

Title	Updated Big Sky Child Care Report	09/26/2025
	by Wylie Phillips in FY26 Microgrant Fund	id. 51801686
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Original Submission 10/10/2025

Score	n/a
Request Name	Updated Big Sky Child Care Report
Who will be the fiscal sponsor of this request?	Northern Rocky Mountain Economic Development District
Description	This analysis builds upon our previous work to establish a clear understanding of the current and future child care needs in Big Sky, with a focus on both accessibility and affordability. The analysis will examine the economic impact of the child care gap, conduct a demand and capacity assessment to quantify unmet needs, and evaluate how child care availability intersects with local housing dynamics. This study will continue to assess the role of coordinated child care and housing strategies in supporting working families and strengthening community sustainability. The analysis will build on previous data to enable deeper research into key child care and workforce indicators, allowing for assessment of long-term progress. We will source data from local providers, employers, housing studies, previous child care studies, and demographic reports to inform this analysis.
Select the projects Investment Type	Programming
Select the projects Impact Area	Economic Development
Where will this project be taking place?	Research area will include Big Sky proper and the workforce that contributes to Big Sky.

Please explain the community benefit of the project	<p>This project directly benefits the Big Sky community by providing the essential data needed to address the critical childcare gap, a significant barrier to economic stability and family well-being. By quantifying unmet needs and analyzing the economic impact, this analysis will empower community leaders to create targeted, practical solutions.</p> <p>By connecting child care access to local housing dynamics and workforce indicators, the study provides a comprehensive understanding of how these intertwined issues affect working families and the broader economy. This approach, inspired by recent local initiatives such as the Cold Smoke housing project, enables the community to develop coordinated strategies that support families and strengthen the local workforce. The long-term assessment of key indicators will also allow the community to track its progress and adapt over time.</p>
What is the Resort Tax request for this project?	19700
What is the total cost of this project?	29700
Provide a list of the expenses this should this project be awarded funding	<p>NRMEDD work to complete, including subcontracts --</p> <p>Estimated 350 Hours at \$75/hr. -- \$26,250</p> <p>Travel -- \$450</p> <p>Graphic Design for Final Document -- \$3,000</p>
When do you plan to have incurred the costs being requested?	2/1/2026
Please provide any additional information on this request if needed	<p>NRMEDD published the first Big Sky Childcare Analysis in 2023. This report was well-received and was presented during Big Sky Community Week. Since then, the report has been cited at community meetings and childcare gatherings, and it has sparked broader community reports for Gallatin County and beyond. Recently, we have realized that an updated report is necessary. With recent developments like the Cold Smoke Housing project and the Gallatin River Childcare center, updated data is crucial. NRMEDD has been approached by local leaders, childcare providers, and community stakeholders, indicating that now is the right time for this important research. NRMEDD has a strong track record of expertise in strategic research and helping communities understand their economic landscapes. We look forward to continuing our work in the childcare sector and supporting Big Sky as it navigates these complex issues.</p>

Please provide the name(s) and email addresses of who will be representing this request at the next BSRAD board meeting

Wylie Phillips, NRMEDD Executive Director - wylie@nrmedd.org

Application Review & Final Submission

If your application is still in progress you may save your work using the "Save Draft" button. If your application is complete and ready for District review submit using the "Submit Form" button. Once submitted you may not make changes or edits to your application. Application Review: Applications generally will be reviewed at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting. The board meeting schedule can be found on the District website. If received less than 10 days before the next regularly scheduled meeting it will not be reviewed until the following month/meeting. The applicant must be present at the review meeting to answer questions or provide more information requested by the Board. Application review will not occur during the regular Annual Allocation Meetings.
