



City of Milpitas

455 E. Calaveras Blvd. Milpitas, CA 95035

www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov

Contact:

Charmaine Angelo, Public Information Officer

cangelo@ci.milpitas.ca.gov

408-906-9603

City of Milpitas Launches Childcare Assistance Programs to Provide Relief to Local Families

Milpitas, CA – April 20, 2022 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On March 15, the Milpitas City Council voted to more than double the amount of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding it had previously intended to assist low and median-income families with the high cost of childcare. When the new Childcare Subsidy program launches on April 11, it will provide more than \$300,000 in childcare subsidies to qualified Milpitas families. The new Childcare Subsidy program will provide subsidies to assist Milpitas families in paying for licensed childcare for their children ages 0 to 12.

With the average cost for full-time daycare for a toddler at more than \$1,200 a month, even median income families can find childcare costs a hardship.

"We know families in Milpitas are struggling to recover financially, so we are glad to be able to fulfill Milpitas City Council's vision and provide relief to Milpitas families, using some of Milpitas' ARPA funding," said Mayor Rich Tran.

Each qualified family will be eligible for childcare subsidies dependent upon their income level and the program covers up to 75% of their childcare costs, with a cap on City funding not to exceed \$3,000. Money will be paid directly to the family's licensed childcare provider, after the provider submits attendance records for the preceding month.

Families wishing to participate must be income-qualified through the City's existing Milpitas Assistance Program (MAP). After establishing income-qualification, families will fill out a short application for the program and receive paperwork to be completed by their childcare provider. Once a family is accepted into the program, they and their childcare provider will receive confirmation. Funding assistance will be available starting with April 2022 childcare bills, with funds payable to childcare providers in May. For full program details and to get qualified online visit www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/MAP.

The City Council also approved \$1,500,000 to be distributed as relief funds for small businesses and

have prioritized childcare providers to be beneficiaries of ARPA funding. If an eligible commercial or home-based childcare provider applied for grant funding, their application would skip the lottery process and automatically receive a \$5,000 grant. Grants may be used for business rent/mortgage, payroll, and operating expenses for products or services. Out of the total 371 grant applications received, 42 applicants are childcare providers (11.3%). There are an estimated 90 commercial and home-based childcare providers in Milpitas. In this case, the ARPA Small Business Assistance Grant Program would provide relief to approximately 47% of childcare providers within city limits. The City made a special effort to conduct outreach to home-based childcare providers by partnering with First 5 Santa Clara County through their QUALITY MATTERS program to encourage additional grant applications. Additionally, a technical assistance webinar with Live Stories was held on March 22nd to assist home-based childcare providers with submitting their respective grant applications.

Vice Mayor Carmen Montano said, "By providing resources to improve access to childcare, we are providing some relief to Milpitas families who are paying costly childcare bills, sending their children to low-quality care centers or missing work and leaving employment to provide care."

If you have questions about the Childcare Subsidy Program, please send an email to map@ci.milpitas.ca.gov or call (408) 586-3406.

If you have questions about the Milpitas Small Business Assistance Grant Program, please call the Office of Economic Development at (408) 586-3047 or send an email to BusinessAssistance@ci.milpitas.ca.gov.

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About the City of Milpitas

Located at the southern end of San Francisco Bay, Milpitas is a progressive community that is an integral part of Silicon Valley. A full-service city with water utility, sewer utility, police and fire services, Milpitas celebrates a diverse population of 80,273. Under a Council-Manager form of government, the City Council has established the following seven priority areas of service and policy: public safety, environment, transportation and transit, economic development and job growth, neighborhoods and housing, community wellness and open space, and governance and administration. For more information, visit: www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov

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