



REGION 39 SNAPSHOT INFOGRAPHIC

Using a Collective Impact Model, between September 2022 and June 2023, we led our Action and Family Councils through data discussions to identify gaps and needs for children and families.

We coordinated focus groups, interviews, and surveys to gather input from community members across the Region.



9,034

Children Under
the Age of 6
in Region 39



3,636

Children 0-5
at 200% Federal
Poverty Level



1,994

Children 0-5
Without Publicly
Funded ECEC Slots

\$733

Average monthly cost of child care

“My husband and I are foster care parents, but we will no longer accept children that are not school age because of the lack of slots in ECEC. Most centers will not take DCFS vouchers for child care or there is too long of a wait list.”
- Community Member, Macon County

After identifying the most common and pressing Early Childhood Education & Care (ECEC) needs of their communities, Regional Councils made recommendations for how best to meet them.

REGION 39 NEEDS

1. A comprehensive and sustainable strategy to attract, support and retain a high-quality and racially diverse ECEC workforce.
2. Equitable access to high-quality ECEC programs and services.
3. Resources for parents and caregivers to help them advocate for their children's needs and/or inform them about ECEC programs.
4. Better access to Early Intervention (EI) services and screenings.

REGION 39 RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Great Start Wage Supplement compensation raised to match professional wages for other fields.
2. Higher education courses and local training to provide more hands-on techniques for working with children with trauma.
3. Increase EI funding to retain and attract professionals.



**"Day care is so expensive!
It doesn't make sense for me
to work and pay day care."
- Parent, Piatt County**