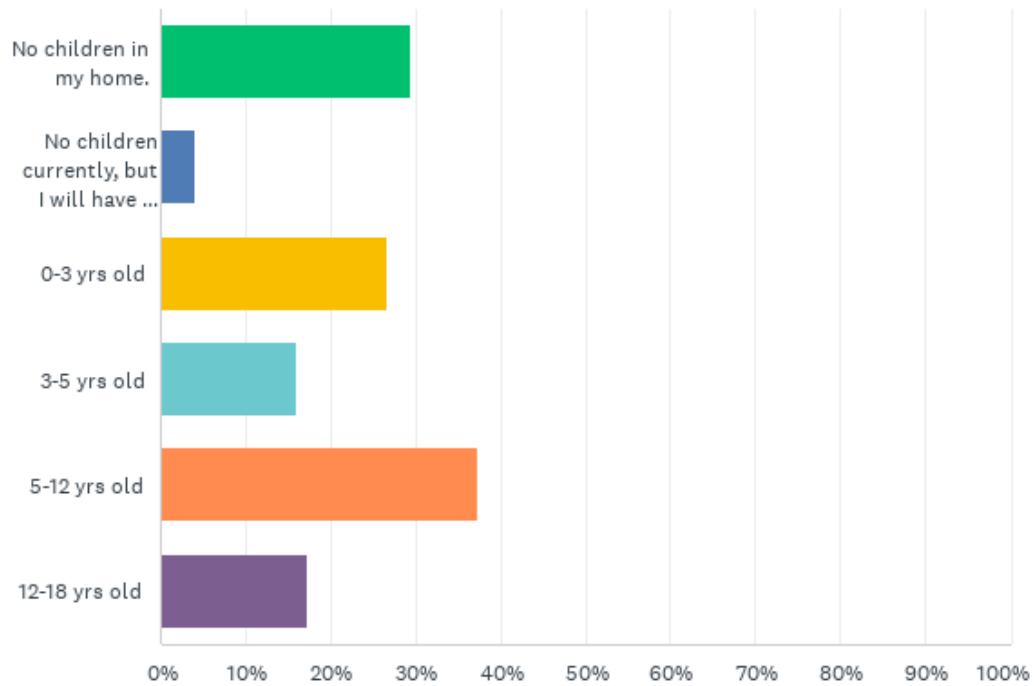




Colfax Childcare Survey Results
October 2024

Q1 Do you currently have children living in your home?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ No children in my home.	29.33%	22
▼ No children currently, but I will have a child in the future.	4.00%	3
▼ 0-3 yrs old	26.67%	20
▼ 3-5 yrs old	16.00%	12
▼ 5-12 yrs old	37.33%	28
▼ 12-18 yrs old	17.33%	13
Total Respondents: 75		

Q2 How would more childcare options in Colfax and surrounding areas benefit businesses and families?

Answered: 75 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	It would help families, childcare is hard to find in the small community"s. Businesses might benefit from more family members able to work if they have childcare.	10/22/2024 8:41 PM
2	It would allow parents needing to work the ability to work closer to home. It would also cut down on absents from existing employees.	10/22/2024 10:08 AM
3	it would decrease stress on families to have child care and people would be able to keep their jobs and hours that they work	10/21/2024 8:48 PM
4	I have seen employees where I work either leave their jobs because of childcare or switch to part time roles.	10/21/2024 2:19 PM
5	We were limited to ONLY Pullman for our one when he was under 3	10/20/2024 4:33 PM
6	More childcare options would easily bring more employees to the area. I personally am going down in hours because I can't find childcare options. Our office has been trying to hire someone but no one looks at Colfax to work because there is limited childcare. Pullman is the closest and it's outrageously expensive.	10/19/2024 6:49 AM
7	There is such a lack of care. Maybe more care would mean more parents could go back into the work world.	10/18/2024 8:16 PM
8	I have three children. My husband and I agree that the biggest stressor we have as working parents is finding reliable, safe and affordable childcare.	10/18/2024 10:10 AM
9	It would enable working families to have more childcare options, which works draw a larger pool of applicants for local businesses.	10/17/2024 7:52 PM
10	It would allow parents to work.	10/17/2024 3:16 PM
11	For families that live in Colfax or work in Colfax, having childcare in Colfax rather than in Pullman provides less stress to both parent and child for the following reason; if an emergency, parents can be onsite within minutes, having children closer to parent will minimize stress of parent in one town and child in another, daycare institution will be held to state regulations reliably and with an institution, children as young as 0 years of age could attend.	10/17/2024 2:39 PM
12	Just having one would be beneficial at the moment there is nothing.	10/17/2024 2:36 PM
13	There are no options in Colfax	10/17/2024 1:48 PM
14	More people would be able to work And when both kids were in child care, it cost more than our mortgage	10/17/2024 1:07 PM
15	I know when our child was of the age that we could have used child care we had to get on a waiting list to get into the childcare through the elementary school. We had to use family friends to help with childcare up until that point. There was a lack of education with that option (not that we didn't appreciate the help!)	10/17/2024 12:39 PM
16	As a mother that had small children and worked full time, it was very difficult to find childcare and it often caused me to miss work.	10/17/2024 11:46 AM
17	If people know their children are taken care of while working, employees will be more productive while at work. Nothing is worse than working and having to juggle your children's needs too.	10/17/2024 11:29 AM
18	More childcare (or any at all) options in Colfax would allow more parents to seek work outside the home, allowing local businesses to hire community members. This would also allow for a higher income to many families that are stuck with one income due to childcare restrictions.	10/17/2024 10:19 AM

