



2021 Advocacy & Accomplishments

1. Advocating for the Department of Human Services to comply with federal guidelines regarding the funding allocated from the federal American Rescue Plan. The guidelines require that states make family child care providers and small centers a priority, even suggesting they are allowed to apply for grants before any other child care entities. It also states that the grants should be substantial amounts to ensure that child care is viable during and after the pandemic. DHS has failed to follow those guidelines. MACCP researched the federal guidelines, spoke to state lawmakers, members of the Children's Cabinet, and DHS, testified in Senate hearings, and contacted the federal Office of Child Care to advocate for family child care providers.
2. Testified and advocated for our profession about several child care bills:
 - Administrative Law Judge Ruling ([SF517](#)): bill failed. This bill would have made the judge's ruling final when a provider requests a reconsideration with an administrative law judge. DHS can currently go against that ruling.
 - Ombudsperson ([SF21](#)): bill passed. This will be a third party intended to help providers resolve issues with DHS.
 - Homeowner Insurance ([SF150](#)): MACCP bill; bill failed. This would have prohibited insurance companies from reducing limits, cancelling policies, or charging a different rate for homeowners' insurance if a child care provider has a separate business liability policy.
 - Family Child Care Modernization ([SF269](#)): bill passed. This bill will go through Rule and Statute to remove redundant language and modernize licensing standards. This should be a positive change for child care. However, we will continue to voice our concerns over the

implementation by DHS as that will be the key to this being a positive or negative change for family child care.

- Family Child Care Task Force bill ([SF1762](#)): portions of the bill passed.
 1. Trainer credits: passed. This will give a provider who is also a trainer the ability to receive credit for up to 2 hours of their training in KCF Content Area VII. MACCP had requested at least 6 hours of credit and allowing those credits to come from any of the required trainings presented.
 2. Adult Helper: failed. MACCP provision. This would have changed the definition of a helper (for whom trainings aren't required) to include an adult "who cares for children exclusively under the direct supervision of the license holder."
- Property Tax Credit ([SF2334](#)): bill failed. This bill would have given a property tax credit to all family child care providers actively providing care.
- 3. Participated in all virtual meetings with the Department of Human Services and the Children's Cabinet for child care stakeholders throughout 2020-2021.
- 4. Currently participating in the Great Start for Family Child Care Task Force.

Child Care Professionals



2016 – 2019

Legislative Accomplishments

2016

MACCP focused on pushing back on funding for universal preschool/voluntary PreK and opposing the family child care union election, which failed 1014 to 392.

2017

HHS Omnibus – Changing the annual training requirements so they are due during a provider’s licensing year instead of within the same month it was last taken. MACCP had requested this for all trainings, not only annual ones.

2018

SF2683 (MACCP Bill) - Modifying background study provisions to repeal the fingerprinting of a providers’ minor children, unless they have lived outside of MN in the last 5 years.

SF3310 (MACCP Bill)- Eliminating the requirement for family child care providers to give parents/guardians an annual notice of liability insurance.

2019

SF 1030/HF 1801 – Starting the process to codify Rule 2 (9502) into statute.

SF 887 – Exempting emergency substitutes from training requirements.

SF 1034/HF 1685 (MACCP Bill) – Increasing the time allowed to use a substitute to 500 hours.

SF 886/HF 2047 – Requiring a county licenser to seek clarification from DHS when the licenser and provider have a dispute over the interpretation of a licensing requirement.

SF 882/HF 1926 (MACCP Bill) – Clarifying that family members do NOT need training to take care of their own/related children during daycare hours, including in unlicensed areas indoors or outside. It also exempts individuals who have no unsupervised contact with daycare children from a background study, except for household members.

SF 980/HF 2049 (MACCP Bill) – Prohibiting counties from requiring current licensed providers who move into the county to go through additional classes or orientations meant for NEW providers.

HHS Omnibus (MACCP provision) 1— Streamlining and eliminating unnecessary paperwork by allowing forms to be transmitted and stored electronically.

SF 978/HF 1925 (MACCP Bill) – Removing the ability to issue a correction order not discussed during the exit interview unless the provider chooses to not participate in the exit interview.

SF982/HF 1924 – Removing the requirement to give a copy of the Emergency Plan to families in care or posting in a prominent location.

