

CHILD CARE BUSINESS ASSISTANCE DIRECTORY



*Support for child care businesses in the East Central Minnesota counties of
Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs and Pine*

Updated 2.1.2023



EAST CENTRAL
Regional Development Commission

CHILD CARE IN EAST CENTRAL MINNESOTA

To understand the need and shortages regarding child care in the East Central region of Minnesota, an in-depth Supply and Demand Gap Analysis including community surveys, research into state/county statistics and other information was conducted.

The analysis revealed child care shortages range from 350 to 1500 'needed child slots' (openings) across the region indicating families have a lack of child care options and, due to a number of reasons, it is very difficult to be a child care provider heavily influencing the ability of providers to sustain their operations. Also revealed, child care shortages severely impact local workforce and employers in the region.

To combat these challenges and identify potential solutions, Child Care Strategic Supply Plan Committees have been formed in each of the following counties—Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs and Pine. These committees are working diligently to identify potential solutions that will assist in increasing child care options and slots for their communities, as well as support existing providers. Please reach out to these community committees for information and/or support.

Child Care Strategic Supply Plan Committees

Chisago County	Nancy Hoffman	Nancy@chisagocounty.org 651.674.5664
Isanti County	Lowell Becker	LBecker616@aol.com
Kanabec County	Kirstin Faurie	K.Faurie@cityofmora.com 320.679.6357
Mille Lacs County	Lainy Hoskins	Lainy.Hoskins@millelacs.mn.gov 320.983.8349
Pine County	Lezlie Sauter	Lezlie.Sauter@co.pine.mn.us 320.591.0019

County Child Care Licensors

Chisago County	Lanay Miller	Lanay.Miller@chisagocountymn.gov 651.213.5218
Isanti County	Jennifer Darling	Jennifer.Darling@co.isanti.mn.us 763.689.1711
Kanabec County	Danielle Linkert	Danielle.Linkert@co.kanabec.mn.us 320.679.6350
Mille Lacs County	Makayla Wilcox	Makayla.Wilcox@millelacs.mn.gov 320-241.9133
Pine County	Nikki Wiener	Nikki.Wiener@co.pine.mn.us 320.591.1614

East Central Regional Development Commission

Economic/Community Planner	Michelle Thomas	Michelle.Thomas@ecrdc.org 320.679.4065/612.390.0370
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Business Assistance

Resources for child care providers and businesses from training, operations, financial understanding, profitability, growth, marketing, and much more.

First Children's Finance

Providing mentorship, training and financing to child care businesses. Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Cty.s.
111 N 3rd Ave #220, Minneapolis, MN 55401
507.218.2265
firstchildrensfinance.org
Shelly Kunz: ShellyK@firstchildrensfinance.org

Child Care Startup and Retention Navigator

Parent Aware/Child Care Aware

A one-stop navigation network for starting and supporting child care programs. Their goal is to help improve, support, and celebrate child care programs.
Pine Technical & Community College
900 4th St SE, Pine City, MN 55063
320.227.3069
pine.edu
Tara Hallberg: Tara.Hallberg@Pine.edu/320.318.1855

MN Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

Assistance with business plans, securing financing, financial statements, marketing and more.
mn.gov/deed/business/help/sbdc
Chisago County: Nancy Hoffman 651.674.5664
Kanabec County: Jim Hartshorn 320.209.5031
Isanti, Mille Lacs, Pine Cty.s: Tom Willett 763.691-8585

Pine Technical & Community College

Child care education and Parent Aware Program.
Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Counties
900 4th St SE, Pine City, MN 55063
320.227.3069
pine.edu
Tiffany Sullivan: Tiffany.Sullivan@pine.edu

Anoka Ramsey Community College

Cambridge Campus

Customized training & continuing education.
Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Counties
300 Spirit River Drive S, Cambridge, MN 55008
763.433.1100
anokaramsey.edu

Women's Business Alliance

Resources for female entrepreneurs.
Serving Kanabec, Mille Lacs & Pine Counties
309 1st Street NE, Suite 103, Little Falls, MN 55345
218.735.6033
efund.org
Sandy Voigt: sandyv@efund.org/218.735.6033

WomenVenture

Training, classes and loans for female entrepreneurs.
Chisago and Isanti Counties
165 Western Ave N, Ste 8, Office #100, St. Paul, MN 55102
612.224.9540
womenventure.org
Deb Brown: DBrown@womenventure.org
LeeAnn Rasachak: LRasachak@womenventure.org

Entrepreneur Fund

Offering business advising, classes and other technical support. Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Counties.
202 W. Superior St, Ste 311, Duluth, MN 55802
218.623.5747
efund.org

Bunker Labs

501(c)(3) network of veteran entrepreneurs dedicated to helping veterans start their own businesses.
Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Counties
400 S. 4th Street #401, Minneapolis, MN 55415
612.836.3710
bunkerlabs.org

Central Minnesota Jobs & Training Services, Inc. (CMJTS)

Connect with qualified workers, employee training and business resources. Partners in Minnesota WorkForce.
Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Counties.
Mora: 903 Forest Ave E / 320.679.6488
Cambridge: 140 Buchanan St S. Ste 152 / 763.279.4492
cmjts.org
Rebecca Perrotti: rperrotti@cmjts.org/612.247.9319

SCORE Twin Cities

Classes and one-on-one mentorship counseling to businesses and entrepreneurs.
Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Counties
2021 E Hennepin Ave Ste 220, Minneapolis, MN 55413
952.938.4570
score.org/twincities

Legal Corps

Free or reduced cost one-on-one transactional business legal services for entrepreneurs, inventors, small business and nonprofit organizations.
Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Counties
1000 LaSalle Ave. SCH 317, Minneapolis, MN 55403
612.206.0780
legalcorps.org

Child Care Business Lenders

East Central Regional Development Commission

Providing gap financing to local businesses.
Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Counties
100 Park Street South
Mora, MN 55051
(320) 679-4065
ecrdc.org
Michelle Thomas: Michelle.Thomas@ecrdc.org

First Children's Finance

Providing financing to child care businesses.
Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Counties
111 N 3rd Ave #220
Minneapolis, MN 55401
507.829.9920
firstchildrensfinance.org
Mark Hanson: MarkH@firstchildrensfinance.org

Women's Business Alliance

Financing for female-owned businesses.
Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Counties
309 1st Street NE, Suite 103, Little Falls, MN 55345
(218) 735-6033
efund.org
Sandy Voigt: SandyV@efund.org/218.735.6033

Initiative Foundation

Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Counties
405 1st St SE
Little Falls, MN 56345
(320) 632-9255
www.ifound.org
Dan Bullert: DBullert@ifound.org

WomenVenture

Financing for female-owned businesses.
Chisago & Isanti Counties
165 Western Ave N, Suite 8, Office #100, St. Paul, MN 55102
612.224.9540
womenventure.org
Deb Brown: DBrown@womenventure.org
LeeAnn Rasachak: LRasachak@womenventure.org

Entrepreneur Fund

Providing financing to childcare businesses.
Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Counties
202 W. Superior Street
Suite 311
Duluth, MN 55802
(218) 623-5747
efund.org

US Small Business Administration (SBA)

Offering a variety of business financing programs.
Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine Counties
330 2nd Ave S #430, Minneapolis, MN 55403
(612) 370-2324
sba.gov/mn

East Central Minnesota Cities and Counties

Please check with your city and county for child care programs, loans and grants. Each entity operates independently and many offer one-time and/or continuous child care provider assistance such as the waiving of license fees, business expense reimbursements, etc. See page 2 for county licensor contact information for assistance.