

Westchester Child Care Report Card Challenge



America's Most Convenient Bank®



**Welcome –
Andy Karlen, Esq.
Council Board of
Directors**



**Early childhood
education is the
foundation**



Today's Program

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Child Care Overview

- **NATION**
- **STATE**
- **COUNTY**

2

Westchester Child Care Report Card

- **SUPPLY**
- **AFFORDABILITY**
- **QUALITY**



Human capital will determine power in the current century...large uneducated swaths of the population damage the ability of the US to physically defend itself . . and grow its economy . . .





**Budget deficits
are created in
large part by
deficits in the
skills of our
workforce...**





What do these countries have in common?

Denmark, Sweden, UK, France, Norway, Finland, Iceland, Belgium, Bulgaria, Romania, New Zealand, Israel, Netherlands, Latvia, Hungary, Italy, Mexico, Malta, Lithuania, Slovenia, Spain, Czech Republic, Chile, Germany, Australia, Slovak Republic



**Do we need
child care in
the US?**



Who pays for child care?

- **US parents assume about 60% of child care costs**
 - Australia 31%
 - Norway 20%
 - Sweden 9%
- **\$10 billion of government spending, most of it federal**
 - Federal 25%
 - State and local 15%





What is the quality of child care in the US?



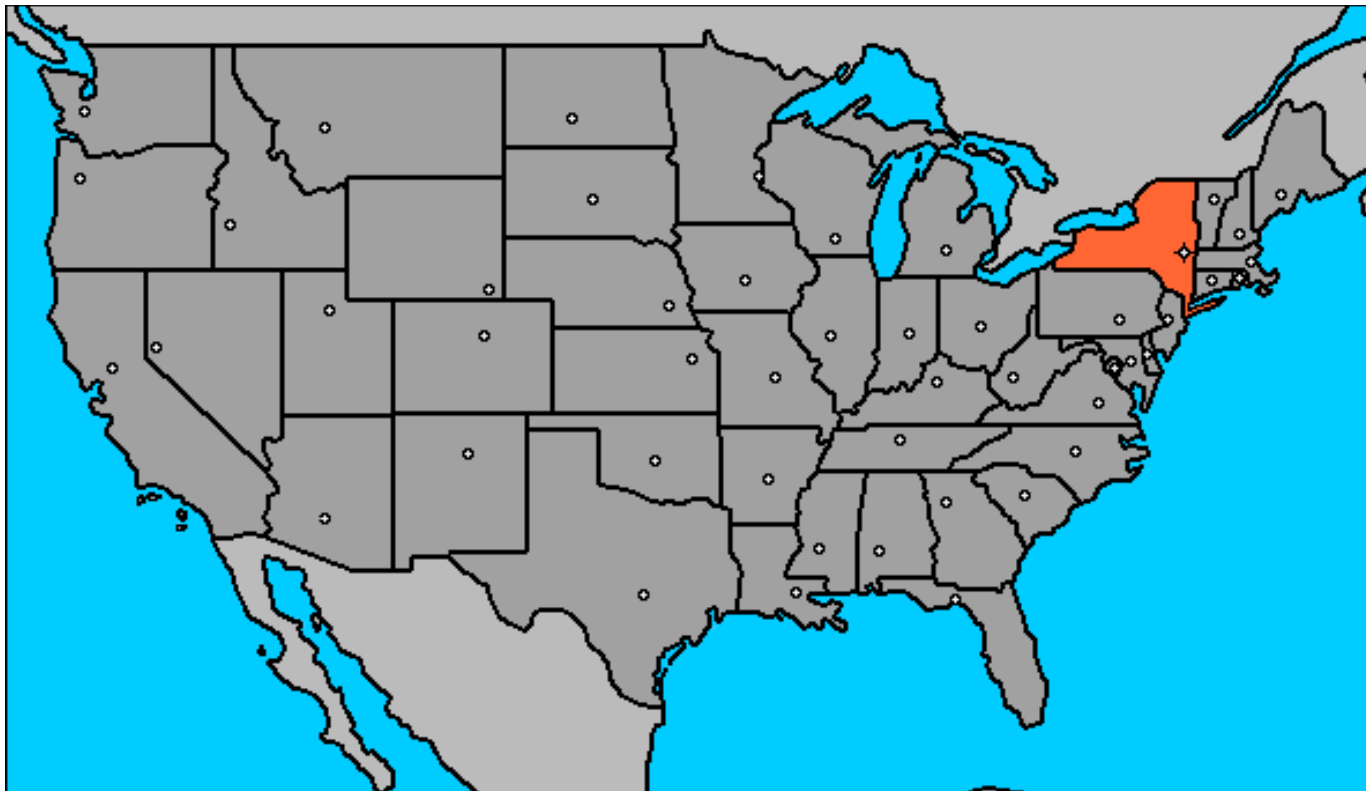


US is not a global leader





How is New York doing?





Do we need child care in NYS?

- **2.8 million children birth to 11**
- **836,469 children under 6 with working parents**
- **593,389 working mothers have children < 6**
- **152,506 working mothers have babies**



How affordable is NYS child care?

- **2nd most expensive state in US**
 - **Infant care \$14,009**
 - **Preschool \$11,585**
 - **School age \$10,962**
- **UPK serves fewer than half the eligible 4s**
- **246,000 children receive subsidies**



**What is the
quality of
child care in
New York?**





How is Westchester doing?

**80% finish high school in 4 years,
but there is dramatic variation by school district**

- 80% pass grade 4 English**
- 82% pass grade 4 math**
- 70% pass grade 8 English**
- 70% pass grade 8 math**



Westchester supply

- **761 regulated child care programs/providers**
- **Up about 100 or 15% in past 5 years**
- **Just under 32,000 “slots”, up 13% since 2008**
- **Infant slots up by 60%; Toddler up 24%**
- **Infant and Toddler slots still about 20% of all slots**



Westchester supply

- **160,700 children birth to 12 need about 80,000 slots of regulated care**
- **32,000 slots = 40% of estimated demand**
- **R&R callers – only 3% could not find child care**
- **High vacancies in existing programs**

“B”



Westchester affordability

- **Westchester at/near top in NY**
- **Mean cost for Center-based**
 - **\$16,848 for Infant -- up 11%**
 - **\$15,444 for Toddler -- up 13%**
 - **\$13,884 for Preschool -- up 53%**
 - **\$6,284 for After School -- up 11%**



Paying the price for child care

- **White Plains household of 3 at \$50,000**
- **Not eligible for Subsidy - over income**



- **40% of gross income for infant**
- **WP families at median income would pay 27%**
- **Family of 3 needs income of \$59,000**



Westchester affordability

- **Previously: Subsidy Program had low family share, high limit for eligibility, help for families re applications and Scholarship Program**
- **Now : financial eligibility cap is lowered, family contribution is up, Scholarship Program gone**

“D”



Westchester quality

- **Fewer nationally accredited programs**
- **Lots of Legally Exempt care**
- **Increased quality improvement activity**
- **QUALITYstarsNY participation robust and growing**

“B-”



Making better grades

- **Reauthorize CCDBG with more \$ and higher standards**
- **Increase NYS subsidy funding for slots**
- **Build NYS quality by funding QUALITYstarsNY at \$20 million**
- **Expand UPK to include all 4 year olds**
- **Invest Westchester \$ to provide broad access to safe, regulated child care**



What can we do?





Make this a movement

- **Ask elected officials to make access to quality child care a priority**
- **Express your support**
 - Write, email, call your representatives
 - Send letters to the paper
 - Testify at budget hearings
- **Get involved with child care programs in your community**
- **Work with the Council**

Thank You!



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