

Satellite Family Child Care System

Why we care.

Family child care comprises nearly half of regulated child care in Wisconsin and is particularly essential in rural communities. It offers unique benefits to children and families, including small group sizes, a mixed-age model, a home-like environment, and continuity of care. Currently, only 6% of family child care programs in Wisconsin are rated as high-quality through the quality rating and improvement system. High-quality early care and education lays a foundation for long-term physical, mental, and societal health.

What we do.

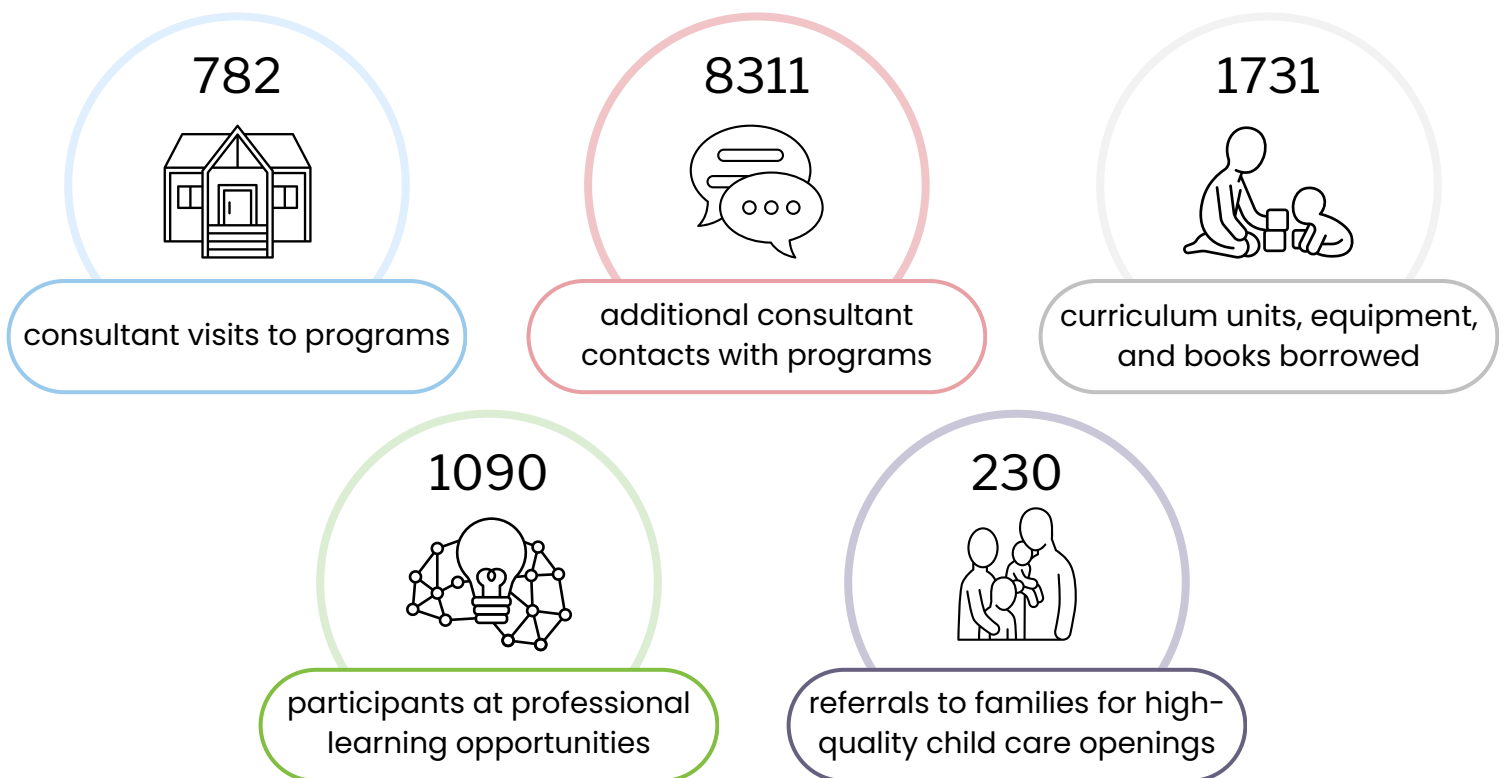
Satellite's mission is to promote high-quality care and education for children through a multi-faceted accreditation and support system for family child care programs. Programs engage with us on a journey of professional growth and quality improvement, aiming for accreditation. Family child care programs achieving accreditation are recognized as meeting the highest standards in home-based early care and education. The Satellite Accreditation Standards allow programs the flexibility to implement high quality, research-based practices through a lens honoring diversity and child-centered care.

How we impact.

Satellite offers family child care programs...

- an accreditation consultant
- equipment and curriculum unit loans
- program assessment resources
- developmental screening & assessment tools
- professional learning opportunities
- a family referral system
- regional social events
- support groups
- a mentoring program
- leadership opportunities

In 2025, Satellite accomplished...



Hear from those impacted.

The Satellite standards align with my core beliefs in how children learn and what they need in these early years. I am so excited to be able to be true to myself and have my program recognized as high-quality. As I continue to undo the years of external pressure, I will continue to provide a high-quality play-based, child-led program, while also educating parents on the benefits of play, showcasing how they are learning.

