











# Recognizing Kentucky's Progress

- The Employee Child Care Assistance Partnership
- Supporting the Child Care Workforce
- Building a Strong Subsidy Program for Low-income Working Families
- Innovations in Early Childhood Delivery Program
- Local and Regional Efforts



Kentucky had an outside-the-box idea to fix child care worker shortages. It's working

OCTOBER 6, 2023 · 5:00 AM ET

One State Rolled Out a Promising Child Care Model. Now Others Are Replicating It.

By Emily Tate Sullivan

Jan 30, 2024



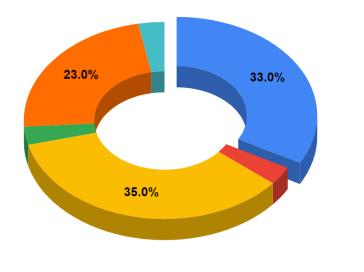




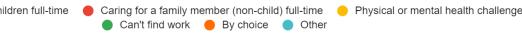
# Significant Challenges Remain

- Workforce Participation Rate
  - Kentucky: **57.7%** vs. U.S.: **62.7%**
  - Up to 110,000 prime-age Kentuckians NOT working due to child care challenges (2023)
- Kindergarten Readiness
  - 46% (2023) vs. 51.4% (2018)
- Costs for Families
  - Up to 21% of median family income for one infant child (2023)

20-54yr Adults NLFW, Main Reason for NOT being Employed August 2023, National, BPC/Artemis



















### **Barriers to Success**

- Missing a Shared, Long-Range Vision
  - What do we want Kentucky's early childhood ecosystem to look like 20 years from now?
- A Lack of Consensus Around Key Questions
  - What is the proper role of government, the private sector, and philanthropy in helping increase access to high-quality child care and early childhood education?
  - How do we define high-quality child care, and how can we ensure access for all communities in Kentucky?
  - What can we do to more effectively support and grow the child care workforce?
  - Where should we focus limited public and private resources to optimize impact and ensure the strongest return on investment?



### Our Solution: Consensus and Vision

- Statewide Stakeholder Group
- Professional Support
- Process
  - August-October: Stakeholder Interviews
  - October-February: Facilitated Meetings and Discussion
  - February-March: Blueprint for **Action Report**
  - March-December: Advocacy and Engagement

























We commit to partnering with high-impact organizations that have the leadership capability, the know-how, and the passion to take action.

MORE INFO: www.liftalifefoundation.org



Thrive By 5 Louisville (TB5L) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing access to quality childcare for three- and four-year-olds in Louisville, KY. Established in 2024 as an independent 501(c)(3), TB5L supports existing early learning providers by leveraging public and philanthropic funding to recruit and retain early educators, improve childcare facilities, and provide financial assistance to families. TB5L emerged from the Mayor's Early Learning Action Group (MELAG), which was formed by Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg in 2023 to address the critical need for expanded early childhood education in the community.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

MORE INFO: www.thriveby5louisville.com

# **Convergence: Who We Are**

#### **Mission**

We build trust and bridge divides to solve critical issues and strengthen our democracy and society.

#### **Vision**

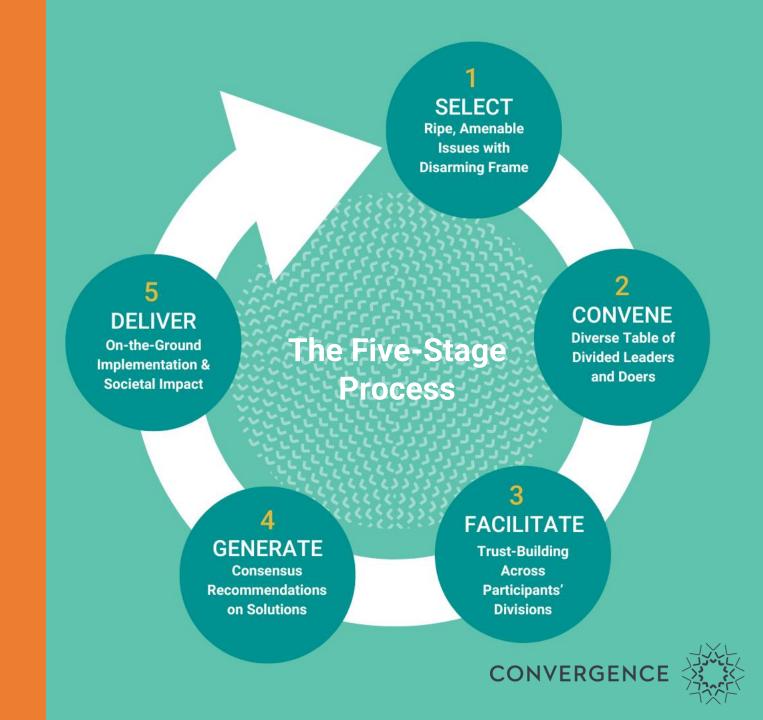
We envision a vibrant society built on broad collaboration and inclusion.

#### **What Differentiates Us**

- Our rigorous problem-solving methodology and expert facilitation
- Our neutrality
- Focus on contentious, "stuck" issues
- Frame issues in a way that brings a truly diverse group to the table
- Development of higher ground solutions that go beyond compromise
- Design projects to lead to action and impact

# Our Proven Approach

**How We Get it Done** 



# Kentucky Collaborative on Child Care Project

- August-October 2024: Convergence interviewed 34 diverse leaders from various sectors.
- October 2024-Spring 2025: A large, multi-sector working group will meet monthly.
- A yet to be determined number of small working groups will also meet monthly.

## Kentucky Collaborative on Child Care

- Baptist Health
- Baumann Paper Company
- Century Aluminum
- Child Care Council of Kentucky
- Cincinnati / Northern Kentucky International (CVG) Airport
- Clark County Public Schools
- Community Coordinated Child Care
- Family Scholar House
- Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky
- Frost Brown Todd
- Greater Owensboro Chamber
- Gray Construction

- Ikids
- Kentucky Association for Economic Development
- Kentucky Baptist Convention
- Kentucky Catholic Conference
- Kentucky Chamber Foundation
- Kentucky Chamber of Commerce
- Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education
- Kentucky Retail Federation
- Kentucky United Methodist Children's Homes
- Kentucky Voices for Health
- Kentucky Youth Advocates
- KY FREE

- KYSHRM
- LaFontaine Prep
- Learning Grove
- Lift a Life Foundation
- Lincoln Trail ADD
- Metro United Way
- PNC
- Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky
- Prichard Committee
- Russell Place of Promise
- SOAR
- University of Kentucky
- Wonderschool



## **How You Can Help**

- Lawmaker Feedback and Perspective
  - Tell us your thoughts
  - Respond to inquiries
  - Check-in with stakeholders
- Help Us Work Through Impasses





