

New York Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies

Promoting High Quality Child Care for all New York Families

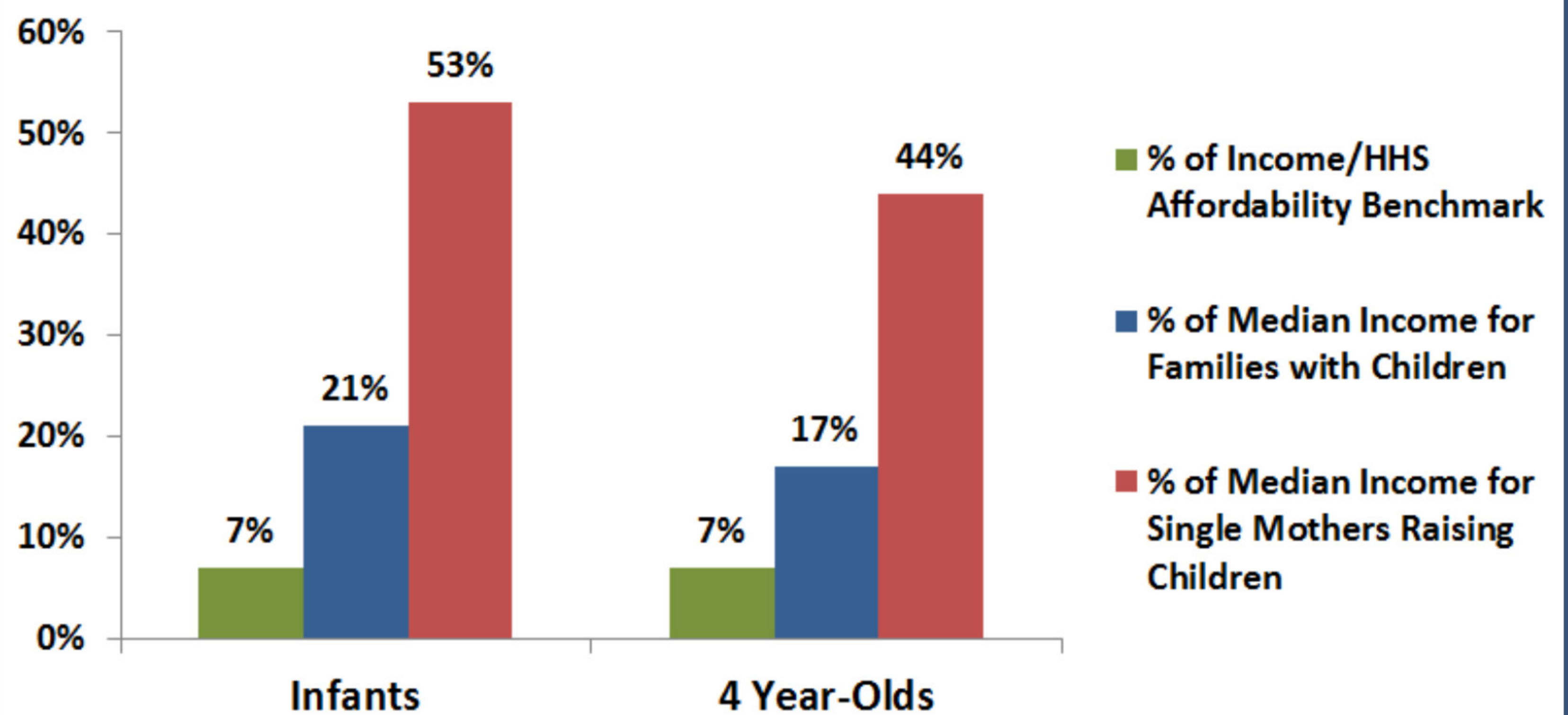
34 Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) nonprofit organizations work to meet the needs of:

- families
- child care providers, and
- employers

within all 62 counties throughout New York in coordination with a state network leadership agency – the Early Care and Learning Council.



2015 Annual Child Care Center Costs as a Percent of Family Income



The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services recommends child care costs not exceed 7% of family income.

Throughout NY, families struggle as they pay a MUCH higher % of their income for child care.

Access to High Quality Child Care Matters.

2017 CCR&R Recommendations:

The Executive Budget does not include any new funding for the child care subsidy program for low income working families. It does not include new funding to implement the requirements of the Federal Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014. *In fact, the Governor's budget reduces general fund support for child care, replacing it with \$27M in Title XX funding. This funding is used by local social service districts for critical programming, including preventive and protective services to children, eviction prevention, and services to seniors. This pits one vital service against another, and would result in a net loss for local Counties.* It's time to:

- Invest \$100M for child care assistance.
- Create an Early Childhood Learning Fund with a dedicated revenue stream to serve significantly more children who are eligible but going unserved because of lack of funding.
- Implement new federal block grant requirements without passing costs onto providers.

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Embedded in Communities Making a Difference Every Day

For more than 40 years, Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies throughout New York have been working to increase the quality and affordability of child care and preschool throughout the state. Child care is an important work support for parents helping to drive local economies. At the same time, child care is also an early learning setting for children.



Meeting the Needs of Families:

- ✓ Locating child care settings that meet their scheduling needs (including non-traditional hour care);
- ✓ Educating parents about key questions to ask child care providers and what to look for when reviewing child care settings;
- ✓ Connecting to providers who have training to work with children who may have special needs; and
- ✓ Linking to services and supports for which families may be eligible.

Meeting the Needs of Providers:

- ✓ Building knowledge, competencies, and skills to offer high quality care;
- ✓ Offering training and consultation to obtain a license, comply with licensing standards, participate in Quality Stars NY, strengthen business practices, and ensure safe settings that promote the healthy development of children;
- ✓ Supporting participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) to promote healthy meals and snacks; and
- ✓ Expanding initiatives to meet specific needs such as programs serving infants and toddlers or children with disabilities, programs to prevent and reduce child abuse and neglect, and efforts to serve families and providers with limited English proficiency or who are dual language learners.

Meeting the Needs of Communities:

- ✓ Expanding high quality early care and learning settings for young children;
- ✓ Expanding school-age before and after care programs;
- ✓ Assessing and analyzing system strengths and gaps to identify strategies to better meet community child care needs;
- ✓ Sharing child care supply, demand, price, and trend data with community planners, business leaders, school systems, partners within the early care and education community, and federal, state and local government policymakers; and
- ✓ Working to advocate for affordable, quality child care choices for all families.