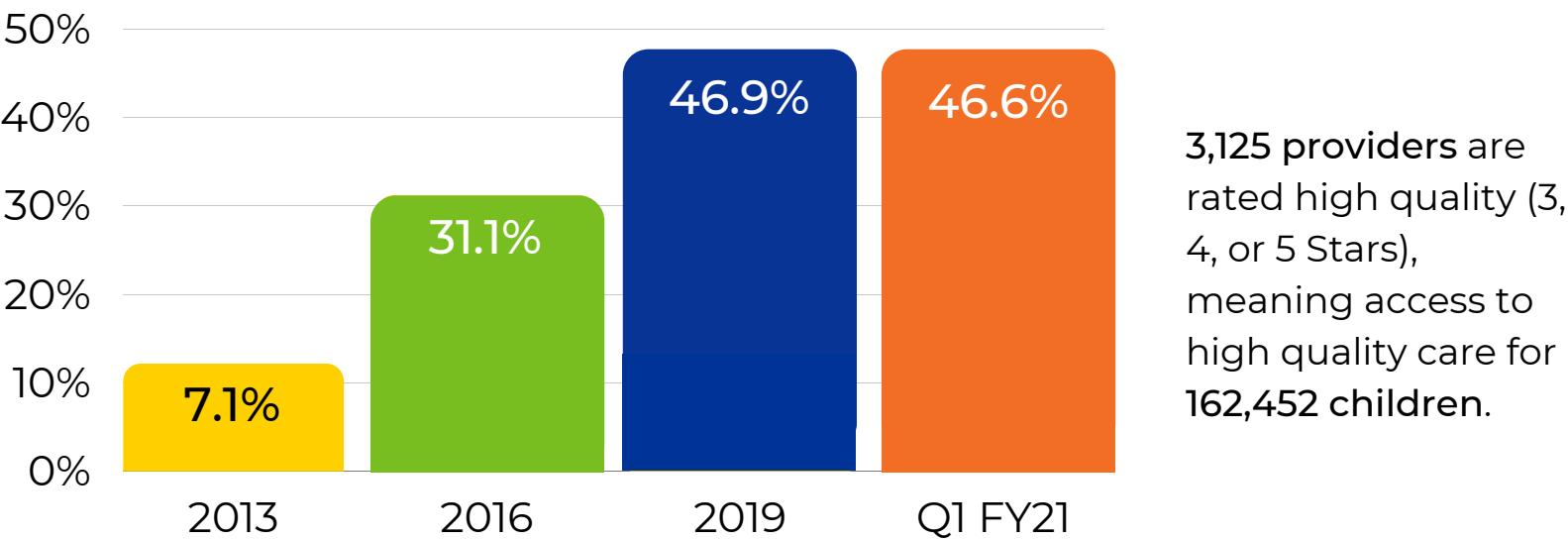
Programs Currently in GSQ Rating Process



Visits to GSQ Website to Search for Child Care



% of Providers Participating in Great Start to Quality



License-Exempt Health & Safety Provider Project



After receiving coaching and supports, 100% of license exempt providers were in compliance with health and safety requirements impacting 1,684 children.



856 license exempt providers have taken initial required health and safety training, virtually, since March 2020, allowing them to provide subsidized child care.



