Agenda Item Report

DATE: 01/31/24
FROM: Winnebago County Executive's Office
RE: Child Care Resource and Referral request for $450,000 in Spirit Funds to support child care providers with training and mentoring, to assist with staff retention and recruiting family child care providers, and to aid in increasing available child care openings in Winnebago County.

General Description:

Child Care Resource and Referral supports child care providers with training and mentoring to provide more child care slots in Winnebago County. This would be exceptionally helpful in the areas considered a child care desert.

Action Requested:

Child Care Resource and Referral request for $450,000 in Spirit Funds to support child care providers with training and mentoring to assist with staff retention and recruiting family child care providers.

Procedural Steps:

Committee of Jurisdiction: ARPA Strategy & Outcomes Commission   Meeting date: 01/31/2024

Background:

Child Care Resource and Referral receives $37,200.00 total from all 5 Counties to provide certification services and receives limited funds as a base contract from DCF. CCR&R is a community-based non-profit agency offering services to parents, child care providers, employers, and the community that improve the quality and accessibility of early childhood education and care.

Policy Discussion:

This request could be considered program/operational and not one-time capital funds.

The commission has recognized Government Identified Community Projects that support or enhance county services:

1) Child Care Resource and Referral supports child care providers with training and mentoring and enhance services provided by Public Health and Human Services, as well as county-wide economic development.
2) $450,000 Spirit Fund Grant would provide Winnebago County residents with access to quality childcare providers with the resources they need to continue providing services or expand services.

Attachments: