

2022 Workforce Survey

Fallon County residents
16+ NOT currently
active in the labor force
(2020 Census)

45%
Women

Number of parents in Fallon County who say they've been late to work, left work early or missed a day of work in the last month due to child care concerns. (SMART 2022 survey)

16.5%

Percent of a family's income spent on child care for ONE child in Fallon County



Cost of child care for infants in Fallon County ABOVE the national average



Average yearly cost of childcare in Fallon County
\$9600

"Childcare is no longer just a "Mom and Dad" issue, it's an essential infrastructure issue for cities.

Without available childcare to supplement the workforce, communities simply cannot operate."

-Vaughn Zenko, SMART Executive Director

Are ALL of those people currently inactive in the workforce due to a lack of childcare? No.

Do many parents CHOOSE to stay out of the workforce so they can be home with their children? YES, and that's FANTASTIC!

But if even 10 out of those 700 people in Fallon County are able to reenter the workforce because of available, affordable childcare, that's \$312,000 in extra wages paid IN Fallon County, and that's 4 extra workers for City/County, and two more each available at the hospital, the school and the grocery store.

Just 20 of those 700 back into the workforce would mean \$624,000 in extra wages and could potentially fully staff all of our Main Street businesses.

Yeah, but what's in it for Me?

That's not the point. The point is, what's in it for EVERYONE?

Not only will this facility encourage our young people looking to start a family to stay in Fallon County or move BACK home, this facility will also help Fallon County be able to recruit more business and industry into the area. New businesses need employees and employees need childcare. Will a business look to expand in Fallon County if those needs can't be met? That's to say nothing of recruiting and retaining teachers, medical personnel, emergency services staff and City/County workers that provide the services we ALL rely upon.

So, yes, the lack of childcare in Fallon County does affect YOU.