

**FOR IMMEDIATE
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Mayor Joe Hogsett, City Leaders Announce Childcare Opportunities for Family of First Responders

INDIANAPOLIS – Today, Mayor Joe Hogsett and leadership from YMCA of Greater Indianapolis, Indianapolis Public Schools, AYS - At Your School, Early Learning Indiana, and the United Way of Central Indiana announced the launch of a childcare program that will serve families of Indianapolis first responders.

Starting Wednesday, March 25, childcare for 100 children (ages 5 to 12) will be available for families of Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) and Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD), as well as public safety communication at a discounted rate. The program will be administered by the YMCA of Greater Indianapolis and AYS at multiple locations in Marion County. First responders in need of childcare for children under the age of 5 will be referred to Early Learning Indiana who has more than 200 spots at facilities around Marion County available.

“The men and women of our public safety agencies are on the front lines of our community’s response to the COVID-19 outbreak, working long hours and prioritizing resident needs,” said Mayor Joe Hogsett. “Indianapolis is committed to stepping forward and helping to provide much-needed support to these individuals and their family during this unprecedented time.”

The City will be providing public safety personnel a code that can be used when signing up children for the program, discounting childcare costs by 50%. Additionally, employees will need to provide their public safety ID number when completing the application. Employees of City public safety agencies will be receiving additional information from departmental leadership.

In accordance with CDC guidelines, children at these community-supported childcare facilities will be kept in separate groups of 10 or less to minimize risk for both childcare providers and youth participants. Additionally, each child will participate in a health screening and temperature check as part of drop-off protocol.

Community partners are continuing to increase capacity, and plan to have additional spots available for essential personnel as demand increases. City and community



leaders are also working with Indianapolis health care systems to offer childcare opportunities for local healthcare workers at participating facilities.

Residents and affected workers impacted by COVID-19 restrictions should visit the city's resource guide, which can be viewed at indy.gov/covid. Spanish speaking residents can view the Resource Guide [here](#). Individuals who are unable to navigate the city's website can call 317-327-4MAC between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to talk to a customer service representative.

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