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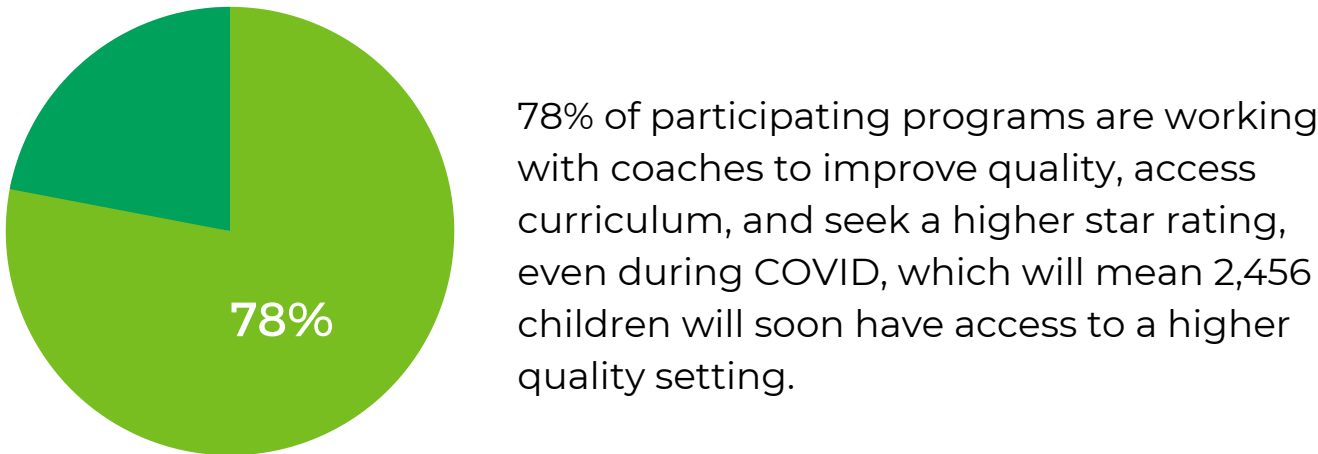
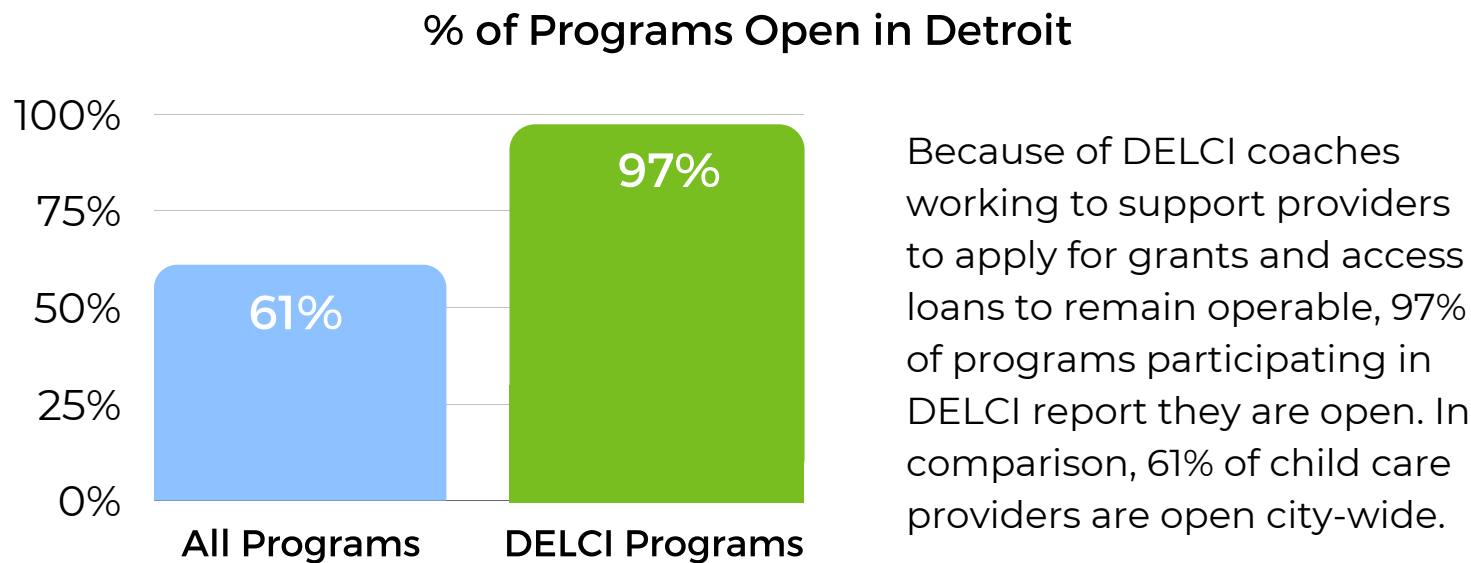


