

The first five years of a child's life lays the groundwork for their lifelong learning, behavior, and overall health and well-being. Despite this, disparities persist across California with many children facing significant gaps in income, access, and opportunity. There is an urgent and persistent need for investment in young children and their families, and for more equitable systems that help children thrive.

For more than 40 years, California has built a robust child care infrastructure. Connecting California Families was formed in 2019 to unite over 65 child care agencies statewide. The mission of Connecting California Families is to deliver coordinated, comprehensive services to children, families, and providers because when parents have access to quality child care, early childhood education, and other essential resources, children and entire communities prosper. The data presented here, reflecting the Fiscal Year 2023-2024, comes from one of the 11 lead regional agencies for Connecting California Families.

Child Care Business Support



\$25,019,897

Invested in **1,213** child care businesses



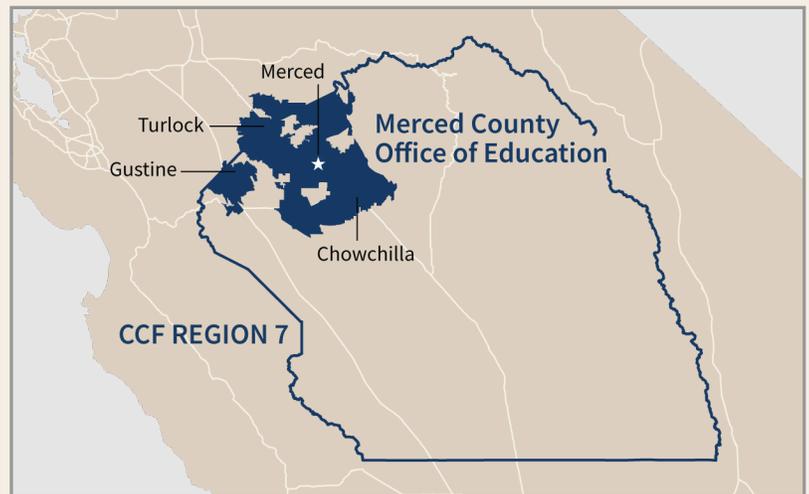
398

Licensed Child Care Provider businesses available for referral



1,655

Families still waiting on Subsidized Child Care



Learn more about the programs and how they help our families and children



Child and Family Support



4,521 children from **2,440** families received child care financial assistance and related services¹



31 foster children from **22** families received child care financial assistance and related services²



1,195 children from **1,089** families were enrolled in Head Start and affiliated programs³



25 children aged 0-3 from **14** families were enrolled in state funded child care programs⁴



¹Subsidized Child Care – CalWORKs Stage 1, 2, 3, Alternative Payment, Family Child Care Home Education Network (FCCHEN)

²Emergency Child Care Bridge (Bridge)

³Head Start / Early Head Start

⁴General Child Care and Development (CCTR)