

One Stop Shop: Business Coaching, Automation & Technology for Child Care Providers

Overview

We're here to help you invest in the future through child care. Child Care Collaborative of Iowa (CCCI) can strengthen your business with the help of a financial management coach (FMC).

In October 2022, we launched CCCI to help child care center, home, and tribal providers improve child care business operations. The strategy is multi-pronged: 12-months of business coaching through CCCI, free brightwheel or Playground child care management software licenses, and technology grants.

The Benefits: Business Coaching, Automation & Technology



Technology Grant

Free license to brightwheel or
Playground child care management
software system through 6/30/2026

12 months of individualized business coaching
from a Financial Management Coach

Participant Testimonials

Child care providers benefit from this One Stop Shop.

"I finally have the support every provider has dreamed of when it comes to the business and financial side of things. [My FMC] isn't afraid to have hard conversations about what I need to change to increase revenue, figure out my yearly budget, and work toward the bigger picture. These gals are so fantastic and have the utmost respect for every provider."

Sarah Harson, Bright Minds Child Care, Child Development Home – Category B, Hinton

"[This] is basically a lifesaver. I don't know how we functioned before. We could have been doing things a lot easier if we had gone to a child care management system. The time I have saved is amazing!"

Kelsey Andersen, Director, Bluff's Little Thinkers Educational and Child Care Center, Sergeant Bluffs

How it Works

Your personal CCCI coach will work to understand your business and then offer personalized guidance to best improve your workflow. Together with your coach, you'll explore child care software that can reduce your time spent on administrative tasks, improve cash flow, and support strong business operations.

About Business Coaching

Our coaches support you for a full year on issues such as budgeting, cash flow, financial reporting, marketing, profitability, staff compensation, growth, debt, and other key metrics.

About Child Care Software

CCCI includes access to a child care management system (CCMS) software, Playground or brightwheel. Both CCMS software products offer a comprehensive set of features and functions that ease your ability to manage key business operations more accurately and quickly.

- Enrollment tracking
- Invoicing
- Fee collection
- Family communication
- Compliance
- And more

CCMS and Data Bridges

In early 2023, the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services launched a data bridge between Playground and brightwheel and Iowa's child care subsidy data system, KinderTrack, making it quicker and easier for you to invoice and get paid for children/families receiving Child Care Assistance.

Role of Financial Management Coaches

- Focus on child care provider business sustainability
- Assist providers to access and fully use technology and child care management system software
- Help providers identify annual compensation and retirement saving goals and work towards realizing them, support strong recordkeeping and tax preparation practices
- Help providers with staff identify human resources goals and work towards realizing them — improved compensation, increased retention, HR policies and procedures, recruitment strategies, etc.
- Help providers identify financial goals and work towards realizing them — profitability, cash flow, fiscal policies and procedures, debt reduction, etc.

"As a childcare provider, you must wear a million different hats. Utilizing a child care management software helps streamline so many aspects of your business; it ends up saving HOURS of time each day. I cannot imagine doing this work without a childcare management software!"

Paige Smothers, Director/owner, Sprouts Early Learning Academy, Carlisle

Contact the Child Care Collaborative of Iowa [here](https://midsioux.org/programs-services/children-and-families/ccci/) to learn more about how coaching, automation, and technology can streamline your business.



<https://midsioux.org/programs-services/children-and-families/ccci/>

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