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That could result in more dollars being spent locally as well as a better quality of life for those parents that don't thrive in a homemaker position. Having childcare available for extended hours is also important for our community since we are a largely farming based community that has very seasonal hours. Many of us parents are required to work past the usual 5pm during our busy seasons.

19	I would have loved this option when my children were young. Just having them close gives peace of mind, to both parents and children.	10/17/2024 7:57 AM
20	More families would be able to work	10/16/2024 5:42 AM
21	it would help a lot of families in the area to keep working regular hours.	10/15/2024 4:16 PM
22	Childcare is extremely difficult to find in the area. After moving to the area it took me months to find childcare for my 3 year old before I could begin looking for work. Even at that my child attends daycare in a different city from where we live. Hiring a private babysitter/nanny is very expensive, and not reasonable to most average families. Childcare is a necessity for working parents.	10/15/2024 10:12 AM
23	More childcare options in Colfax would greatly benefit the community. Especially in the 0-3 range. There really isn't an option. When I was raising my kids, I had family to watch my kids. If I did not have that option, my husband would have not worked because of the limited options there was.	10/15/2024 8:50 AM
24	Would increase parents availability to work	10/15/2024 8:45 AM
25	Allow for more community even involvement and ability to work more hours.	10/14/2024 11:10 PM
26	People would be more likely to stay in town with close resources instead of to bigger cities where more childcare is available. We've looked into moving closer to Spokane to have more options. More people in the area = more patrons to local businesses	10/14/2024 6:34 PM
27	Having childcare in Colfax would benefit WHMC by bringing staff with children to want to work at our facility.	10/14/2024 6:29 PM
28	They would be able to choose where their kids went and could make sure that it was a good fit for their child instead of sending them to the only place in town.	10/14/2024 3:15 PM
29	It would create more jobs and be easier for the families. Some people have to take there kids to either Pullman or Moscow.	10/14/2024 12:07 PM
30	Several businesses have employees with young children. Employees with young children must adjust their work arrangements to accommodate childcare. This may mean reducing their available work hours or seeking employment in a place that has close childcare options available.	10/14/2024 8:33 AM
31	I currently have friends trying to get me to provide childcare even on my workdays, which I cannot do. *Please* find a way to make childcare more available here. It's a huge need.	10/14/2024 8:20 AM
32	This would help with employee retention and give other families in the community another option for childcare.	10/12/2024 1:03 AM
33	more jobs and better care for after school	10/11/2024 2:19 PM
34	It's definitely hard to find child care. The school has child care for 3+ yrs and older, but not for younger. Most are using family/friends which are not reliable. If child care family/friend are sick parent has to call in sick. This would help the community with struggling parents with child care issues	10/11/2024 1:04 PM
35	more jobs in town, more availability for parents to work if they have childcare	10/11/2024 11:00 AM
36	This would be very beneficial to families in the area. We only have one option and they don't take kids until a certain age. We have lots of young families with children that are in need of daycare.	10/11/2024 11:00 AM
37	I know of quite a few people in need of affordable childcare.	10/11/2024 10:24 AM
38	employment economical	10/11/2024 10:11 AM
39	Good, safe, responsible, respectful, education & healthy children would make our world a much better place. In my family my grandkids have tried 5 different places in three different	10/11/2024 7:26 AM

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towns to find the qualities mentioned above, and now have two kids split into two different towns. This county really needs to step up and create a place for families to have less stress and worry about where their kids are and who is taking care of them. There are good people out their. You just need to bring them in to our county. Much needed.

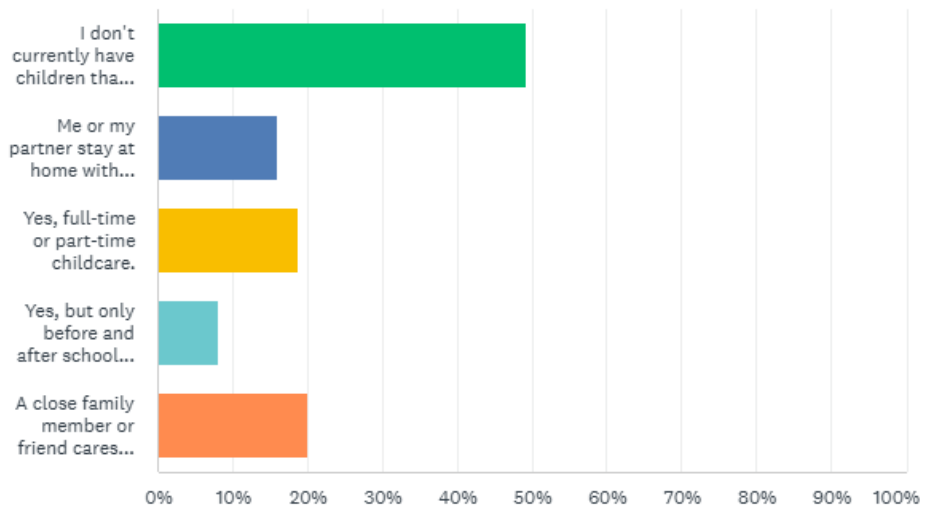
40	less absenteeism, increased candidate pool, improved recruiting.	10/11/2024 7:13 AM
41	Women would have more freedom to work	10/11/2024 6:55 AM
42	Make it possible for parents to work outside the home.	10/10/2024 5:28 PM
43	More opportunity for parents to spend money in the community if they are able to regularly attend work and not miss it/ not work at all due to child care issues	10/10/2024 4:05 PM
44	More places to store our children	10/10/2024 3:45 PM
45	It would benefit ASTRONOMICALLY. We are looking into moving just because there is no child care and it makes the town not family friendly. Good workers having to move just to grow a family. Colfax should want families to grow in town, create a sense of community. Right now it just feels like a town for retired folks which leads to no economic growth. Having child care would provide working opportunities for both parents in town. Currently I drive to Pullman for work and childcare due to no childcare availability in town. Because of this I end up doing all of my shopping outside as well, I would love to support the community of Colfax but we need to feel supported on our family values.	10/10/2024 2:35 PM
46	It would bring more families to the school, library, shops, restaurants, etc. I also believe people would seek employment in Colfax if there were an option for their kids to be in daycare in town.	10/10/2024 2:34 PM
47	More childcare options would allow more people to work, and decrease driving time and hopefully cost. Childcare would be most beneficial if it was flexible, offered extended/flexible hours (the hospital is a huge employer and is open 24/7), and was affordable without requiring limited income (you can make too much to qualify very easily and still struggle to afford childcare!).	10/10/2024 12:59 PM
48	I can tell you being that I am a mom, being able to bring your child to a worksite childcare is very beneficial for everyone involved. The parents are more relaxed and focused, especially if they are able to "peek" in on their kiddos on their breaks. The children are more at peace knowing their parent is in the same building. The hospital will be better staffed because that for sure would be a good reason to apply at WHMC! It's an all around win win.	10/10/2024 12:40 PM
49	Childcare would drive jobs & housing. Employees of ours haven't returned to work due to lack of childcare in town.	10/10/2024 9:36 AM
50	Helping and keeping good employees that have chosen to start families.	10/10/2024 9:34 AM
51	It would provide families a choice to work and also provide them with quality care if that's what they choose.	10/10/2024 9:32 AM
52	Immensely. Good childcare available makes work options in the area more feasible and draws in more young families. I have grandchildren.	10/10/2024 9:24 AM
53	Families would not have to commute to Pullman for childcare. This is the county seat, it makes sense to have a daycare here in Colfax. Multiple children in daycare through my job.	10/10/2024 9:21 AM
54	Childcare is a large factor in who chooses to live and work in Colfax.	10/10/2024 9:09 AM
55	There is no childcare in the area that I am aware of so I imagine trying to find friends or family members to watch your children is a challenge.	10/10/2024 8:21 AM
56	No idea.	10/10/2024 7:41 AM
57	More and affordable child care is very important in our small communities.	10/10/2024 7:36 AM
58	I have staff members who have decreased their hours of work due to not finding childcare. This impacts our ability to provide services to patients. Recruitment is challenging, so decreasing an FTE is difficult to fill.	10/10/2024 7:15 AM
59	Convenience with different work schedules that includes extended hours, weekend options as well. More flexibility for workers to have a safe and secure option especially for those who work for example at the hospital or a store where they're open quite late sometimes.	10/10/2024 7:10 AM

