Families Suffer Without Child Care Relief from Congress

Expenses Are Up

70% of child care centers reported incurring substantial, additional costs for staff, cleaning supplies, and personal protective equipment.

Revenues Are Down

49% of child care programs reported, as early as March, a loss in income due to families’ inability to pay tuition.

86% of survey respondents reported serving fewer children than they were prior to the pandemic.

Operating Costs

+ 47%

Average Enrollment

- 67%


Raise Tuition or Close?

If Congress fails to provide the $50 billion in stabilization funding that child care programs across the country need, programs who want to stay open will have no choice but to raise tuition for families. In fact, of the programs who responded to NAEYC’s survey in July:

35% of centers and home-based programs were already in a position where they had to increase tuition and another 28% hadn’t decided yet.

But if families—who are more likely to be unemployed and underemployed due to the pandemic—can’t pay increased tuition, child care programs will have only one option left: permanent closure. Already, 40% of child care programs who responded to NAEYC’s survey are certain they will close without public assistance.

Congress, #SaveChildCare before it’s too late.

“I am trying very hard to be flexible with parents and I really don’t want to raise my child care rates or let certain families go, but without help, this is probably what will happen.” - Child Care Center Director, North Carolina

“Before the pandemic, I already had a hard time making a profit, and that was when I operated at 100% capacity, with a waiting list. Now, I’ve been without half of my income for three months. If this continues, I will need to close my business.” - Family Child Care Home Owner, Illinois

“I am trying not to raise tuition as I know most families are suffering as well, but I just don’t see how we will be able to stay in business without help.” - Child Care Center Director, California

For more data and information on the depth and breadth of the child care crisis, visit naeyc.org/pandemic-surveys or email advocacy@NAEYC.org