



Finding Emergency Child Care in this Critical Time

Right now, essential workers including healthcare and public employees are on the frontlines, fighting against the biggest crisis our country has seen in decades. Health care providers are treating those sickened by COVID-19 as well as disseminating critical public health information to keep our communities as safe as possible. Laboratory technicians are working around the clock to develop treatments, custodians are sanitizing our public spaces, and local government and utility workers are ensuring that we have electricity and clean water during the statewide shelter in place. These workers have selflessly stepped up to support our communities. Yet many of these workers are also parents who cannot take a day off, despite the reality that their children's schools, preschools, and daycares have closed because of this crisis.

This virus has shown us that we are all dependent on each other whether we are Black, White, Latino or Asian, native or newcomer. This is our time to pull together. Only by standing united can we ensure our own well-being through this outbreak and the well-being of our family, friends and neighbors.

That's why we are excited to announce that Child Care Providers United (CCPU), a partnership of SEIU and UDW/AFSCME Local 3930, is bringing together healthcare workers and others working on the frontlines in the public and private sectors who need access to safe child care with local child care providers ready to provide care.

CCPU is launching an online child care registry in collaboration with *Carina*, that will make it easier for workers to find the child care they need by providing up-to-date information on available child care in their area. This registry also allows child care business owners, many women and people of color, to make ends meet and keep their business afloat during this crisis.



Carina is a non profit tech start up connecting qualified, trained child care and home care workers to those who need care using an online matching marketplace. We work with home-based family child care providers and consumers looking to find licensed family child care providers. Unlike other care matching platforms, we only feature trained, qualified, verified, and licensed providers. We are currently enrolling child care providers to offer emergency child care services in California as well as in six other states and currently have over 16,000 users on our platform in Washington state..

As a result of COVID-19, many critical workers are unable to get the child care they need due to school closures. In partnership with childcare, healthcare, and other labor unions, our verified matching tool meets the growing need to connect these workers to verified home-based family child care providers with openings. We are launching in Spanish and English by April 1st.

After employees are matched with a child care provider, they may need help identifying other supports for themselves and their families. The local child care resource & referral agency is available to help parents find child care and let them know of other supportive programs that may be helpful to their families. Call 800-KIDS-793 or visit <https://rrnetwork.org/family-services/find-child-care> to find your local child care resource and referral agency.

We are honored to work on this project and hope you can support us.