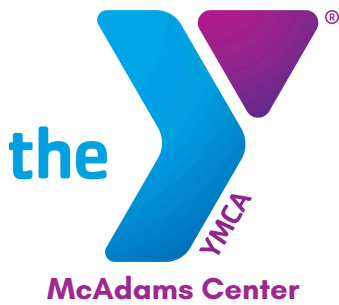


# CHILDCARE PARTNERS

SALINA AREA UNITED WAY

United Way has started the Early Childcare Initiative Fund to help support the childcare workforce by providing grants to supplement the wage gap, to help our current childcare workforce earn a living wage of at least \$15/hr. The fund will also allow our community to open and expand new childcare centers based on the ever-changing Saline County childcare needs, by identifying and applying for potential grant funding. We will also work diligently towards building an endowment of \$10 Million to support the Program for the future workforce.

## EARLY CHILDCARE PARTNERS



# CHILDCARE PARTNERS

SALINA AREA UNITED WAY

## What our Early Childcare Initiative Fund means to childcare centers in our community:

*Love 'N' Learn Early Childhood Center is proud to partner with Salina Area United Way with the Early Childcare Initiative. This grant allows us to meet the call to address the evident childcare shortage in Saline County. With these dollars, the starting salaries for our teachers and assistants have been increased to meet the living wage benchmark. Please join us in expressing our appreciation to the Salina Area United Way and donating to the Early Childcare Initiative Fund.*

- Joel Bicknell | Director of Development at Catholic Diocese of Salina

*This funding will allow our programs to hire and retain quality staff without jeopardizing the workforce in Salina by outpricing parents. I have staff that I asked how it would affect them - they said they would stop looking for other jobs and feel financially safer. Another staff member told me that they would actually be able to make their rent now.*

- Marti Higdon | Senior Director of Childcare at Salina Family YMCA

*Thanks to funding made available by the Salina Area United Way Early Childcare Initiative, Salina Child Care Association is able to provide families with quality early childhood education and will aid in lowering the high school dropout rates in the future.*

- Michelle Williams | Executive Director at Salina Child Care Association

*The Early Childcare Initiative Fund Grant enables MLK Jr. Child Development Center to increase teachers' wages to a competitive level, which will help retain teachers and create stability in the learning environment for our children.*

- Karen Henderson | Executive Director at MLK Jr. Child Development Center

*The Early Childcare Initiative Grant enables us to provide our employees with a livable wage while helping meet a crucial need in the community.*

- Susie Omli | Board Chair at Magnolia Kids Childcare Center