

Franklin County

THE CHALLENGE

In Franklin County, **75% OF INFANTS** (BIRTH TO 2 YEARS OLD) likely to need care don't have access to any regulated child care. And **83% OF TODDLERS** (2-3 YEARS OLD) likely to need care don't have access to a high-quality program.

OUR PROGRESS

Thanks to generous supporters like you, Let's Grow Kids has partnered with Vermonters to create **121 new child care spaces** and improve the quality of **52 spaces**.

And **698 people** in Franklin County from all walks of life have joined together to support our shared movement.

Since 2018, you've helped Let's Grow Kids invest **\$2.14 million** in Franklin County to build a child care system that works for children and families, early educators, and communities.

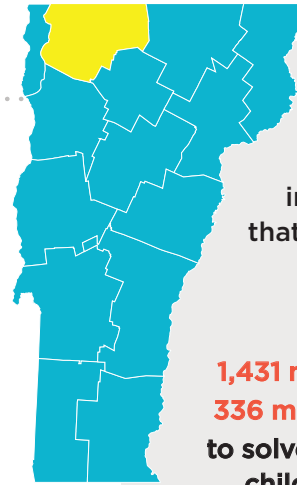
But there's more work to do.

Through 2025, we'll invest another **\$3.47 million** to solve the child care crisis for all Franklin County children, forever.

AND YOU CAN HELP! Join the movement by adding your name, making a gift, or volunteering at www.letsgrowkids.org.



PHOTOS: GEORGIA'S NEXT GENERATION, GEORGIA, VT

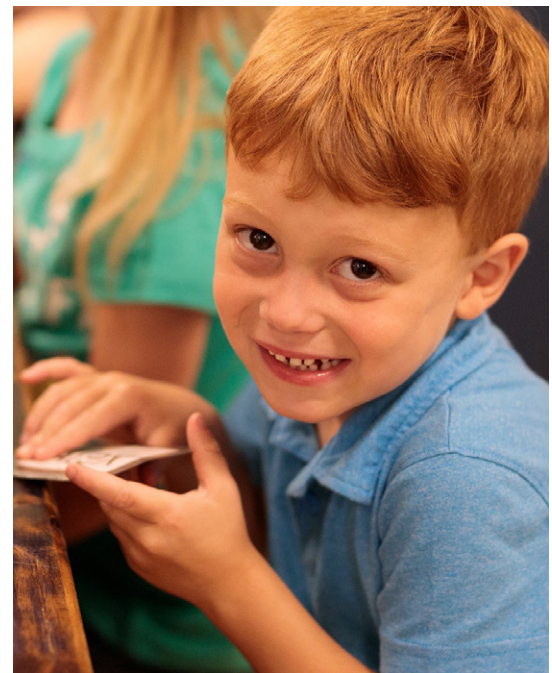


FRANKLIN COUNTY HAS

802 child care spaces for children under 5 in 81 child care programs that offer full-time, full-year child care (as of 2019).

FRANKLIN COUNTY NEEDS

1,431 more child care spaces & 336 more lead early educators to solve the child care crisis for children birth to 5 years old.



WHAT IS A CHILD CARE SPACE?

A child care "space" refers to a place for a child in a child care program. Let's Grow Kids uses "spaces" to track the availability of child care.

Not every family needs child care for a full week, so some spaces are shared between families who use part-time child care.

READ FULL REPORTS ON THE SUPPLY OF AND DEMAND FOR CHILD CARE IN VERMONT AT:
letsgrowkids.org/resources-publications#SAS

THANKS TO SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU...

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Georgia's Next Generation

GEORGIA, VT

Sara LeBlanc, an experienced early educator, started dreaming about creating Georgia's Next Generation—a child care center to serve her Georgia, VT community—in March 2018.

For several months, Sara and her husband David worked tirelessly to make her dream into a reality: they found and rented a former pizza shop on a busy commuter road and transformed it into a high-quality child care for eight infants and 10 preschoolers.

But the need in Franklin County was greater than Sara could provide. **“On average, we see 4-5 inquiries a day,” she says.**

Sara worked with Jen Severance, a Let's Grow Kids staff member, to expand her child care program. Together, they created a plan to add 24 new child care spaces.

In addition to Jen's technical assistance, Sara and Georgia's Next Generation received a grant of \$27,000 from Let's Grow Kids to help fund their expansion.

Today, Georgia's Next Generation's 42 child care spaces are full, and the program still has a waitlist. So, Sara has continued to work with Let's Grow Kids staff to get support and startup funds to open two additional child care programs, with a fourth center opening in a few months. Sara is building in business efficiencies to save time and money and communicate with parents, all while providing high-quality child care.

Now, Sara's daughter is following in her footsteps, pursuing a degree in early childhood, supported by a Let's Grow Kids scholarship. Says Tatianna, **“Surprisingly, my mom provided me the answer to the career path I would follow. I didn't realize it, but I was discovering my life direction.”**



PHOTOS: GEORGIA'S NEXT GENERATION, GEORGIA, VT

CHILD CARE IS GOOD BUSINESS

At **Runamok Maple** in Fairfax, owners Eric and Laura Sorkin understand that Vermont doesn't work without child care.

Alongside Let's Grow Kids staff and human resources experts, Runamok Maple created innovative supports for their employees' child care needs. With support from their company, Runamok Maple's parent employees can show up knowing their kids are learning and growing while they work to support their families.



With this grant, I was able to create two new child care businesses and hire seven staff. Helping people find their passion and fulfill their full potential is not just our philosophy for the children in our care, it applies to our staff, too. Thank you!



HEATHER GARCEAU | Director
Almond Blossoms Schoolhouse

The Whole Picture

THE CURRENT STATUS OF CHILD CARE ACCESS FOR:

INFANTS (BIRTH TO 2 YEARS OLD)

- » **75% of infants likely to need care** don't have access to any regulated programs.
- » **92% of infants likely to need care** don't have access to high-quality (4- or 5-star) programs.

TODDLERS (2-3 YEARS OLD)

- » **53% of toddlers likely to need care** don't have access to any regulated programs.
- » **83% of toddlers likely to need care** don't have access to high-quality (4- or 5-star) programs.

PRESCHOOLERS (3-4 YEARS OLD)

- » **59% of preschoolers likely to need care** don't have access to any regulated programs.*
- » **78% of preschoolers likely to need care** don't have access to high-quality (4- or 5-star) programs.*

*Preschool child care data does not include universal pre-K.

FRANKLIN COUNTY CHILDREN LIKELY TO NEED CHILD CARE:

857 Infants
453 Toddlers
923 Preschoolers

THE NUMBERS GAP

Child care spaces needed to solve the child care crisis:

- 647 for Infants
- 242 for Toddlers
- 542 for Preschoolers

Program hours of operation:

- First program opens: 5:30 AM
- Most programs open: 7:00 AM
- Most programs close: 5:30 PM
- Last program closes: 11:59 PM

Additional early childhood educators needed to join the workforce:

336 Lead Early Educators



PHOTO: GEORGIA'S NEXT GENERATION, GEORGIA, VT

READ FULL REPORTS ON
CHILD CARE ACCESS AND AVAILABILITY,
PLUS WORKFORCE DEMAND, AT:

letsgrowkids.org/resources-publications#SAS

JOIN THE MOVEMENT!

Share your story, make a donation, sign our petition,
become a volunteer, and get involved at

www.letsgrowkids.org