THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES AND MOVING FORWARD

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Women of color make up the majority of California’s early educators

1/2 earn less than $15 an hour

Low-income Black and Latino people face the highest risk of dying from COVID in Calif.

Sources: Center for the Study of Child Care Employment and California Department of Public Health
Early educators are six times more likely than K–12 teachers to live in poverty.

Source: Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, “California Child Care in Crisis: The escalating impacts of COVID-19 as California reopens child care”
Marin County is one of the wealthiest counties in the US. Yet among surveyed center-based early educators:

- 75% worried about paying their families’ monthly bills
- 71% worried about paying housing costs
- 62% worried about paying for routine health care costs
- 39% worried about having enough food for their families

Source: "Marin County Center-Based Early Care & Education Workforce Study" (2020)
cscec.berkeley.edu

Teachers of color earned $2.95 per hour less than their White peers: $6,136 less per year.

Source: Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, “California Child Care in Crisis: The escalating impacts of COVID-19 as California reopens child care”
A July 2020 survey of California child care providers found that:

80% of open programs reported that they are open because they lack the financial resources to survive a closure.

1 in 5 had already missed a rent or mortgage payment for their program.

Source: Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, “California Child Care in Crisis: The escalating impacts of COVID-19 as California reopens child care”
“The pressure from the community to open is extreme, and there seems to be very little concern on the part of the parents for the health of the staff and/or the older members of their own families.”

— California child care provider, July 2020

Source: Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, “California Child Care in Crisis: The escalating impacts of COVID-19 as California reopens child care”
What is the role of philanthropy in constructing alternative ways to realize an ECE system that is effective and equitable for early educators and the children they care for and teach?

Sources: Center for the Study of Child Care Employment and California Department of Public Health