## **Childcare Program for Essential Workers**

Dear HSD Staff.

There still are open slots available for Hillsboro School District staff in the Champions Childcare Program for school-aged children. Champions will support online learning and distance learning (following the HSD CDL schedule), while providing full-day care for children attending the program. <u>Please continue to read the information below to learn about financial assistance that may be avialable to you!</u>

The program is open to <u>ALL</u> Hillsboro School District staff. Click <u>HERE</u> to find a Champions program and to sign-up. Click <u>HERE</u> for program schedule information.

## **Champions Program Overview:**

- **Age:** 5-12 (Kindergarten 7<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- **Time:** 7:30 am 5:30 pm, Monday Friday
- **Cost:** Approximately \$40-\$50/Day\* There is a 10% sibling discount
- **Location:** Different locations in Hillsboro, Beaverton, and the greater Portland metro area. Locations in Hillsboro are pending license approval and include at this time:
  - o Hillsboro Community Senior Center
  - o River House at Rood Bridge Park

#### \* Financial Assistance:

The <u>Employment-Related Day Care program (ERDC)</u> helps eligible families pay for child care while they are working.

\*\*\* If you are denied ERDC benefits please keep the letter denying benefits. Families denied ERDC benefits may be eligible for scholarships through Champions and there may also be additional financial assistance for families up to 300% of the Poverty level through pandemic related grant funds.

- <u>Parent Brochure</u> Explains Child Care Assistance through the DHS Employment Related Day Care Program (ERDC).
- Parent Flyer Explains the benefits of using a childcare provider who is already listed with DHS

**Important ERDC Subsidy Update:** The <u>Department of Human Services</u> made the following changes to child care assistance to help support families and child care providers during the state of emergency related to the virus that causes COVID-19. Click <u>HERE</u> for the full list of changes.

- Copays have been reduced to \$0.00 through families' current certification periods
- The income limit has increased for initial eligibility and now is the same as the ongoing and exit income limit:

ERDC Ongoing and Exit Income Limits	
Number in ERDC Group	Gross Income Limit
2	\$4,012
3	\$4,956
4	\$5,899
5	\$6,843
6	\$7,787
7	\$8,259
8 or more	\$9,192

### **Other Resources:**

**Dependent Care**: Dependent Care allows employees to pay for qualifying out-of-pocket, dependent care expenses with pre-tax dollars through employer payroll deductions. Contributions to your dependent care come out of your paycheck before any taxes are taken out. This means that you don't pay federal income tax, Social Security taxes, State or local income taxes on the portion of your paycheck you contribute to your dependent care. A Dependent Care is used to reimburse expenses related to the care of eligible dependents while you and your spouse work. The maximum that you can contribute to Dependent Care in 2020 is \$5,000, if you are a single employee or married filing jointly, or \$2,500 if you are married and filing separately. Contributions can be changed throughout the year as your needs change.

# **Additional Childcare Options**

Please reference the attached <u>childcare flyer</u> that covers a variety of options. Note, the 2-1-1 system can connect families to infant/toddler, preschool aged and childcare for children 0 to 12 years.

Please note, <u>HSD is neither sponsoring nor guaranteeing childcare for employees</u>. These resources are offered in collaboration with community partners and are intended to help families of employees get connected with the care that works for them.

Please review the attached flyer and the information below. Simply follow the instructions to make contact with the appropriate agency.

If you have questions, please contact Kelly Purdy <a href="mailto:purdyk@hsd.k12.or.us">purdyk@hsd.k12.or.us</a>

Thank you for your service and for all you do for the Hillsboro Community.