



**AZECA**

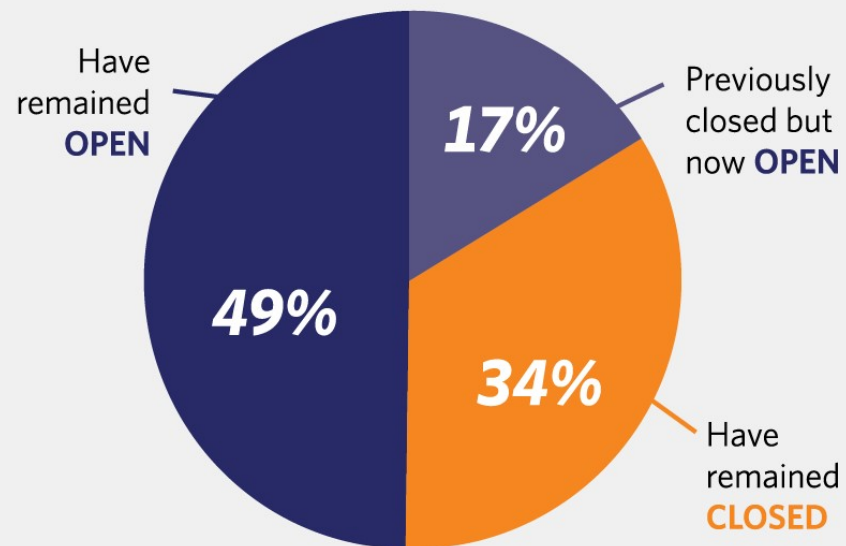
ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD ALLIANCE

Arizona  
Child Care,  
Impacts of  
COVID

**Arizona can't  
get back to  
work without  
child care.**

**1/3**

**of licensed and regulated child care providers  
in Arizona have been forced to close.**



## PROGRAM CLOSURES IN THE U.S.

**18%** of child care centers and  
**9%** of child care homes remained **CLOSED**.

Additional program closures are expected as the crisis continues.

**7%**

JULY

**22% MORE**

SEPTEMBER

**23% MORE**

DECEMBER

**29% MORE**

JUNE 2021

**18%**



Only **18%** of child care programs expect  
that they will survive longer than a year.



**Programs now serving just **38%**  
of the total number of children they  
were prior to COVID-19.**



## **STAFF CONCERNS ABOUT RETURNING TO WORK**

- Potential for getting sick
  - Risk to vulnerable family members
  - Access to PPE
- Meeting health and safety guidelines in my program



## INCREASED MONTHLY COSTS

Increased monthly costs to operate during the pandemic for staff, cleaning supplies and PPE:

**\$500**

Family child  
care home

**\$868**

Small child  
care center

**\$3,136**

Large child  
care center



## BARRIERS TO REOPENING



69%

Parents unwilling /  
unable to bring  
children to the  
program

56%

Lack of / limited  
access to cleaning  
supplies

49%

Insufficient  
financial  
resources

48%

Lack of / limited  
access to PPE

41%

Lack of clarity on  
COVID-19 health  
& safety guidance

35%

Staff unable /  
unwilling to come  
back to work





In Response AZECA created...

## ARIZONA'S COVID-19 CHILD CARE CRISIS:

How lack of child care threatens Arizona's COVID-19 recovery and public policy solutions to consider. Published by the Arizona Early Childhood Alliance (July 2020)

## Policy Recommendations

- 1) Grant DES legislative spending authority of the \$88 million from the CARES Act from the Child Care Development Block Grant with maximum flexibility to allow DES to be responsive to the evolving needs of the child care programs throughout the ongoing crisis.
- 2) Open the DES child care grant application today and revisit the successes of the DES Grant Program in the coming months to determine if another round of targeted relief pay is needed.
- 3) Continue the Enrichment Center and Scholarship Program through the remainder of 2020.
- 4) Continue to reimburse DES child care assistance providers at the January rate through the remainder of 2020.
- 5) Increase the reimbursement rate of providers accepting DES child care assistance to at least 50th percentile of the most recent market rate survey, with a clear plan to achieve the federally mandated 75th percentile in the next few years.
- 6) Waive the payment of the child care licensing renewal fees for every licensed child care renewal for the next three years.
- 7) Ensure additional state and federal funding is appropriated to address the evolving early care and education needs of young children and their families during Arizona's COVID-19 recovery.

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Campaign to  
get the word  
out

- Press Release
- Facebook Campaign
- Twitter
- Email the Governor



IT WORKED!





## Next Steps

- Business Strategy- Morning Scoop mid September
- Continue the Pressure- Enrichment Centers/Emergency Payments
- Watch for Federal Funding
- Continue Collecting Data!!

Questions??