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60	Allow parents to remain employed, especially after school and during the summer.	10/10/2024 7:08 AM
61	Many cannot afford to work due to lack of options. Businesses are suffering due to lack of employees.	10/9/2024 1:37 PM
62	Child care in Colfax would be a game changer. It's challenging for young families to live and work in a town without reliable child care. By implementing this plan, I believe we will attract more young families, which is essential for the growth and improvement of our community.	10/9/2024 8:00 AM
63	It would allow for stay at home parent to go back into workforce	10/8/2024 5:32 PM
64	Many parents in small communities need to work to support their families. Accessible childcare allows them to pursue employment or education without worrying about the safety and care of their children. Quality childcare provides a structured environment for children to learn and develop social, emotional, and cognitive skills. Early interactions with peers and caregivers can foster essential developmental milestones. Childcare centers often serve as hubs for community interaction. They bring families together, encourage social connections, and help build a supportive network among parents and caregivers. By providing reliable childcare options, communities can attract new families and businesses. A strong childcare system can make a community more appealing to potential residents and employers. Childcare services create jobs and can stimulate local economies. When parents can work or attend school, they contribute to the community's economic health. With childcare available, parents have more flexibility in their schedules. This can lead to better work-life balance and reduced stress. Accessible childcare helps ensure that all families, regardless of income or background, have the opportunity to participate in the community fully.	10/8/2024 4:10 PM
65	It would give more people the opportunity to work.	10/8/2024 3:57 PM
66	It would enable parents more opportunities to provide for themselves and their children	10/8/2024 3:01 PM
67	It would allow families to access services in the community and be more likely to work in Colfax and stay in Colfax.	10/8/2024 1:47 PM
68	More parents could work full time or even part time.	10/8/2024 1:12 PM
69	There may be more women willing to work but are unable to find childcare. An addition childcare would give families more options when looking at having both spouses work outside the home. I'm currently pregnant and having trouble finding child care. If I cannot find care I will be forced to quit working.	10/8/2024 12:27 PM
70	Childcare is absolutely crucial to allowing women to work. Supporting families to choose their careers and pathways is incredibly important to personal independence.	10/8/2024 12:27 PM
71	Free up availability of parents to work and volunteer in and around Colfax.	10/8/2024 12:21 PM
72	There is a need for birth - 3 years old	10/8/2024 12:21 PM
73	Make local employment attractive.	10/8/2024 12:15 PM
74	I work at the hospital. It would be nice to have a daycare option in the hospital so that I could stop by and visit her during lunch break.	10/8/2024 12:06 PM
75	We drive from Endicott to Pullman for years to access childcare!	10/8/2024 12:03 PM

Are your children currently enrolled in childcare?

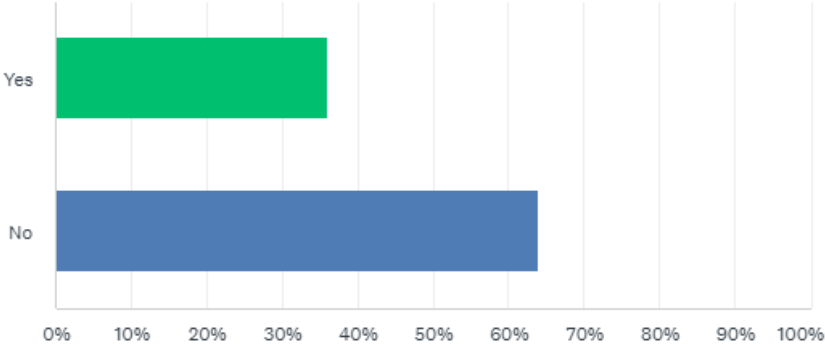
Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ I don't currently have children that require care.	49.33% 37
▼ Me or my partner stay at home with child(ren).	16.00% 12
▼ Yes, full-time or part-time childcare.	18.67% 14
▼ Yes, but only before and after school care.	8.00% 6
▼ A close family member or friend cares for my child(ren).	20.00% 15
Total Respondents: 75	

Do you need childcare with extended hours or weekends?