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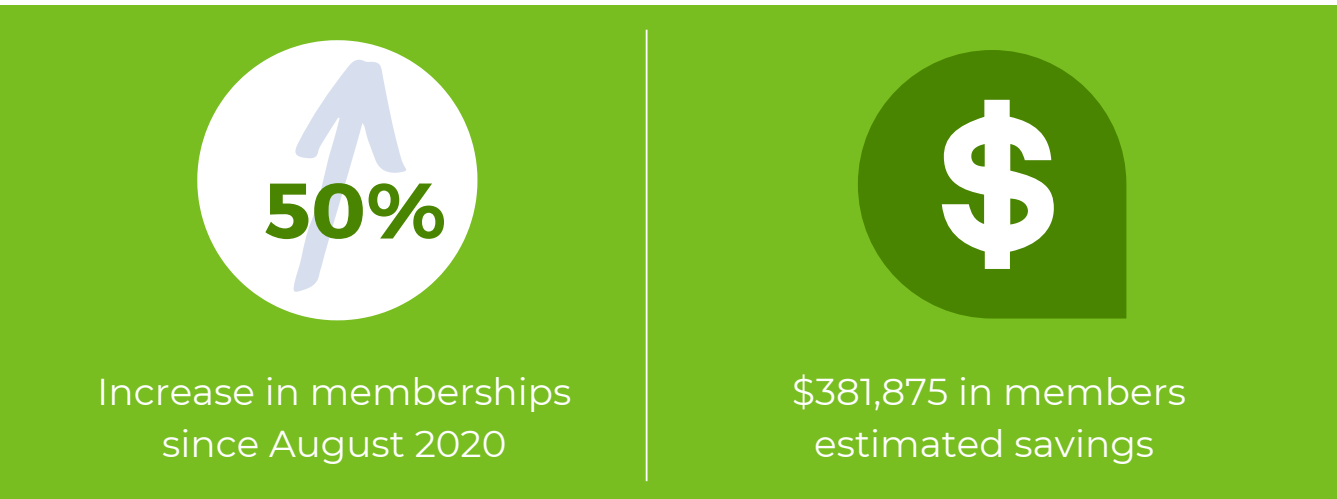
Detroit Early Learning Coaching Initiative (DELICI)

- Nearly 30,000 of eligible young children in Detroit had no high-quality early learning or child care options (pre-pandemic).
- Before DELICI launched, 62% of Detroit providers were high-quality (3, 4 or 5 stars). Through coaching providers that are not yet rated high quality, our goal is to increase access to high-quality early learning from 62% to 80%.
- The majority (73%) of Detroit-based providers lack access to evidence-based curriculum and assessment tools.



Michigan Early Learning Business Advantage (MELBA)

Typical profit margins, pre-pandemic, of child care programs were already extremely thin. The pandemic-caused economic recession will have a devastating impact on child care providers. Tools on the MELBA platform can help child care programs recover. These include, hiring and HR practices; financial management and budget tools; and policies.



"I'm utilizing the budget tools through MELBA to help me financially navigate 2021. They will help me keep my costs down and to know what my business income/profit/loss is if I need to apply for grant funds to remain open for my clients."

- Lorie Fletcher, home-based program owner, Kent County



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Health

Physical health and social and emotional health are critical components of child and family well-being. Children’s physical and social and emotional health affects their overall development and learning. Health in the earliest years — beginning with the future mother’s well-being before she becomes pregnant — strengthens developing biological systems that enable children to thrive and grow up to be healthy adults (Harvard Center for the Developing Child). Michigan has many strong health focused programs and systems initiatives and ECIC’s role is primarily as a partner and advocate.

