

# Investing in Ketchikan Child Care

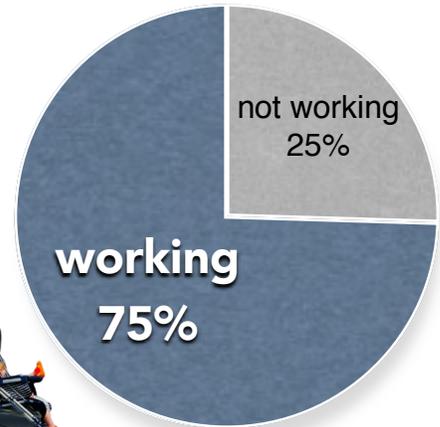
## Employer Sponsored Child Care is Good for Business

In Ketchikan, parents of young children usually need to work, but for Ketchikan's **1,070 kids under six**, there are only **186 licensed child care slots**. This critical shortage impacts local businesses as well as families, and acts as an economic development barrier for the community as a whole. An effective solution is employer sponsored child care, which has been shown to have the following benefits:

- Lowered Absenteeism
- Increased Productivity
- Reduced Turnover
- Boosts Recruitment
- Tax Advantages



**Ketchikan Parents with Kids Under 6<sup>1</sup>**



**85 percent** of working US parents say they would forego higher paying jobs, vacation time, or medical benefits in order to secure reliable child care.<sup>2</sup>

### How You Can Help

**Let AEYC or Thread know if your business is interested in collaboration.** Since Ketchikan's child care shortage impacts so many businesses, employers can work together to develop a single child care center. AEYC is prepared to assist a coalition, partnership, or single employer in developing a priority enrollment child care program. Bright Horizons, a high quality national firm already serving Alaska, is highly interested in operating a child care program in Southeast Alaska, and has experience working with business coalitions.

**Help us find a location.** In order for a business to sponsor a child care center for their employees, we need to be able to offer a nice, conveniently located, subsidized or donated space. **If you know a good option, please contact AEYC in Juneau at 789-1235.**

#### Specific Building Needs



<sup>1</sup> US Census 2012 (Table B23008). <sup>2</sup> Bright Horizons Modern Family Index 2014.