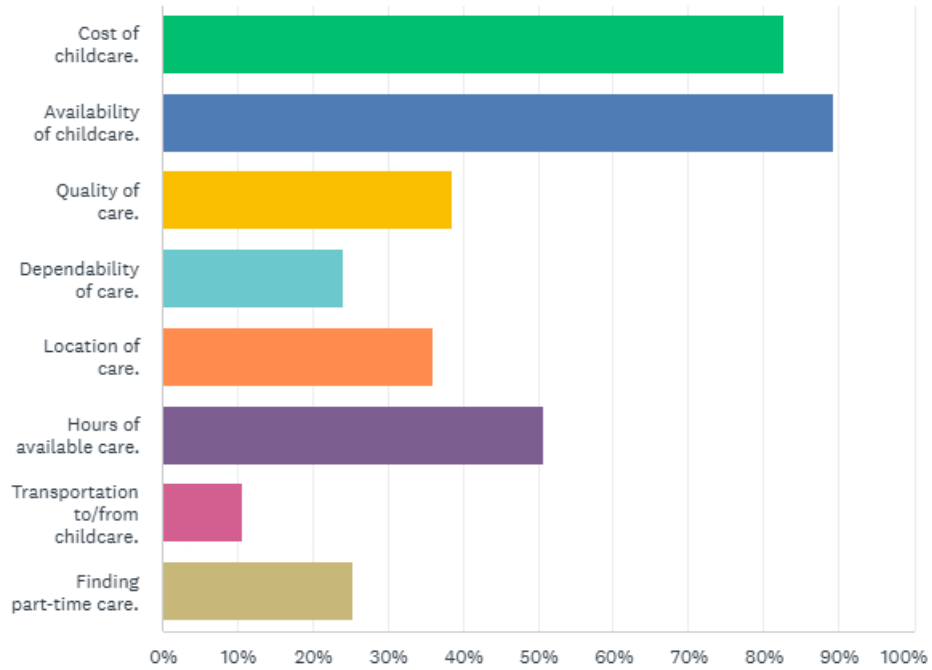
Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	36.00% 27
No	64.00% 48
Total Respondents: 75	

Select the top three challenges you have encountered in seeking childcare in Whitman County or heard about from families or friends.

Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Cost of childcare.	82.67% 62
▼ Availability of childcare.	89.33% 67
▼ Quality of care.	38.67% 29
▼ Dependability of care.	24.00% 18
▼ Location of care.	36.00% 27
▼ Hours of available care.	50.67% 38
▼ Transportation to/from childcare.	10.67% 8
▼ Finding part-time care.	25.33% 19
Total Respondents: 75	

Q6 Tell us what would be important to you if a new childcare was created in Colfax.

