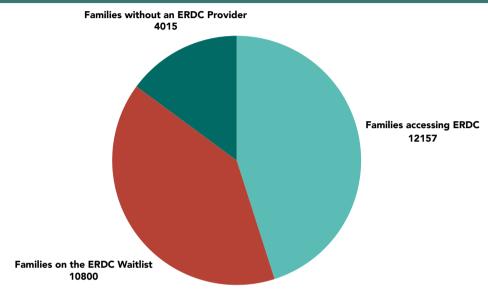


## **2025 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

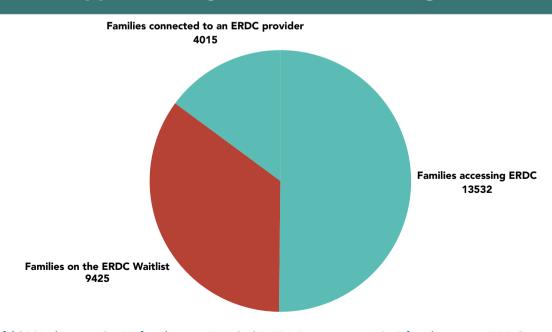
Each and every day, the child care crisis continues to make thousands of Oregonians' lives unnecessarily difficult. Parents and caregivers are unable to afford the child care necessary to simply go to work let alone advance their careers with training and education, spend time with friends and family, or access healthcare, for example.

## The ERDC Program currently leaves eligible families behind.



DELC currently has a caseload of 16,172 ERDC families, including 4015 families who cannot find an ERDC provider. There are 10,800 ERDC eligible families on the waitlist.

## \$250M supports nearly 20% more ERDC eligible families.



An investment of \$250M keeps 12,157 families on ERDC (SB 5514), connects 4,015 families to an ERDC provider (SB 5514 & HB 2452), and protects past legislative investments by funding 1,375 more families to access this critical program.

Contact: Delina Biniam, Advocacy Manager at Family Forward at Delina@familyforward.org.



## How \$250M will Build a Stronger Child Care System

Investments	Why should lawmakers support this?
SB 5514: \$225M for the Employee Related Day Care (ERDC) program.	
<b>\$73M</b> in addition to the Governor's Recommended Budget is needed.	Provides resources to close the Department of Early Learning and Care's projected shortfall for enrolled ERDC families and covers the DELC's caseload of 16,172 ERDC families.
<b>\$91M</b> covers the cost of care for 4,015 eligible families not included in the 2023-2025 current service level.	\$91M covers the cost of care for the 4,015 families that have been approved for ERDC, but are not actively using their voucher because they cannot find a provider. Continued partnership with DELC, 211, and Find Child Care Oregon will increase the number of families connected to a provider.
<b>\$61M</b> ensures past legislative investments in child care don't go to waste.	In 2022 lawmakers passed HB 4008 to start and expand child care businesses that prioritized ERDC slots. This \$61M investment will support 1,375 new child care slots, many created by HB 4008, and reduce the 10,800 family waitlist.
HB 2452: \$9M will strengthen Oregon's child care referral system.	
<b>\$9M</b> strengthens referral services for families and providers statewide.	The investment returns the enhanced referrals system to Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies so that they can help both ERDC families and providers in their communities.
HB 3008: \$15.4M for child care workers to stay in and enter the profession.	
<b>\$9M</b> continues one-time recognition bonus payments.	The Oregon Child Care Development Office calculated a total ~ of 31,000 providers across the state. OCCD has distributed direct payments to 17,000 providers. This bill provides half of the remaining eligible child care providers with one time \$500 child care recognition bonus payments.
<b>\$6.4M</b> for the current child care workforce	Supports existing child care workforce apprenticeship programs that provide on the job training and college credit.

Contact: Delina Biniam, Advocacy Manager at Family Forward at Delina@familyforward.org.