



## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### BIRTH TO FIVE ILLINOIS PARTNERS ON CHILD CARE PROVIDER GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Elevate Will County - Child Care Provider Grant

Birth to Five Illinois is pleased to partner with Will County on the “Elevate Will County – Child Care Provider Grant” and applauds the Board’s commitment to Early Childhood Education and Care. Will County has allocated \$225,000 in grant dollars to support the important work of child care providers in Will County. The grant is funded in the FY2024 budget, utilizing local tax revenue from the Cannabis Sales Tax.

“As the Birth to Five Illinois Regional Council Manager for Will County, I am committed to ensuring families have a voice in determining what is best for their children so policy, funding, and resources better align with true lived experiences”, said Keven Kerr, Birth to Five Illinois: Region 56. “The ‘Elevate Will County - Child Care Provider Grant’ in partnership with Birth to Five Illinois is a prime example of leveraging the needs of families across the county, so children and families get what they deserve. This local investment by the Will County Board will have a direct and immediate impact on our children for years to come.”

The grant opportunity is available to any child care provider licensed by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services serving children from birth to age five in Will County. Additional priority will be given to providers located in Will County’s Restore, Reinvest, and Renew (R3) areas. Applicants can submit multiple applications for grants ranging from \$2,000 to \$10,000 for educational materials, developmental support services, and/or improvements to physical space and technology.

“This is an encouraging example of how conversations around needs raised through Birth to Five Illinois Regional Councils can result in solutions through local investment,” said Angela Hubbard, Grants & Relationship Manager for Birth to Five Illinois.

Applications will be accepted until May 22, 2024. Child care providers can learn more and apply for the grant opportunity by visiting [www.willcountyillinois.org/child-care-grant](http://www.willcountyillinois.org/child-care-grant). Questions can be submitted to Birth to Five Illinois, at [grants@birthtofiveil.com](mailto:grants@birthtofiveil.com) by May 10, 2024.

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### ***About Birth to Five Illinois***

*Birth to Five Illinois’ mission is to create a statewide regional infrastructure that will amplify input from communities in the development of policies and funding priorities. We support the mobilization of communities to build and sustain equitable access to inclusive, high-quality early childhood services for all children and families in the state of Illinois.*