Answered: 75 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Coworkers would have childcare and not have to worry or find someone to watch their child/children.	10/22/2024 8:41 PM
2	The hours of operation would be very important. We have several local businesses that don't operate on a regular 8a-5p shift. Also, the availability. I hear all the time how daycare is full.	10/22/2024 10:08 AM
3	Having the hours of the new place be flexible. Affordable and have a safe place for children	10/21/2024 8:48 PM
4	-Part time options -In Colfax, not Pullman, although I think Pullman is short on childcare as well	10/21/2024 2:19 PM
5	Data driven	10/20/2024 4:33 PM
6	Cost and hours. Early drop off, extended pickup hours and not an outrageous cost.	10/19/2024 6:49 AM
7	Affordable and quality of care.	10/18/2024 8:16 PM
8	Evenings, weekends and part-time enrollment options would be greatly appreciated. I work as a nurse at Whitman Hospital 2-3 days a week, 12-hour shifts. My husband owns a local business. Most childcare providers want a full time commitment monday-friday OR part-time with set days of the week. A majority of healthcare workers don't work set days each week, which further complicates placing a child.	10/18/2024 10:10 AM
9	Affordability	10/17/2024 7:52 PM
10	Hours open and reasonable rates.	10/17/2024 3:16 PM
11	The quality, dependability, and cost of care are the main issues.	10/17/2024 2:39 PM
12	The start and end times of the day to allow working with parents work schedules within reason.	10/17/2024 2:36 PM
13	Available for newborns.	10/17/2024 1:48 PM
14	Early career, before 8am	10/17/2024 1:07 PM
15	It wouldn't help me personally at this time, but based on my past experiences it would have been very helpful to have more 'professional' childcare options.	10/17/2024 12:39 PM
16	I would not personally benefit from childcare but I do understand that it is super hard to find childcare for people who have to work to support their families	10/17/2024 11:46 AM
17	Availability. Open to PRN. I do not live in Colfax and usually work at an outlying clinic. However, that doesn't mean that I am not required to work in Colfax sometimes. This is extremely hard for me because my daycare opens later and closes before a typical day in Colfax is over during weekdays plus I have an hour drive back to daycare. I also do not have daycare options on weekends (when I sometimes work). Therefore, WHMC loses at least 3 hours of productivity from me in a weekday that I might work there and I look at it not worth my while to drive down for a partial day.	10/17/2024 11:29 AM
18	If a new childcare was created in Colfax, it would be important for it to be fully certified and meet or exceed all Washington state childcare standards (and any other governing boards standards). I would want to see qualified personnel and curriculum (where applicable). It is important to me to see childcare that is available for ages 0-3, especially with extended hour options. It is also important to me to see that there are scholarship or reduced tuition rates available for families who may not be able to afford full rates. I would also want to see rigorous vetting for those that apply and are awarded such supports. Long term, I would love to see an outreach aspect of this childcare that provides home visits and supports for parents that	10/17/2024 10:19 AM

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request additional help working with their children at home, whether it be for behavior, special needs, or general parental guidance. This could include parenting classes.

19	Affordability, location of care, hours. (I do not have children daycare age, but speaking with a former employee these were the concerns that most concerned her)	10/17/2024 7:57 AM
20	That it didn't take my whole paycheck to send my kids to child care. I would love a place that my kids could go where they will be safe and it's affordable.	10/16/2024 5:42 AM
21	From what I have heard from others is that it would be great to have availability of care for ages newborn-5.	10/15/2024 4:16 PM
22	Quality of care and cost. Hours would also be important.	10/15/2024 10:12 AM
23	Having affordable, reliable childcare in Colfax.	10/15/2024 8:50 AM
24	Flexible hours and days.	10/15/2024 8:45 AM
25	That there is a program that has set routines to ensure growth/learning for children with cost-effective expectations/schedules for parents, on As-Needed, Part-time and Full-Time ability	10/14/2024 11:10 PM
26	Since my spouse and I often work 7-7 on weekends, I would love extended hours and high quality childcare	10/14/2024 6:34 PM
27	Hours of availability, cost, and safety.	10/14/2024 6:29 PM
28	Having a place that has more structure and employees that actually enjoy their job and cares for children.	10/14/2024 3:15 PM
29	To have before and after program and doesn't cost an arm and a leg. It would be amazing to have the kids ride the bus here and go to the childcare center.	10/14/2024 12:07 PM
30	Cost and flexibility with my variable work schedule.	10/14/2024 8:33 AM
31	It needs to be ample and affordable and accommodate people who begin work very early and who must work later in the day.	10/14/2024 8:20 AM
32	Discount for employees and early drop off times	10/12/2024 1:03 AM
33	i would be able to enroll my grand child	10/11/2024 2:19 PM
34	would help having more options	10/11/2024 1:04 PM
35	various hours, credentialed staff, flexibility	10/11/2024 11:00 AM
36	It's important to have childcare for younger babies as well as school-aged children. I also think it's vital to have an appropriate child to teacher/provider ratio.	10/11/2024 11:00 AM
37	That to be available to anyone who is in need of it. The main thing is that it is affordable. Everything in Pullman is outrageously expensive.	10/11/2024 10:24 AM
38	quality cost hours	10/11/2024 10:11 AM
39	My grandkids need a safe, clean, healthy environment that doesn't cost an arm and a leg to be there.	10/11/2024 7:26 AM
40	Safe, hours to support shift workers (shifts start at 6:00a and/or end 7:15p, weekend coverage), price, care for ill children.	10/11/2024 7:13 AM
41	Safety cleanliness stimulating environment	10/11/2024 6:55 AM
42	Open early by 6:30am	10/10/2024 5:28 PM
43	Extended hours as a lot of our community work later hours at the hospital. trustworthy care for our babies	10/10/2024 4:05 PM
44	Our children no longer need child care, but our family delayed dual income for years.	10/10/2024 3:45 PM
45	A safe and affordable childcare. One that feels like colfax values families.	10/10/2024 2:35 PM
46	Safety, solid hours, activities, food provided if needed	10/10/2024 2:34 PM
47	Quality, developmentally appropriate, safe childcare with flexible hours that does not take all of	10/10/2024 12:59 PM

