



Southeast Alaska Association for  
the Education of Young Children  
(907) 789-1235

## REQUEST FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST (LOI)

### Juneau Child Care Expansion and Start-up Program LOI

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LOI Release Date: **June 28, 2023**

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Due Date: **July 28, 2023**

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LOI Lead **Blue Shibler**  
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#### Purpose of LOI

This Request for Letters of Interest (LOI) is intended to identify individuals or entities interested in expanding the availability of licensed child care in Juneau. The Juneau Child Care Expansion and Start-up Program intends to offer up to three financial awards in 2023. The total amount of funding available for this program is approximately \$120,000. Awards will be provided to individuals and/or entities committed to starting or expanding a licensed child care program in Juneau. SEAAEYC is releasing this LOI to gauge interest within the community for this funding, and to provide equitable access to the grant funds. An additional application process for funding may be required depending on the total number of LOI's received.

Letters can be submitted via email to [bshibler@aeYC-sea.org](mailto:bshibler@aeYC-sea.org) no later than 2:00 PM. Alaska Time on the due date noted above. If you have any questions regarding your submission, please email or call Blue Shibler.

#### Overview

The current child care capacity in Juneau meets approximately 30% of the overall demand for services. The capacity shortage has had a negative impact on families, employers struggling to hire, and the community as a whole. Child care businesses generally operate in a market with fundamental challenges. Currently, the biggest challenge is a gap between the cost of providing quality care, and a price for care that consumers are willing and/or able to pay.

Decades of anecdotal evidence show that the most successful child care businesses in Juneau have had a subsidy or sponsorship from a partner organization. The City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) has dedicated substantial local funding in the form of monthly operating subsidies for licensed child care businesses in an effort to increase the sustainability of high quality, safe, and welcoming environments for families and young children.

## Funding Objective

The Juneau Child Care Expansion and Start-up Program will provide grant funds for a variety of needs, including but not limited to; building repairs and/or renovations, new construction, furnishings and materials for classrooms, and other unforeseen start-up costs. Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to, child care facilities which are on site of an existing entity (employer, non-profit, church, government), the expansion of a current child care facility to include additional child care spaces, and new in-home child care programs. In addition to prioritizing community-based care.

Successful projects will include a long-term plan for financial sustainability, including governmental/non-governmental subsidies and a plan to provide infant/toddler child care.

SEAAEYC will provide technical assistance as needed to help with all aspects of starting a child care business in Juneau.

## How to Submit

Please send letters which address the items listed below via email to [bshibler@aeyc-sea.org](mailto:bshibler@aeyc-sea.org) no later than 2:00 PM. Alaska Time on the due date noted above. If you have any questions regarding your submission, please email or call Blue Shibler.

- 1) Please provide the below information about your organization:
  - a. Organization Name:
  - b. Address:
  - c. Point of Contact Name:
  - d. Title:
  - e. Phone:
  - f. Email:
- 2) Please share the mission statement of your organization, if applicable.
- 3) Please explain in a short narrative your interest in starting or expanding a child care program.

4) If you currently own or lease a potential project site, please provide that address. If not, please provide any relevant information about a future site for your project.

5) Please describe your proposed project, including how you intend to use any funding that may result from the Juneau Child Care Expansion and Start-up Program. Include as much information as necessary to help us understand your project needs.

6) If known, please explain the workforce sector your child care operation will support (for example, identify a specific organization, federal (tribal, state, local) employees, or industry sector).

7) Describe any In-kind contributions to the proposed project, if applicable.