



REGION 56 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.



43,771

Children Under
the Age of 6
in Region 56



11,640

Children 0-5 at or
below 200%
Federal Poverty Level



8,573

Children 0-5
Without Publicly
Funded ECEC Slots

\$14.15

The approximate hourly wage for an
Early Childhood Education teacher

“As a parent, and a former teacher, you have to make the difficult decision to either send your littles to day care while missing out on crucial mother/child bonding time and pay to be out of the house and work, or stay at home and not be able to contribute to the workforce. The salary doesn’t outweigh the cost of child care in our current economic landscape. It’s a catch-22.”
- Community Member

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 56 NEEDS

1. Full-day ECEC programming that supports working hours and non-traditional employment work schedules
2. Additional investments in recruiting, hiring, retaining, and compensating diversity within the ECEC workforce
3. English as a second language (ESL) programs and services for children and families

REGION 56 RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Create a State-Regional-Community model of partnership
2. Create one state ECEC agency with a unified ECEC data system
3. Full-day ECEC programming
4. ECEC workforce investments
5. Elimination of child care deserts



“We don’t have an enrollment problem, there are tons of kids ready to enroll. We have a staffing problem. We cannot find teachers.”

- Provider