

## GETTING OUR LOCAL ECONOMY BACK ON TRACK

**Child Care Is Everyone's Business!** 

People are eager to return to work to support themselves and their families, and help our local economy rebound after the worst of the pandemic.

But too many workers can't access the safe, affordable, quality child care and preschool needed for their children while they return to their jobs.

It's time to address this problem now — especially as local employers are eager to hire local workers for important jobs in hospitality, agriculture, healthcare and other vital local industries.



## Investing in Our Region's Long-Term Health and Prosperity

For every dollar invested in early childhood programs, up to 13 dollars are saved in benefits to the community, including higher graduation rates, lower incarceration rates and lower healthcare costs.\*



## **Opportunities for Local Matches of State Funding**

State funding for quality, local early childhood education and services consistently falls short of the needs of Monterey County children, families and employers. Now, more than ever, we need local funding for these critical services.

The **Safe, Affordable, Quality Child Care Act** would raise \$5.5 million annually, through a \$49 per year parcel tax, under local control to:

- Prepare children for school with literacy, math and social skills
- Increase access to affordable child care and early education for working families, single parents and others
- Help children whose families are dealing with housing instability, unemployment, child abuse and neglect so they can start school ready to learn
- Help fledging child care operations with small business challenges like liability insurance and safety infrastructure maintenance
- Attract and retain qualified child care providers and preschool teachers
- Help business rebound after the pandemic by attracting and retaining working parents

## **Strict Fiscal Accountability**

All funds would be locally controlled and spent only in Monterey County. No funds could be taken by the State. Continuous independent local oversight — including from local business leaders — and annual audits are required. By law, the Measure would automatically expire after ten years and can only be renewed with voter approval.

Join Us!

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In the coming months, we will be collecting the signatures of other concerned members of our community in order to place a measure on the November 2022 ballot. To learn more or get involved, contact (831) 760-8278 or info@Yes4MontereyCountyKids.org.

Yes4MontereyCountyKids.org