

**Child Care Grants  
Report to the Economic Impact Committee  
November 18, 2013**

Mr. Chairman, members of the Economic Impact Committee, my name is Wayde Sick and I am the Workforce Talent and Project Coordinator at the North Dakota Department of Commerce. I'm here today to provide an update on the Child Care Grants established by 2013 Senate Bill 2014.

SB 2014 appropriated \$2.6 million to child care facilities in order to increase child care capacity in the state.

Guidance for grant applications, awards, and administration was developed quickly and with significant input from North Dakota Child Care Aware (formerly North Dakota Child Care Resource and Referral) and the North Dakota Department of Human Services, Early Childhood Services. The maximum grant amount for the biennium was \$187,500 per facility, which was set by SB 2014. The bill also required a matching requirement of one dollar of matching funds for every three dollars of grant funds.

The Department of Commerce accepted grant applications between July 1, 2013 and August 30, 2013. Applications were reviewed and awards were announced in September 2013. The full \$2.6 million has been obligated.

In order to make grant approvals a collaborative effort, Commerce is requiring the applicant to request a letter from DHS Early Childhood Service Regional Supervisor confirming a strong history of compliance or support of future licensure. Commerce is also encouraging applicants to use services provided by ND Child Care Aware as they complete their applications and business plans. Priority was given to facilities that were increasing infant and toddler capacity and in communities with the greatest need, especially those with a child care deficiency of 0-34% as defined by Child Care Aware.

The Department of Commerce intended on having 2 grant rounds. The first round was to be held in July/August and the second to be set for early 2014 with \$1.3 million available in each round. Due to the volume of quality applications, it was decided to not accept any additional applications, and to obligate funds to the submitted applications.

We received 78 applications totaling \$4,952,346 million in requests with total project costs at \$15,866,307. We will be able to fund 22 projects. Approved projects are as follows:

- Good Samaritan Hospital – Rugby - \$187,500
- The Corcoran School – Minot - \$187,500
- Milnor Daycare – Milnor - \$187,500
- Bottineau EDC – Bottineau - \$187,500
- Kinder Kidz Learning Center – Dickinson - \$171,040
- Small Steps – Carrington – \$15,024
- Little Lambs Learning Center – Mandan – \$143,372
- Lil' Hawks Daycare – Hettinger - \$60,000
- Caterpillar Village – Kenmare - \$10,005
- Kids town House – Cavalier - \$10,278
- Ragamuffins Ranch – Stanley - \$121,517
- City of Edgeley – Edgeley - \$187,500
- Main Discovery – Hillsboro – \$148,208
- City of Crosby – Crosby – \$187,500
- Little Rocks Daycare – Tioga - \$171,753
- City of Gwinner – Gwinner - \$187,500
- KidQuarters – Velva - \$45,000
- New Door Daycare – New Salem - \$79,923
- Little Einsteins – Bismarck - \$187,500
- Fettig Daycare – Napoleon - \$14,141
- Mini Miracles – Dickinson - \$41,094
- Discovery Child Care – Casselton - \$68,645

With these funds, the above facilities will be able to increase Child Care capacity by a total of 1,100 slots.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my update. I am happy to answer questions about progress to date or the summary of grant awards.