- Accredited Satellite family child care educator

Satellite accreditation has given me the opportunity to improve my program and become more knowledgeable on what a high-quality early childhood program consists of. The mentorship, support, training, and networking allow me to meet licensing requirements and gain much needed support and guidance in a career that can be very isolated.

- Accredited Satellite family child care educator

Through Satellite's guidance, training, and unwavering encouragement, we've grown stronger as a team and more intentional in our care. Your tools and resources empowered us to meet and exceed expectations, fostering a nurturing, high-quality learning environment for the children and families we serve. Thank you for believing in me, pushing me to grow, and standing alongside us every step of the way. I am proud to be part of a network that values excellence and is dedicated to the success of early childhood programs.

- Accredited Satellite family child care educator

Being accredited is a great achievement in my life, both personally and in my education. The most valuable thing for me was having my accreditation consultant's support. I didn't really know much about the Satellite Accreditation Standards. My consultant taught me a lot of things to achieve my goal. She was always there to support me because it was very difficult for me. With her support, I managed to become accredited.

- Accredited Satellite family child care educator

I am glad that my childcare provider receives both support and education for her career as my child benefits greatly from these supports. I feel safe sending my child to such a qualified provider.

- Family member of child attending an accredited program

How you can help.

It takes \$5,000 per year to support new programs and \$3,000 per year to support accredited programs.

Ready to support Satellite Family Child Care System's mission to bring high-quality family child care to children, families, and communities throughout Wisconsin?

Contact us!

(608) 381-2676

satellitefcc@reachdane.org



Professional Community

Why we care.

Family child care educators often work in isolation with limited interaction with other adults, especially those in the same profession. Professional communities offer educators spaces to socialize with, learn from, feel connected to, and lean on others in the family child care profession. Offering opportunities for social connection among family child care educators minimizes work-related stress and increases professional identity, both key for maintaining high-quality practice and workforce sustainability.

What we do.

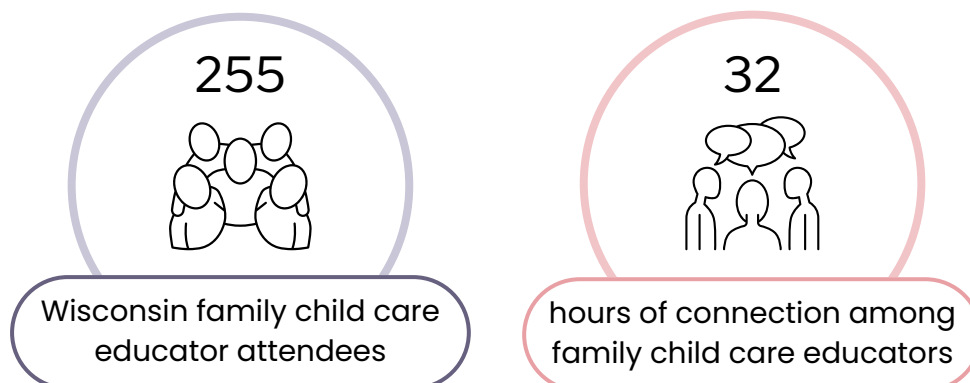
Satellite builds community among family child care educators in Wisconsin by offering a variety of opportunities for professional networking. Consistent opportunities to connect with other educators in the same region broadens the support network of family child care programs. Newly formed or sustaining relationships among educators provide much needed solidarity and offer outlets for sharing professional failures and successes. Our events aim to honor and celebrate the important work family child care educators do every day.

Satellite builds professional community across Wisconsin by offering...

- **educator appreciation events** to celebrate and bring together family child care educators within the same region to relax, socialize, share a meal, and receive gifts of appreciation.
- **social gatherings** to connect family child care educators within the same region to share a meal and participate in a social activity like board games or art.
- **Noche Latina** to provide an intentional and essential monthly community for Spanish speaking family child care educators in the Madison area.

How we impact.

In 2025, Satellite's professional community building events resulted in...



Professional Community

Hear from those impacted.

One benefit of having my program accredited through Satellite is being able to participate in Satellite's social events. During these gatherings, us family child care providers are provided space where we feel appreciated, uplifted, and feel noticed that the work we do can be hard. Many of these dinners include a gift of appreciation for our work. Whether a small self-care basket or a heavy bag of 25 books for our program, we leave feeling appreciated. We socialize together and have time and space to network with other ECE professionals who love their work. It is a space to develop new friendships with like-minded individuals.

- Accredited Satellite family child care educator

Satellite social events get me out of the house. The first time I went to a Satellite social event, I met some provider friend, and in this business of doing in-home childcare, you want friends in the same business you in. We share ideas and go to training. I really do appreciate all that Satellite offers to my program.

- Accredited Satellite family child care educator

How you can help.

It takes \$4300 to offer Noche Latina to Spanish speaking educators in the Madison area each year.

Satellite Gathering and Educator Appreciation Dinner event cost varies by region. See the table below for more details.

Region	Satellite Gathering Sponsorship	Educator Appreciation Dinner Sponsorship
Northeastern	\$1300	\$2200
Southern	\$1400	\$4600
Southeastern	\$1200	\$2100
Western	\$1400	\$1800

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