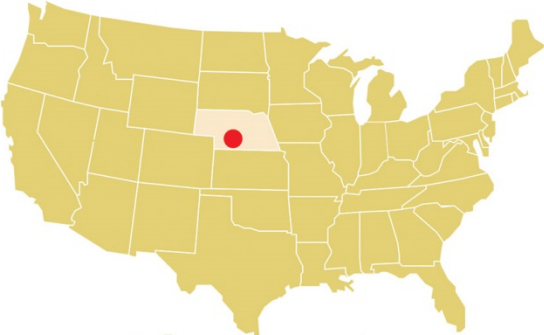


McCook, Nebraska



..... BNSF Railway



City Demographics

- Population – 7,698
 - Children under 5 – 521
 - Median Household Income - \$43,843
- Poverty Rate
 - Community - 11.1%
 - Children under 6 – 20.9%
 - Free/reduced lunch count – 629
- Licensed Child care providers
 - Family Child Care – 21
 - Child Care Center – 3
 - Preschool - 5

Survey Results

- 81% said availability and access to childcare negatively impacts the McCook community.
- 94% said there aren't enough childcare options.
- 81% said finding infant care is extremely or very challenging
- Comments
 - Hard to get a good paying position if you don't have steady daycare.
 - Thinking of moving to another community that offers better options even though prefer to stay in our community.
 - Affects the amount of nurses we are able to have full time
 - Know several people who have had to quit their job due to not being able to find daycare.



Norfolk

-

Early Childhood

Norfolk Demographics

- Population: 24,651
 - Children under 5: 1,848
 - Median Household Income: \$46,542
- Current Openings on NEWorks within 5 miles of Norfolk: 683
- Estimate Annual HS Graduates: 416
- Licensed Childcare providers: 67
 - In-home care: 49
 - Child Care Center: 11
 - Preschool: 2
 - School Age Only: 5
- Providers in Step Up to Quality: 10



2019 Survey Results

- 92% responded high-quality childcare is important for Norfolk.
- 78% responded they feel Norfolk does not have enough options.
- 73% responded they do not view the current offerings as both affordable and accessible to all children.
- 76% stated they viewed Childcare as the #1 priority for future growth
- 77% responded it was difficult to find childcare locally
 - Top reasons given were Cost, Availability, Quality, and Hours of Operation.
- 30% stated childcare availability impacted their ability to accept a job or maintain employment.
- 67% of business respondents indicated a lack of available childcare caused employees to miss work, be tardy, or caused disruptions.
- 43% stated available childcare affected their ability to recruit and retain employees.
- 57% responded available childcare affected their ability to hire top choice candidate.

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Gabriel Steinmeyer

Director of Workforce Development | Norfolk Now | gabriel@norfolkareachamber.com | 605.645.3884