Recent Policy Wins:



\$12.6 million for the Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies program to ensure pregnant women have access to the care they need

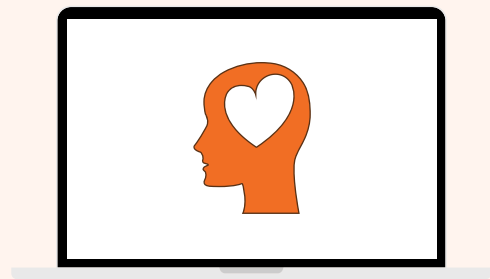


Influenced Michigan’s policy ensuring that the child care workforce was prioritized in Group 1b to receive the COVID-19 vaccine

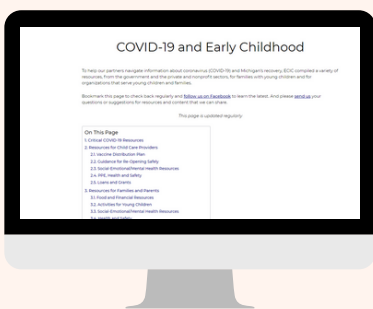


Expanding Post-partum Medicaid Coverage – as a result, 4,700 women and babies now have access to critical maternal and child health care

Partnerships:



At the request of the Office of the Governor and MDHHS, ECIC is the host of a new COVID-specific social-emotional toolkit for families and early childhood workforce – over 90,000 views on the web thus far.



As the pandemic continues, ECIC supports hundreds of partners and thousands of families and workers statewide through centralized COVID-19 resource page for the early childhood workforce and families



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Engage Diverse Voices and Build Capacity

Family and Parent Leadership

Elevating family and parent leadership in the design, implementation, and evaluation of programs and policies is at the heart of ECIC’s mission and values. For example, ECIC elevates family and parent leadership in Home Visiting, focused on vulnerable pregnant women and families with children (0-5) to: improve maternal and child health and school readiness; prevent child injuries and abuse; reduce domestic violence; improve family economic self-sufficiency.

ECIC facilitates a statewide parent leadership workgroup, comprised currently of 32 parents, who have used home visiting services and represent the state geographically. 61% of the group are persons of color. As a result, parents are:



Actively participating on national, state, and local boards and committees

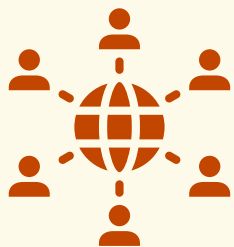


Influencing home visiting policies, practices, and resource decisions



Shifting power dynamics to be more shared between professionals and parents

National Consultation



ECIC is a member of the national home visiting network and regularly consults with national partners



FY21 - Consultation with 11 states and territories to build family and parent leadership into their state’s home visiting quality improvement efforts.

How this work influences policy change:



Michigan state interagency leadership group now requires 20% membership must be parent leaders.



Local implementation agencies for federal home visiting funds now required to have parent leaders on their quality improvement teams.



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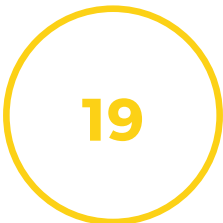


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Training and Technical Assistance

With scarce resources, the adults who work with and on behalf of families with young children need expert consultation and training support to achieve their goals.



19 trainings, virtual conferences, and meetings, focus groups and more



328 Supporting 328 participants (early childhood health and education service providers and parent leaders)

ECIC has been hired to engage hard-to-reach populations. Some examples include:



Facilitated conversations on racial equity with programs staff working with parents with children with special needs



Interviews and trainings with racially, linguistically, and geographically diverse families from across Michigan



Stakeholder engagement with grandparents raising grandchildren in Detroit

"Our gratitude to the ECIC team for their professionalism and positive attitude as we planned, implemented and learned from our first virtual (statewide) conference. The feedback includes many comments on the "excellent technical support" of our event. We will definitely continue to grow our partnership with ECIC in meeting our training and development needs across the state of Michigan!"

- Michigan Children's Trust Fund

Some of our recent clients and partners include:

