



2022 Child Care Awards

Albia Preschool and Daycare Center, Inc. – Albia (102 new slots)

IICC: \$213,000 CCC: \$175,000 Total Award: \$388,000

Albia Preschool and Daycare Center will expand with two new additions and renovations to the current building which was built in the seventies. The current capacity of the program is 54 children. The addition of another 102 slots will help meet community needs for child care which far outweigh the current 54 slots.

Alyssa Boisen Inhome Child Care – Sioux City (5 new slots)

IICC: \$41,213 Total Award: \$41,213

Basement renovation to a child care area. This will add an additional 1000 square feet and an extra restroom. This will open 8 spots for children with the hiring of another provider.

Aspire Home Daycare LLC – Dubuque (20 new slots)

IICC: \$48,000 CCC: \$30,300 Total Award: \$78,300

This project will advance child development homes by creating a model that provides homes completely ready with furniture, policies, budgets and filing systems that are fully DHS compliant from day one. The model will provide not only two homes for child care, but it also provides training for new providers, peer engagement and mentoring support for success of new providers. This award will support the needed construction for two child development homes which will provide care for 32 children.

Birdies Nest, P.C. – Davenport (65 new slots)

IICC: \$175,507 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$425,507

Birdies Nest will add an addition to the current facility. This will provide 4 additional classrooms and an indoor gym. The increase in prices related to the pandemic has been a barrier that this funding will help address.

Blessed Sacrament ECC – Waterloo (0 new slots)

IICC: \$109,840 Total Award: \$109,840

Blessed Sacrament ECC has tripled in size in the last few months. Funding will provide equipment and upgrades related to health and safety to accommodate the growing center.

Blue Grass Presbyterian Church – Blue Grass (0 new slots)

IICC: \$11,150 Total Award: \$11,150

Noah's Ark Preschool is the only preschool in the area. The preschool partners with several area child development homes who have indicated they may retire soon. The preschool is making health and safety updates to be open more often and offer full-time care.

Bluff Land Co – Sergeant Bluff (10 new slots)

IICC: \$150,000 Total Award: \$150,000

Bluff's Little Thinkers will make enhancement to run full capacity year around. Additionally, funds will provide a sensory space for our children with special and unique needs.

Bonnie Atwell's Daycare – Chariton (0 new slots)

IICC: \$5,240 Total Award: \$5,240

This funding will support needed health and safety updates.

Bosco Catholic School System – Gilbertville (44 slots)

IICC: \$50,150 CCC: \$5,500 Total Award: \$55,650

Serving the communities of Gilbertville and Raymond this project will double current year around opportunities for care and learning for 3- and 4-year-old children. The work will include security upgrades and help meet ADA requirements.

Boys and Girls Club of Siouxland – Sioux City (160 new slots)

CCC: \$149,090 Total Award: \$149,090

This project is part of a larger campaign project. The funding will support retrofitting of acquired spaces to meet the needs to have a licensed afterschool program for 160 children in the area.

Breda Day Center, Inc. – Breda (5 new slots)

CCC: \$23,816 Total Award: \$23,816

Breda Daycare Center's proposed project is to add on an expansion to the preschool room. This will allow the center to have more room for creative curriculum areas and room for five more children to be involved in our preschool education.

Bright Achievers Developmental Daycare – Davenport (29 new slots)

CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$250,000

Bright Achievers daycare proposes to reconstruct the warehouse located behind the current center. This building will become a best practice, high quality Child Care and PreSchool Center. The project goal will serve up to 80 additional children in our community and include a safe playground area. The anticipated outcome is to serve an increased number of children under the age of six, and to assist the educational system in meeting basic early literacy benchmarks so that Scott County schools will become more proficient by creating an additional opportunity for children who face economic vulnerability in our area.

Build a Better Belmond (Simmering-Cory Inc.) – Belmond (155 new slots)

IICC: \$126,945 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$376,945

This project will fund the renovation of the Ramsay Building, formerly an elementary school, to house a new daycare center, Colts Corner Daycare, in the City of Belmond. The need for childcare is critical in Belmond, with an estimated shortage of 423 childcare spaces within the Belmond-Klemme Community School District, and only enough licensed childcare slots to serve 19% of the children ages 0-11 in Belmond. In addition, several daycares have closed in the last year making the shortage even greater. The construction contract has been awarded and construction will begin in January 2022 with Colts Corner opening its doors in August 2022, creating 155 childcare slots and 24 to 32 new full and part-time jobs in the community.

Camp Fire Heart of Iowa – Des Moines (80 new slots)

CCC: \$155,000 Total Award: \$155,000

The project will support facility improvement projects at the two locations with the result being increased capacity and the ability to provide year-round care.

Capitol Park Early Learning Center – Des Moines (15 new slots)

IICC: \$148,010 Total Award: \$148,010

This grant request encompasses health and safety improvements inside the center and on the playground. In additional renovations will provide an additional 15 child care slots.

Cedar Valley Kids – Cedar Falls (200 new slots)

CCC: \$25,000 Total Award: \$25,000

Cedar Valley Kids is working on a capitol project where each Cedar Valley Kids Child Care Centers will partner with up to four businesses from the beginning of the project. The unique model leverages business investments to benefit families and employers and serves as a great private public partnership. The specific project will create at least two new child care centers each serving up to 100 children.

Children & Families of Iowa – Des Moines (8 new slots)

IICC: \$172,590 Total Award: \$172,590

Building repairs to the Child Development Center will maintain high quality care and to expand the center's capacity to serve. Repairs are designed to improve the health and safety conditions of our staff and clients, and to improve the energy and cost efficiency of the facilities.

ChildServe, Inc. – Ames (20 new slots)

IICC: \$260,000 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$510,000

This project will build additional space for the Ames ChildServe facility by adding three Autism child care classrooms addressing this high need to provide care for families who have a child with autism spectrum disorder.

ChildServe, Inc. – Iowa City (10 new slots)

IICC: \$216,000 Total Award: \$216,000

ChildServe in Iowa City will develop three new Autism Day child care classrooms. This project will increase the availability of quality child care for Eastern Iowa families, specifically for those who cannot attend a typical child care center due to their child's special health care needs.

Child Time Daycare by Ashley Thompson – Northwood (63 new slots)

IICC: \$190,495 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$440,495

Childtime Clubhouse will open a new center with the goal being to provide a safe and welcoming environment to support and care for children of all ages. The most important outcome we will achieve by opening this facility is closing the large gap in access to childcare that Worth County is currently facing. We will also be able to support community members by generating new jobs. In all, this opportunity would benefit everyone in the community and provide a resource that so many around us desperately need.

City of Sioux Center – Sioux Center (12 new slots)

IICC: \$88,300 Total Award: \$88,300

The City of Sioux Center, in partnership with the Sioux Center Day Care Taskforce, is proposing to remodel a residential structure into a home daycare. This facility will help meet additional needs for child care in the community and help accommodate the workforce needs for many of our businesses. The funds will assist in making the facility safe and functional as a child care facility.

CKJD, LLC – Urbandale (61 new slots)

IICC: \$257,237 CCC: \$78,620 Total Award: \$335,857

This group intends to open a child care facility by renovating an existing closed building which will ultimately provide a capacity of 61 new child care slots in Urbandale. This center will also devote a portion of enrollment in each room to serve children with disabilities.

Clarksville Child Development, LLC – Clarksville (20 new slots)

IICC: \$163,814 CCC: \$8,200 Total Award: \$172,014

The current 3,500 square feet of space will be renovated to create classrooms. The project will also provide a safe and functional playground with a new fence. Additional staff will be hired provide quality care so we are able to expand.

College Community School District – Cedar Rapids (48 new slots)

IICC: \$267,366 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$517,366

The project supports an expansion of 5,800 square feet to the existing Prairie Early Childhood Center. The expansion includes 3 additional classrooms and will provide 48 additional slots in a community with a population of approximately 27,528. This expansion would create placements for 48 additional infants, toddlers, and 3-year-old children including Head Start and Early Head Start slots increasing the availability of quality, affordable childcare for families in Linn, Benton, and Johnson counties.

Community Early Childhood Center – Fort Dodge (56 new slots)

CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$250,000

This project is an expansion to add another 56 spaces (4 classrooms) to bring our total up to 207 children. The goal is to increase capacity for an area that has a shortage of approximately 2000 child care slots.

Community United Child Care Centers, Inc. – Cedar Falls (55 new slots)

IICC: \$478,000 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$728,000

This project will renovate and build a new addition to existing child care center which will increase child care slots available and fund numerous health and safety upgrades.

Creative Minds Daycare – Cherokee (57 new slots)

IICC: \$507,729 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$757,729

Creative Minds Daycare was approached by the Cherokee Board of Supervisors to increase the number of children and families they could serve. They have located an existing building that will be rehabbed to increase the number of spots from 16 to around 73. This will significantly help the community and businesses by being able to provide the much-needed care for the children with wrap around supports from the community. Local businesses, school district, AEA and families worked together to determine the demand that is out there for reliable high-quality care for kids while the parents are working within the community.

Discoveries Learning Center – Denver (252 new slots)

IICC: \$750,000 CCC: \$120,000 Total Award: \$870,000

The goal of this project would be to rehabilitate the existing building to serve the needs of students aged 6 weeks to preschool. Currently, Discoveries Learning Center is utilizing a separate building, which was once a K-2 building for the Denver Community Schools that has eight classrooms for childcare opportunities. Denver Schools passed a bond issue to build a new secondary school due to increase of enrollment and lack of space within the TK-12 building. The new secondary school will be serving grades 6-12, leaving behind an infrastructure that would be utilized to serve students ages 6 weeks to four-year-old preschool. Outcomes include partnering with Denver Schools and allowing Discoveries Learning Center to double their capacity to ensure childcare and high-quality programming for the community of Denver and surrounding communities.

Dubuque Dream Center – Dubuque (200 new slots)

IICC: \$750,000 Total Award: \$750,000

The Dream Center seeks to support the present workforce, by providing quality after-school and summer care to school-aged children of working families. Particularly in areas of concentrated poverty where quality care for children is in short supply. The Dream Center becoming a licensed childcare would in turn allow the Center to create a sustainable revenue stream to serve at-risk youth.

Durant Children's Group – Durant (30 new slots)

IICC: \$24,667 CCC: \$9,607 Total Award: \$34,274

Durant Children's Group owns an empty building across from our current center's parking lot that will be renovated for another space for children.

Ellyn Holzhuter Daycare – Dubuque (0 new slots)

IICC: \$5,621 Total Award: \$5,621

The proposed project will create 12 new childcare slots, including 4 infants in an in-home daycare setting. The project goal is to create a STEAM focused in-home child development care facility. The anticipated outcome for this project is to create a positive and rich learning environment for children of all ages, birth to school age.

Exploration Learning Station – Stuart (0 new slots)

IICC: \$58,874 Total Award: \$58,874

The Exploration Learning Station expansion project will add a secondary location and 36 additional slots for children at the facility. The additional space will also create a much more open environment for children and staff to inhabit. Infants and toddlers will be the focus at the new location, which allows for separation of age groups and the ability for staff to prioritize tasks.

Fairbank Community Daycare Center (Little Island Child Care Center) – Fairbank (30 slots)

IICC: \$350,384 CCC: \$120,678 Total Award: \$471,062

Little Island Child Care (LICC) Center proposes to expand its current facility with a 40x44 extension to increase capacity by 30 childcare slots including 12 infant spaces. The addition includes three additional care and playrooms, two bathrooms, an expanded kitchen with industrial quality appliances, additional storage space and a work room located near the infant area to improve efficiency and safety. The expansion with an increase of 6 additional childcare providers will create more opportunities for parents with young children in need of childcare to be employed in local and regional businesses.

Fields of Fun Child Care, LLC – Cedar Rapids (275 new slots)

IICC: \$499,044 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$749,044

This project would include the purchase and renovation of a building to provide safe and effective child care. With the completion of purchasing a building, building updates, and purchasing new equipment this location will be able to provide childcare for up to 275 children.

Frog Hollow Child Development, Inc. – Asbury (14 new slots)

IICC: \$282,000 CCC: \$200,000 Total Award: \$482,000

Building an addition which would create an additional 30 spaces. Purchasing 2 additional busses to transport the additional 30 children to and from school.

Garnavillo Community Day Care – Garnavillo (44 new slots)
IICC: \$196,562 CCC: \$190,688 Total Award: \$387,250

This project will create an addition to the current center to serve full day children. The addition will contain infant room, 1 year old room, toddler, and preschool room with 44 child capacity. It will connect with our current center which will be repurposed to serve our school age children. We will increase our overall licensed capacity from 45 to 89.

Genya's Daycare – (Union) (4 new slots)
IICC: \$21,000 Total Award: \$21,000

Genya's will expand usable child care space and increase safety through minor remodeling.

GLI2, LLC dba Formative Years Growing and Learning Center – Davenport (6 new slots)
IICC: \$63,000 Total Award: \$63,000

Formative Years proposes renovations that will increase capacity including 3 additional slots for infants.

Great Life Investments, LLC dba Formative Years Growing and Learning Center - Ames (5 new slots)
IICC: \$175,000 Total Award: \$175,000

This is a renovation to increase capacity in our center and improve health and safety. The goal is to add quality, affordable childcare for all children as families return to work.

Grundy Community Preschool and Childcare Association – Grundy Center (27 new slots)
IICC: \$52,190 Total Award: \$52,190

Funding will provide needed equipment and furnishings for an expansion project for our preschool and childcare center.

Hand in Hand – Bettendorf (17 new slots)
IICC: \$750,000 Total Award: \$750,000

Hand in Hand is expanding childcare offerings by adding an additional classroom. This project will open 17 new childcare slots & maintain care for 60 children.

Happy Time Child Development Center – Vinton (0 new slots)
IICC: \$320,148 Total Award: \$320,148

Vinton Early Learning Center will expand the current facility, increasing capacity by 24 slots. Health and safety updates will also be completed. By making these changes it will allow the center to not only provide more childcare slots for the community but to also provide a safe and healthy environment for our children to learn and grow.

Helping Hands Preschool & Child Care Inc. – Sioux City (0 new slots)
IICC: \$712,000 Total Award: \$712,000

This funding will continue to support a rehabilitation project currently underway. The project goal is to complete this expansion by summer, 2022 to open additional classrooms providing approximately 85 childcare spots.

Highland Park Community Development Association, Inc. – Des Moines (52 new slots)
IICC: \$511,935 Total Award: \$511,935

Precious Beginnings Children's Center received prior funding from the first round of Childcare Challenge funds to open a DHS licensed Kindergarten ready childcare center's first three classrooms. This second round of funding will allow the center to finish the last three classrooms of the center and to install a playground and fencing for the center. This is desperately needed in a neighborhood where children enter Kindergarten behind and they never catch up academically.

Hispanic Educational Resources, Inc. – Des Moines (6 new slots)

IICC: \$228,181 Total Award: \$228,181

The main playground is deteriorating and sinking into the ground because of damage from the derecho. Funding will be utilized primarily to replace the entire area creating a safe play environment.

Holy Family Catholic Schools: Holy Ghost Early Childhood Center – Dubuque (10 new slots)

IICC: \$699,000 CCC: \$51,000 Total Award: \$750,000

Holy Ghost Early Childhood Center building was built in the 1950's and needs renovations to ensure the health and safety of the children served. Given the high demand for accessible childcare, renovations to the building will also allow continuation of current expansion work while ensuring a safe, high quality, and welcoming home away from home for all the children served.

Holy Family Catholic Schools: Saint Joseph the Worker Early Childhood – Dubuque (70 new slots)

IICC: \$750,000 CCC: \$100,000 Total Award: \$850,000

Saint Joseph the Worker Early Childhood Center, a Holy Family Catholic Schools campus, will make renovations needed to expand the number of children St Joe's is able to care for by up to seventy children.

Holy Family Catholic Schools: Our Lady of Guadalupe Early Childhood – Dubuque (100 new slots)

IICC: \$345,000 Total Award: \$345,000

Our Lady of Guadalupe Early Childhood, a Holy Family Catholic Schools campus will make renovations that will enable expansion of the number of children that can be served by starting a summer camp for school age children. The goal for this project is to expand the number of children Our Lady can care for by adding up to one hundred childcare slots during the summer months.

House of Mercy – Des Moines (0 new slots)

IICC: \$21,838 Total Award: \$21,838

House of Mercy facilities will use funding to make needed updates and upgrades to best meet the needs of the children they serve.

Hull Bright Start, Inc – Hull (46 new slots)

IICC: \$635,000 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$885,000

This is an expansion to a current center to open an additional 46 slots. The center currently has a waiting list of 67 children. A committee of community members are working together to fundraise and put in place sustainability plans.

I Care Childcare – Burlington (0 new slots)

IICC: \$173,300 Total Award: \$173,300

This center provides child care in an area of Burlington where the need for affordable care is very high. Funding will support needed work to improve health and safety for the children and staff at the center.

Inertia Boy's & Girl's Center, Inc. – Keokuk (8 new slots)

IICC: \$191,048 Total Award: \$191,048

Renovations and upgrades to existing facilities will add capacity to increase for 8-10 children.

Inspired Kids LLC – Van Meter (173 new slots)

IICC: \$750,000 CCC: \$141,423 Total Award: \$891,423

Project will offer quality early childhood education and care to children ages 6 weeks to 12 years. The proposed center will be licensed to care for 128 children between 6 weeks to 6 years and an after-school program for 45 kids (173 total). This facility will be the first commercial development in Van Meter of this size in decades and will drive future commercial and residential development.

Iowa Congolese Organization and Center for Healing – Urbandale (0 new slots)

IICC: \$160,000 Total Award: \$160,000

Iowa Congolese Organization and Center for Healing is currently in the very beginning stages of starting a childcare center for the refugee immigrant families and children. Funding will be used to make needed renovations and health and safety upgrades to a new space.

Jefferson County Kids, Inc. – Fairfield (185 new slots)

IICC: \$272,629 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$522,629

Jefferson County Kids will construct a child care facility in Fairfield. The center will result in 185 new child care spaces for children ages 0 to 12. Construction will be complete in November 2022, with child care services starting in December 2022.

KA of Urbandale, LLC – Urbandale (182 new slots)

IICC: \$718,900 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$968,900

This project consists of a new 13,000 square foot facility designed to provide high-quality child care services for up to 182 children ages 6 weeks to 12 years. Industry research in the Urbandale and surrounding metropolitan area has shown a profound need for additional child care services.

Kids Korner, Inc. dba First Steps Early Learning Center – Clarion (19 new slots)

IICC: \$327,150 Total Award: \$327,150

In January 2022, Kids Korner will become First Steps Early Learning Center. The new program will include a more focused curriculum and new community partnerships, offering affordable, safe, high-quality care for working families in and around Clarion. In partnership with the City of Clarion and Wright County, in June 2022 the center will move to a new building that increasing the program's available childcare slots from 89 to 108. The city and county will pay renovation costs. Unique partnerships will provide financial and staffing support to ensure First Steps Early Learning Center succeeds in its goal to serve more working families in Wright County and build their children's foundational skills and development, setting them up for future success and increasing productivity for working parents. This application requests funding for supplies, technology, a security system, classroom furnishings, and a new playground to complete the transformation.

KuemperCares – Carroll (39 new slots)

IICC: \$80,000 Total Award: \$80,000

KuemperCares is expanding our childcare services by adding additional child care slots and making health and safety updates to the current facility. An additional 15 childcare slots will be added to summer program and implementation of a 3-year-old preschool program will begin in the fall of 2022. The additional child care slots and new preschool program will help the community's child care and early education void.

Lake City Daycare Inc. – Lake City (20 new slots)

IICC: \$306,550 Total Award: \$306,550

The Kid's Spot project goal is to complete an expansion to the existing childcare facility located in Lake City, IA. The expansion will provide more space to accommodate additional slots for preschool & school-aged children. The project will create 20-30 childcare slots that are needed within our community and will positively affect Sac, Calhoun & Greene counties.

Lakes Early Learning Center, LLC – Polk City (148 new slots)

IICC: \$497,100 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$747,100

Lakes ELC is a new child care center in Polk City, IA that will serve approximately 148 children ages 6 weeks through elementary and help meet a significant need in the community. The building is a new construction 8,844 sq ft building, and it has been designed specifically for child care with 7 developmentally appropriate classrooms. Construction began at the beginning of November 2021 and is expected to be completed in July 2022 with an anticipated opening date of August 2022. Funding will help addressing the costs that have increased substantially because of the pandemic and inflation and created challenges related to funding/financing.

Learn & Play Preschool & Daycare LLC – Cedar Falls (50 new slots)

IICC: \$350,000 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$600,000

This project includes building purchase and addition to take more children and to meet health safety/handicap accessibility needs.

Li'l Bloomin' Orkids – Council Bluffs (4 new slots)

CCC: \$25,755 Total Award: \$25,755

Funding will support the project goal of improving quality, health and safety of all children and employees at the childcare, while providing an additional 4 child care slots.

Lil' Hands Big Dreams Child Development and Preschool LLC – Indianola (65 new slots)

IICC: \$240,600 Total Award: \$240,600

Lil' Hands Big Dreams Child Development and Preschool in Norwalk has identified Indianola as a great opportunity for expansion. After speaking to residents, business owners, and educators that expressed the need for affordable quality childcare in the Indianola community they plan to open a childcare program in Indianola that will be licensed for approximately 65 students and employ twenty to twenty-five full and part time early childhood professionals.

Lil Wildcat Education Center, Inc. – Glidden (35 new slots)

IICC: \$39,062 CCC: \$211,669 Total Award: \$250,731

The Lil Wildcat Education Center (LWEC) grant will support the finalized construction of a new 5,327 square foot facility in Glidden to reduce barriers for the area's workforce to access quality childcare. Specifically, the \$1.75 million project will double the capacity for childcare services in Glidden by having an infrastructure to serve up to 71 children. Gap filling childcare and early educational programming will be provided for infants (6 weeks old) and other children up to age 12. Additional capital is needed to offset an increase of nearly \$350,000 in project costs from the center's original February 2021 construction estimates.

LilyPad Learning Center, LLC – Huxley (75 new slots)

IICC: \$138,822 Total Award: \$138,822

LilyPad Learning Center purchased a 12,000 sq foot warehouse and are in the process of renovating the space to provide care for school age children. Funding will help pay to remedy code issues that must be addressed to open.

Lionheart Early Learning Center Inc. – Iowa City (31 new slots)

IICC: \$506,100 Total Award: \$506,100

Lionheart Early Learning Center will create new playgrounds and remodel existing classrooms, partnering with Iowa City Schools to provide SWVPP to 20 children. Safety updates will meet fire code, ADA, and DHS health and safety codes.

Little Charger Early Learning Center – Guthrie Center (22 new slots)

IICC: \$324,000 CCC: \$125,850 Total Award: \$449,850

Little Charger Early Learning Center is the only licensed childcare provider in Guthrie Center and is currently licensed for 30 children within our building and 15 children at the school for before and after school care. With a population of just under 1,500, Guthrie Center has approximately 250 children enrolled in its elementary school and an estimated 100 kids aged 0-4. After surveying our community, we found that only 39% of respondents take their children to a childcare setting within Guthrie Center, the average travel for childcare outside Guthrie Center is 9.6 miles, and that 30 families are currently looking for childcare. Funding will support work on a new building on an adjacent property, increasing our capacity from 45 to 77 and allowing them to have before/after school program within their own building. The main goal of the project is to create a community asset that will help our local employers be able to attract and retain employees (including adding 10-12 new jobs at the center) to create a stable workforce, drive community growth, and reverse a two-year trend of significant enrollment decline in our school district.

Little Creations Academy, Inc. – Iowa City (29 new slots)

IICC: \$77,465 Total Award: \$77,465

Little Creations Academy has a growing number of families on the center's waitlist, and funding will help make needed accommodations so these families can access the center's services. 100% of our families qualify for federal assistance and wish to be employed in the workforce.

Little Ducklings Daycare Center LLC – Ainsworth (28 new slots)

IICC: \$33,023 Total Award: \$33,023

The grant will assist in providing needed equipment for this center in Ainsworth to care for 49 children.

Little Feet Learning Center – Rockwell City (10 new slots)

IICC: \$45,000 Total Award: \$45,000

Funding will provide much needed lighting at the center to increase capacity and ensure the best possible learning environment.

Little Hawks Childcare Center – Manilla (0 new slots)

IICC: \$34,986 Total Award: \$34,986

The reconstruction and equipment for this center will have been paid for through donations, fundraisers, and grants. This funding request of \$34,986.12 will cover the expenses that increased above the original bid on the project.

Little Knights Learning Center – Dysart (0 new slots)

IICC: \$389,830 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$639,830

Little Knights Learning Center in Dysart was forced to quickly build a new standalone child care center during the pandemic. This project is a partnership with the Union Community School District and broke ground in December 2020 near the elementary school to build a new center that would house 85 children, 16 more than we were licensed for in our previous building. They knew there was risk building at an uncertain time but the desperate need for child care outweighed the concerns. LKLC successfully completed the building in July 2021, but due to supply chain shortages and inflation the project had large cost overruns. Additionally, COVID-19 and an uncertain economy has hindered our ability to raise the capital funds necessary to pay building loans and build the outdoor playground.

Little Mustangs Learning Center – Armstrong (10 new slots)

IICC: \$43,047 Total Award: \$43,047

Funds will aid towards the completion of remodeling the new location to be Little Mustangs Learning Center. The new location is one block away from the public school, the library, city park and pool. The project will allow an increased enrollment of 19 additional childcare positions

Little Panther Daycare – Panora (15 new slots)

CCC: \$132,118 Total Award: \$132,118

Little Panther Daycare is building a 1,440 square feet addition to our current facility. It will increase our overall capacity by 15 children. This will assist in getting additional families into our daycare and off the waiting list.

Little Sprouts Daycare, LLC – Algona (32 new slots)

CCC: \$126,350 Total Award: \$126,350

Since being awarded Challenge and IICC grant funding at the beginning of this year, we have completed upper-level renovations, installed a sprinkler and alarm system throughout the building, created an outdoor classroom, and opened to care for children. Currently approved to care for up to 43 children, plans for the lower level include at least two more classrooms and some sick care rooms, this would be only the second sick care center in the region and increase capacity to serve 32 more child care slots.

Little Stars Child Care Center/Islamic Foundation of Iowa – Waterloo (72 new slots)

IICC: \$231,845 Total Award: \$231,845

The Little Stars Child Care Center is a Non-Profit brand-new facility designed specifically for child care in Waterloo serving the Black Hawk County and surrounding areas. This facility is strategically placed around large pool of employers of all levels with a capacity of 72 children (with an enrollment of about 144 children) and 30 full/part-time staff members. Being a non-profit organization, this building was designed and erected using many volunteers from the Cedar Valley and Donations across the nation and other non-profit partners' assistance. Funding will provide some final critical items necessary to open the facility regarding health/safety, environment, equipment, and classrooms.

Little Tigers on Main, LLC – Gilbert (19 new slots)

CCC: \$132,538 Total Award: \$132,538

The new construction will be the new home of the existing Little Tigers Clubhouse in Gilbert, Iowa, creating 19 new spots and making safety and regulation enhancements.

Live, Laugh, Love, Child Care Center – Muscatine (20 new slots)

IICC: \$66,603 Total Award: \$66,603

This funding will provide necessary enhancements and increase capacity. The outcome would be a school age building that would accommodate 40 children.

Maroon & White Inc. – Grundy Center (26 new slots)

CCC: \$248,723 Total Award: \$248,723

The project is part of an overall \$4 M historic rehabilitation and expansion of the former Grundy Center High School, as the Grundy Center Kids Campus. The rehab/expansion will result in completely modernized/expanded facilities for the existing preschool and before/after school program, which are operated by Grundy Community Preschool & Child Care and the YMCA, respectively.

MATURA Action Corporation – Creston (88 new slots)

IICC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$250,000

The Greater Connections Childhood Development Center (GCCDC) will be a 14,000-SF childcare facility to serve the entire county of 12,500 people. This facility will replace the aging and undersized childcare facility with a new structure located in northwest Creston. The new facility will house 13 classrooms for infancy and up, which will also facilitate the establishment of Early Head Start in the county. The grant will assist with the furniture, fixtures, and equipment elements of the project, as the building itself is already funded and under construction. Anticipated outcomes include the provision of quality education of 178 children at one time in a safe and comfortable environment in a location suitable to client families so that children are ready for school.

McNeil Inc dba ChildCare Discovery Center – Fort Dodge (0 new slots)

IICC: \$272,343 CCC: \$27,657 Total Award: \$300,000

Finishing the build out of a 16,300 SF childcare center. The completion will be February 1, 2022. The original cost of this project was 2.2 million. That cost has gone up to 3.2 million because of the increase in cost and the supply chain. This increase costs results in not being able to open all classrooms. The goal for the grant is to fund the cost of the items that are still needed to open all the classrooms and fill all the available childcare slots. There are currently have over 100 children on the waiting list. Opening these 84 slots on opening day will assure these parents will be able to enter the work force. The additional items we are requesting are items the center could not afford because of the immense increase in cost over the last year.

MICAH House – Council Bluffs (70 new slots)

IICC: \$391,800 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$641,800

MICAH House (MH) will begin construction in 2022 to create a quality, affordable childcare center for shelter residents and area families through a 12,000 square-foot on-site facility. The project will serve up to 70 children in a trauma-sensitive and service-rich environment. Most children served would be those staying at or transitioning from Family Shelter. To provide stability to the proforma and programming, it is anticipated that about 1/3 of the slots will be open to the community. Because of area programs' lack of capacity or financial restrictions, children at MH end up on waitlists. Services will give children and families a running start to address the magnitude of problems their child may face. The goal for serving these children is to eliminate barriers to access and immediately start wrap-around services. The center will not likely be permanent for many children but a steppingstone to a more stable and long-term child care arrangement. We will work to transition children to permanent care settings that meet the family's longer-term housing and employment goals.

New Horizons Academy DBA AlRazi Academy – Clive (50 new slots)

IICC: \$390,466 Total Award: \$390,466

New Horizons will be able to make needed health and safety updates and increase capacity with this funding.

Noble Initiative Foundation – Griswold (140 new slots)

IICC: \$236,725 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$486,725

The mission of the Noble Initiative Foundation is to impact families in Griswold and the surrounding communities by providing a quality child care center, support for a strong school system, an increase in local workforce, and affordable housing. The first step in this mission is to build a child development center that will provide year-round childcare, including full-time, part-time, drop-in and before/after school care. The center will be located south of the Griswold School and will be designed to accommodate four childcare rooms for children ranging from 6 weeks old to 4 years old, including a separate area for before and after school care.

Panorama Daycare Center – Panora (80 new slots)

IICC: \$335,000 CCC: \$115,000 Total Award: \$450,000

This project partnership will form to create Panorama Daycare Center LCC. Purchase and renovation of an existing building into a licensed childcare center. When at max capacity, will add 80 additional daycare openings in Panora, IA. A tiered opening approach as construction allows would open by the summer of 2022 and grow to max capacity by the end of the year.

Pekin Community School District – Packwood (36 new slots)

IICC: \$41,808 Total Award: \$41,808

Due to the increasing demand for the limited number of slots available in the current facility, this project proposes to construct a new 50'x40' facility that will meet flexible needs. Currently 1 of 3 child care centers within a 50-mile radius, the goal is to better serve the growing child care needs of the rural communities served, which include families from 4 different counties, and keep them as local as possible. Due to the number of children on the waiting list, the anticipated outcome is to serve 100% of the community's child care needs by having enough spaces available to eliminate the need for a waiting list.

Redeemer Lutheran Church – Ventura (22 new slots)

IICC: \$165,564 Total Award: \$165,564

The funding will provide new, repurposed infant and toddler rooms as well as health and safety upgrades for 22 children.

Romper Room Child Care Center – Dubuque (0 new slots)

IICC: \$380,191 CCC: \$72,400 Total Award: \$452,591

This grant is additional funding to complete the original goal of opening a second child care site. This request is due to an increased inflation cost of materials and labor. The goal is to open in April 2022, with approximately 108 additional enrollments. This will meet the needs of childcare in the Dubuque area.

Singing Cedars School, LLC – Fairfield (30 new slots)

IICC: \$164,700 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$414,700

Singing Cedars School, a licensed childcare provider in southeast Iowa, will use funding to support goals set by their Board of Directors to meet the high demand for early childhood care and education. The Board's spring 2022 strategic plan features the Childcare Stability Expansion Project, a keystone capital investment project that prioritizes the purchase of our current campus, rehabilitation of an existing building, and construction and furnishing of two school buildings to be used as additional class, staff, and administration spaces. When fully realized, CSEP has the potential to add up to 45 new enrollment spaces in an identified childcare desert; as well as create employment opportunities for 4 full time positions and 4 part-time positions over the next several years.

Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center (Kid Zone) – West Burlington (50 new slots)

IICC: \$551,557 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$801,557

Funding will support expansion of a current location in Des Moines County to serve an additional 50 children. The site will serve the healthcare communities as well as first responders. Construction will begin May of 2022 and will be completed October 2022.

St. Olaf Lutheran Church – Fort Dodge (48 new slots)

IICC: \$687,000 Total Award: \$687,000

St. Olaf Lutheran Church will start up a child care center in the church building. With minor renovations, this center be able to open for 68 children by late spring of 2022. Once operational, they plan to do a few more renovations to allow for another 30 children. The goal is to help with the child care shortage, in an economically challenged neighborhood in Fort Dodge and provide a much-needed service to working adults.

St. Timothy Preschool & Childcare – Hudson (30 new slots)

IICC: \$335,814 Total Award: \$335,814

This project will include needed enhancement and will also provide funding to work with an architect to develop a viable plan to expand the building so that the center would be licensed to serve no less than 125 children who are 6 weeks to 11 years of age.

Sunflower Child Care Center Inc. – Decorah (120 new slots)

IICC: \$741,700 CCC: \$188,300 Total Award: \$930,000

The primary goal of this project is to construct and equip a new child care facility in Decorah, the largest community and employment hub for a 7-county area of Northeast Iowa, to address a severe child care shortage that is impacting families, businesses, workforce, and the communities, by providing childcare for 215 children ages 6 months-12 years. The second goal is to construct and equip our new child care facility in a manner that allows us to implement an innovative, economically, and environmentally sustainable, childcare business model that diversifies our income and minimizes expenses so we can pay livable wages and benefits to our employees and be sustainable into the foreseeable future.

The Arc of East Central Iowa – Cedar Rapids (33 new slots)

CCC: \$45,493 Total Award: \$45,493

The Arc of East Central Iowa (The Arc) requested funding to adapt programming space and restrooms for greater accessibility and allow for The Arc to increase the number of participants served in our special needs' childcare program serving children aged 0-21 with an intellectual, developmental and/or mental health disability. We will repurpose 1,153 square feet of underused space to serve more children each day.

The Arc of SE Iowa – Iowa City (40 new slots)

IICC: \$24,530 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$274,530

The Arc of Southeast Iowa established the Bill Reagan Children's Center to provide inclusive care and early childhood education to children with special needs along with neurotypical peers. The need for services in this area is in high demand and the project expand the center to serve more children. This proposal includes an addition to the building and modifying the space to allow additional slots.

The Stanton Child Resource Center – Stanton (0 new slots)

IICC: \$274,388 CCC: \$214,779 Total Award: \$489,167

This project will expand all current classrooms, add a sick room and enhanced security.

Tiffanie Money DBA Pipsy's Wee Care and Preschool LLC – Indianola (49 new slots)

IICC: \$117,676 Total Award: \$117,676

This project is a new 3500 square foot childcare facility in Indianola, Iowa for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old to be open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. This will provide childcare as well as a preschool program for children in one facility.

TLC The Learning Center – Charles City (0 new slots)

IICC: \$605,000 CCC: \$145,000 Total Award: \$750,000

This funding will support the need for increased funding due to supply chain issues and increases in labor costs. The initial cost of The GRAND Plan project was \$1.3 million. The cost of the GRAND Plan is now \$1.8 million. This difference in project costs is material availability and cost increase; labor price increase due to demand and a 6% inflation cost increase comparing this year to last year. The project completion is anticipated for the end of May with move in June 2022. This request is to fill the project "GAP" and to make a difference to the statistical 10.1 and above number of children per open child care slots available in Floyd County.

UnityPoint Health – St. Luke's – Sioux City (56 new slots)

IICC: \$743,750 CCC: \$250,000 Total Award: \$993,750

UnityPoint Health - St. Luke's will retrofit and furnish current office space into a childcare facility for employees during the first quarter of 2022, with opening planned for the second quarter of 2022. An outdoor area will also be renovated to create a play area for the children.

Wayland Area Childcare Organization – Wayland (49 new spots)

IICC: \$391,500 CCC: \$113,950 Total Award: \$505,450

This project is a new nonprofit childcare facility in an existing building in central Wayland, Iowa which will add 49 new childcare slots in the community. Care will be provided for infants through early childhood. The need for care has been established in the area with previous surveys and a waiting list has already been established for childcare and job opportunities. This will help with the childcare shortage locally as well as bring more jobs to the area and help local businesses retain staff that would be lost due to a loss of childcare options.

Wildcat After and Before Care – Carlisle (71 new spots)

IICC: \$749,952 CCC: \$182,806 Total Award: \$932,758

The project includes both building an addition and retrofitting portions of the existing building to serve 90 additional children (for a total of 180).

Williamsburg Community Child Care Center – Williamsburg (88 new slots)

IICC: \$316,819 CCC: \$90,069 Total Award: \$406,888

Williamsburg Community Child Care (W4C's) is expanding its existing child care operation by opening a second site, located just off I-80. The new site will be a fully renovated, 8,969 sq. ft. facility located at Outlets Williamsburg. The expansion provides an additional 88 child care slots; bringing the total number of children served to 250.

Williamsburg Community School District – Williamsburg (12 new slots)

IICC: \$121,788 CCC: \$30,673 Total Award: \$152,461

Williamsburg Community Schools will establish a childcare center for staff members' children. The district will renovate, repair, and update a 4-bedroom house which they own and has been vacant for four years. The building is across the street from the Junior/Senior High School. The project will partner with the high school's construction club to help with remodeling and the agriculture department to take care of the grounds demo and landscaping. It is a goal of the project to work with Kirkwood Community College to potentially expose students to early childhood care through high school and Kirkwood classes to bolster workforce and enhance career preparation.

TOTALS:
DHS Grant Awards: \$26,194,916
Child Care Challenge Grant Awards: \$9,259,640
Combined Total Awards: \$35,454,556
Investment by Iowans through the Child Care Challenge: \$9,259,640
Total Number of Projects: 103
Number of New Childcare Slots: 4,923*

*New child care slots are based on estimates from applicants and may change upon project completion.