



**FIRST 5 MARIN**

Learn. Grow. Thrive.

## Spotlight: Child Care in Marin

*Have you thanked  
a child care  
provider recently?*



### **Child care is a community necessity!**

Children need safe places and enriching environments where they can learn and play; employers need their staff to have reliable child care providers so they can be on time and stay on the job; and working parents need affordable child care options just to make ends meet.

Child care is always important for working parents. We need child care to be open and available before our commute-- and to stay open until after our commute back. That's a very long day to care for kids as a provider, and it's a vital service to families and to the community.

The pandemic has been hard on child care providers. They were asked to remain open when everyone else was sheltering-in-place. Many have fewer clients as people leave the workforce. And they all had new costs for cleaning, masks and PPE for staff and children, and expanding outdoor spaces.

This is why we'll be talking about child care at First 5 Marin's

Policy Breakfast on May 6th-- and why we've invited speakers from the business community. Get more information below and **RSVP today!**

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## **First 5 Marin's Policy Breakfast: Child Care Keeps Marin Working**

**Friday, May 6th - 8:30 to 11 am**

Embassy Suites Hotel in San Rafael

**WELCOME** from **Pegah Faed**, executive director of First 5 Marin.

### **PANEL DISCUSSION:**

- **Mike Blakeley** - CEO of the Marin Economic Forum
- **Aideen Gaidmore** - Executive Director of the Marin Child Care Council
- **Joanne Webster** - President and CEO of the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce
- *Moderator: Pegah Faed*

### **KEYNOTE ADDRESS:**

**State Senator Mike McGuire**

**REGISTRATION** - Please email [Michelle@First5Marin.org](mailto:Michelle@First5Marin.org) to RSVP. *This is a free event, including a breakfast buffet.* If you have any questions, call First 5 Marin at 415-257-8555.

**JOIN US for First 5 Marin's April  
commission meeting-- Wednesday,  
April 20th from 5:15 to 7:15 pm. We will  
be meeting at the offices of Marin  
Promise Partnership, 101 Lucas Valley  
Road, Suite 360, in San Rafael. (The  
meeting will also be livestreamed;  
contact [Michelle@First5Marin.org](mailto:Michelle@First5Marin.org) for**

the link.) On the agenda: strategic planning update + early childhood initiatives at Marin Promise + summer backpack giveaways.

## DESKTOP: What We're Reading

Take a look at some of the recent articles about important issues related to children and families:



### [USA Today: Baby formula shortage continues: Nearly 30% of popular brands sold out, stores ration sales](#)

Less than two months after a baby formula recall, retailers are reporting shortages with some stores rationing sales. Nearly 30% of popular baby formula brands may be sold out at retailers across the U.S., according to an analysis by [Datassembly](#), which assessed supplies at more than 11,000 stores. (Snider, 4/9/22)

### [Center for Health Journalism: The pandemic is fueling the race for a vaccine against a lesser-known virus that hits children hard](#)

But fresh help may be on the way for the parents of babies and toddlers, in the form of vaccines and other preventive therapies for RSV. While the pandemic recedes from its omicron peak, health reporters still have plenty of stories to tell about how effectively the medical community fights other deadly viruses. (Bruce, 4/11/22)

### [NPR: A report on violence against kids with disabilities is sobering — if not surprising](#)

A new study suggests that nearly a third of children and adolescents with disabilities has experienced violence – defined as physical, emotional or sexual abuse as well as neglect. It's everything from being struck or verbally attacked by a family member to cyberbullying. And they're reportedly twice as likely to experience violence as young people without disabilities. (Kritz, 4/12/22)

### [American Prospect: The American Rescue Plan's Child Care Test Run](#)

As an example of the promise of long-term investment in child care and early learning, it was

wildly successful. But the money runs out soon.  
(Covert, 4/11/22)

## **Chicago Sun Times: No surprise: Paid family leave makes parents, children happier**

The U.S. remains the only advanced economy without federal paid leave, despite overwhelming support for this benefit. Employers are free to provide this benefit at their own expense. But only one in four U.S. workers, including federal employees, can take paid time off to care for a newborn or a newly adopted or fostered child. That's problematic for many reasons, including the abundant evidence that paid leave boosts healthy childhood development and economic security. (Lee and Ono, 4/11/22)

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# Join us!

## First 5 Marin's Policy Breakfast

Friday, May 6, 2022  
8:30 am  
Embassy Suites Hotel

## Child Care Keeps Marin Working!

*Keynote speaker: State Senator Mike McGuire*