2020

1. All trainings that are required on a two-year and five-year schedule are now allowed to be completed during a provider's licensing year to align with all other required trainings. This was an MACCP bill.
2. The date when Early Learning Scholarships can only be used in programs with Three-or Four-Star Ratings was extended to July 1, 2024 (from a previous July 1, 2020 deadline). This means that providers who have any rating with Parent Aware can still accept ELS until June 30, 2024. MACCP has advocated for this change for more than two years.
3. Actively participated and advocated for licensed family child care providers through more than 26 Family Child Care Task Force and workgroup meetings and led one of the workgroups.
4. Participated in and advocated against detrimental changes and supported positive ones in the Safe Sleep Workgroup.
5. Requested help from Governor Walz and Legislators on March 20.
Our requests included:
 - **Creation of a child care provider support fund/grants** to cover the loss of income providers will experience during a COVID-19 related closure and reduced income.
 - **Prioritized COVID-19 testing** in any situation where a provider would otherwise have to self-isolate due to symptoms or exposure.
 - **Direction to the Minnesota Department of Health** to work with us in developing any additional guidelines and criteria so we may implement best practices for exclusion of ill or potentially ill children, self-isolation, and other policies to reduce the virus' spread.
 - **Direction to the Minnesota Department of Human Services** to work with us to develop temporary waivers for training, fingerprinting, and drop-in enrollment paperwork, emergency variances to exceed ratios, and extended deadlines for requirements that are more difficult to meet under these circumstances.

- **Exemption and relief from food and supply limitations and shortages** so we are able to properly care for the children in our care and meet licensing standards.
 - **Ensure that CCAP and ELS payments continue** for providers who remain open, even if parents cannot go to work, and exempt them from the absence day limit.
 - **Collaboration on any future child-care-related changes** so we can propose potential solutions that can meet the needs of both providers and families while reducing risk.
 - **Provide child care hotline staff** who are able to accurately answer family child care providers' questions about CCAP and ELS, licensing requirements, and COVID-19.
6. Created a “Support Family Child Care Providers” document (English and Spanish) in March to educate and encourage the public about ways they can support providers through this crisis. The document was shared thousands of times and used by more than a dozen other organizations outside of Minnesota to advocate for their providers.
 7. Advocated for financial support through grants for family child care providers as they experienced loss of income, increased costs, and higher risks during these unprecedented times. MACCP provided detailed updates and clarifications and answered thousands of questions about grants and financial resources available to family child care providers this year.
 8. Compiled and shared accurate and detailed information about financial resources available to providers through the current crisis—including grants, loans, and unemployment—into easy-to-understand documents and social media posts and helped many providers navigate those processes.
 9. Worked with the Minnesota Grocers Association to educate grocers about how they can help child care providers and how child care providers can work with grocers to purchase the supplies and food they need for the children in their care. Grocers were encouraged to allow child care providers to purchase beyond any limits set for typical customers, reserve supplies, and shop during convenient hours.



- 10. Issued a position statement with 15 reasons to exempt family child care programs from masking requirements, especially children and providers. We then created a successful call to action that resulted in thousands of calls and emails to the governor that reiterated our opposition to mandatory masking in family child care programs. MACCP also created and shared signs about mandatory masking that providers can display for visitors.
- 11. Encouraged prioritized and accessible testing and timely results for child care providers. In the first week of April, a family child care provider was denied testing at a hospital, despite providing care for Tier 1 children and having several COVID-19 symptoms. MACCP worked for many hours with the governor’s office and legislators to ensure that other child care providers would be prioritized, as directed by the governor and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH).
- 12. Shared timely updates about emails from state agencies, including licensing modifications and health information.
- 13. Compiled and shared information about numerous free trainings/webinars related to COVID-19 and how providers can navigate this crisis. Thanks to MACCP’s advocacy with DHS, one of the MDH trainings counted for licensing hours and all future MDH trainings that relate to child care will be approved through Develop.
- 14. Provided comprehensive summaries of provider calls with the Children’s Cabinet, DHS, MDH, MDE, and DEED.

We are thankful for the individuals and organizations that have worked with us to support family child care providers in 2020, especially Senator Kiffmeyer, the Minnesota Grocers Association, All Hands MN, all the businesses that donated supplies, Child Care Aware, and Minnesota’s Children’s Cabinet.

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This list does not include the many harmful policies and proposed legislation that MACCP has successfully advocated against over the last six years.

MACCP IS THANKFUL TO THE LEGISLATORS AND PROVIDERS WHO HAVE SUPPORTED OUR EFFORTS.