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	my paycheck.	
48	All of the above but also cleanliness.	10/10/2024 12:40 PM
49	10/8 LUNCH RESPONSE: availability, affordability. Is there, in addition to the grant, a possibility of accepting donations from local businesses to kick start and/or help families who cannot afford it.	10/10/2024 9:36 AM
50	10/8 LUNCH RESPONSE: Hours and locations, cost	10/10/2024 9:34 AM
51	10/8 LUNCH RESPONSE: would also like option for infant childcare (less than 6 months old). Training of staff & retention; holiday scheduling; quality of education; class size; quality of food provided	10/10/2024 9:32 AM
52	Leave slots available for foster children. Have flexible P/T options for parents.	10/10/2024 9:24 AM
53	10/8 LUNCH SURVEY RESPONSE: Have slots available for children in Foster Care After School Care. Accept working connections.	10/10/2024 9:21 AM
54	10/8 LUNCH SURVEY RESPONSE: Quality of care! I don't want childcare for the sake of checking a box. As a business owner, I do not support more requirements to cover employee personal costs. I homeschool and run multiple businesses without handouts.	10/10/2024 9:09 AM
55	Hours, quality of care and cost	10/10/2024 8:21 AM
56	I would rather have pet care. Add a doggy daycare.	10/10/2024 7:41 AM
57	I personally don't have children that need childcare, but my grown children are starting that phase of their lives and it is very hard to find affordable and dependable child care in our small communities.	10/10/2024 7:36 AM
58	I would like to see hours of availability that would coincide with staff shifts at the hospital. Good, quality care is essential. The ability for staff to visit to breast feed during the day is important.	10/10/2024 7:15 AM
59	I don't have kids right now, but they are in the plans for the not too far off future. I commute a bit to work and start early. So, childcare in the city I live at is probably not an option or not a great one. It would make more sense to have childcare close to where I work so I could be close if anything happened but also convenient.	10/10/2024 7:10 AM
60	Part time care	10/10/2024 7:08 AM
61	Families are suffering due to lack of childcare options. I see this as a great need and would benefit the community immensely.	10/9/2024 1:37 PM
62	If a new childcare facility were created in Colfax, it would be important to me that it meets the needs of both children and parents. The facility should provide a safe, nurturing environment where kids can learn and grow. Offering flexible hours to accommodate working parents would also be crucial, along with having qualified, compassionate staff. Affordability and accessibility for all families would be key to ensuring it serves the entire community. Most importantly, it would need to create a sense of trust and partnership with parents, so they feel confident that their children are in good hands.	10/9/2024 8:00 AM
63	Availability	10/8/2024 5:32 PM
64	Trained and qualified staff.	10/8/2024 4:10 PM
65	Affordable, as much availability as possible	10/8/2024 3:57 PM
66	Safety is number one. Childcare workers with a clean background and excellent references who are described as nurturing and patient.	10/8/2024 3:01 PM
67	Kind and compassionate Curriculum based Ease of access Possibility for extended hours	10/8/2024 1:47 PM
68	Affordable for middle class families not just low income. Options for care/ summer programs for ages 0 through 10 or 11 Also to answer question 1 - we also have a 6 year. The survey will not allow someone to select 2 categories	10/8/2024 1:12 PM
69	Dependable and quality care for full time workers.	10/8/2024 12:27 PM
70	Quality, safety, and having it local to Colfax	10/8/2024 12:27 PM

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71	Flexible hours for parents to take shifts and commute times available to them.	10/8/2024 12:21 PM
72	Care for 1-3 year olds	10/8/2024 12:21 PM
73	Cost and hours.	10/8/2024 12:15 PM
74	Very close to the hospital.	10/8/2024 12:06 PM
75	We would have saved so much drive time. It would have literally changed our lives.	10/8/2024 12:03 PM