

For Immediate Release

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## **Wisconsin's Child Care Administrators Support Governor's Plan for Spending Additional CCDBG Funds**

Saying that additional funding is desperately needed to sustain the child care industry in Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Child Care Administrators Association (WCCAA) today expressed support for Governor Evers' plan to spend additional child care funds provided in the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021. Wisconsin received approximately \$149 million in Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funds under the legislation.

"DCF Secretary Amundson and her team have been very willing work with us and listen to our concerns," said Joan Beck, WCCAA President and Administrator of Willows Christian Child Care in Dodge County. "We thank them for their hard work on this plan. We hope the money can get out into the field as soon as possible."

"WCCAA's top priority has been more assistance to help us better pay and retain our dedicated and hard-working staff," Beck continued. "While more still needs to be done, this plan is an important step in the right direction."

The plan submitted today covers Phase One, through June 30,2021. It provides \$106 million in two rounds of funding for the Child Care Counts program, including \$60 million in the spring and \$46 million in the summer. Funds support open providers for quality program and staff, as well as temporarily closed providers who are providing support services to children and families. It also provides \$10 million to invest in workforce recruitment and retention and \$5.5 million to create and expand shared services networks.

Phase Two will provide additional funding to incentivize private sector partnerships and invest in workforce training and communications.

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