



## Governor's Workforce Development Board – Childcare Subcommittee



Jordan Sommaggio  
YMCA of Southern Nevada  
President & CEO  
[jsommaggio@lasvegasyymca.org](mailto:jsommaggio@lasvegasyymca.org)  
(702) 877-7234



### A Brief Economic Case for Childcare



## THE NEED

3 in 4

children ages 0-5 can't access licensed childcare

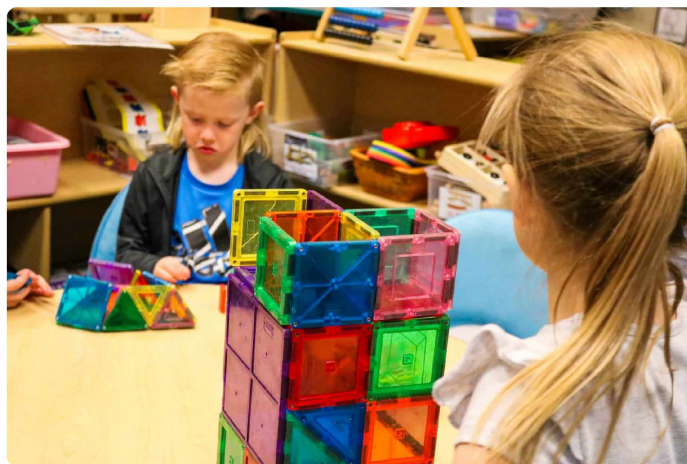
28%

US  
Childcare  
Gap

74%

Nevada  
Childcare  
Gap

88,000+ Kids



# THE ECONOMIC CASE

- 75% of Southern Nevada workers are absent from the workforce due to childcare responsibilities
- Nevada families spend more on childcare relative to their income than families in any other state
- 47% of employers cite Nevada's childcare crisis as the key barrier to hiring/retaining staff
- Nevada loses more than \$1 billion annually in productivity due to the childcare crisis



# EDUCATION & THE ECONOMY

- 90% of a child's brain is developed before they enter kindergarten
- Lack of quality childcare during these critical years sends kids into kindergarten years behind developmentally
- Nevada consistently ranks in the bottom 5 states for education
- Low educational outcomes = greater dependence on low wage jobs and expensive social services



# ▶▶▶▶ CASE STUDY: YMCA

## 35-YEAR LONGITUDINAL STUDY

12+ validated outcomes that break cycles of generational poverty

- 14% higher earnings
- 5x more likely to own a home
- 50% less likely to commit a crime

\$16.14 ROI

- Increased tax activity
- Reduced crime spending
- Decreased welfare spending



# ▶▶▶▶ BARRIERS TO SOLVING THIS CRISIS

- ▶ **Key Barrier:** Funding to Build/Retrofit Facilities
- ▶ Workforce Pay/Shortages
- ▶ Unreasonable Licensing Requirements
- ▶ Uncertain Federal Funding
- ▶ Rising Insurance Costs
- ▶ Flat/Decreasing State Subsidies





**YOU CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE**

