



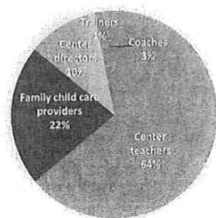
T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® MINNESOTA, a project of Child Care Aware of Minnesota, is a scholarship program that helps early childhood and school-age care educators increase their levels of education, compensation, and commitment to the field by earning college credits and degrees. It is a national program licensed by T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® National Center and funded with federal funds granted to Child Care Aware from the Minnesota Department of Human Services.



#### The Reach:

- Since its inception in 2002, T.E.A.C.H. has helped 1,191 early educators increase their levels of education, compensation, and commitment to the field.
- T.E.A.C.H. has built and sustained relationships with over 40 Minnesota colleges and universities.

T.E.A.C.H. Recipients By Role, FY 2022



T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Type, FY 2022

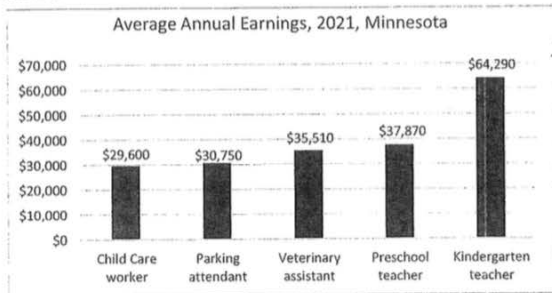


#### The Results:

- T.E.A.C.H. has expended almost \$6 million in scholarship support for Minnesota's early childhood workforce in the last five years, with an average scholarship of \$4,600.
- Wages increased an average of 9% for associate degree recipients and 14% for those seeking a bachelor's degree once an annual bonus has been awarded. The average wage for a T.E.A.C.H. recipient working in a center classroom is just over \$17 an hour, which is 21% higher than the overall average wage.
- On average, associate degree recipients completed 15 credits per annual scholarship; bachelor's degree recipients completed 17.
- In FY 2022, average turnover rates were 7% for those with associate degrees and 3% for those with bachelor's degrees.

## The Need:

- Average wages for child care center staff are woefully low, below that of parking lot attendants or veterinary assistants.



From U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics (2022)

- Better education can help early childhood professionals earn higher salaries and effectively prepare young children for school and life.
- Average early educator turnover in the field is 17%,<sup>1</sup> much higher than for T.E.A.C.H. recipients.

## Recipient Testimonials:

Without the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship, I would not have been able to afford to get a BA degree. The financial support was essential to managing college as an adult while parenting and working full-time. Earning my degree gives credibility to the work that I do every day. I may be doing the same work but I would like to believe that I do it with more knowledge and more intention. Many early childhood educators enter the field without a degree. T.E.A.C.H. scholarships offer opportunity to people who are doing the important work of caring for and educating the young children of our country. -Theresa Peplinski, Family Child Care Provider

It was my [Parent Aware] coach that gave me the confidence and the motivation to apply to Pine Technical and Community College, which has honestly been one of the best decisions of my life. The financial help that I have received from these programs and the help of my team at the college have allowed me to focus completely on my courses without the stress of worrying how I will pay for everything, which has been such an amazing feeling. I am so excited to be graduating today with my certificate in Early Childhood and I am proud to say I am continuing on in the Fall for my AAS degree. Taking these courses has done so much for me as well as the children I care for. I have learned an immense amount of information which is making me a better child care provider, but that is not all this program has given me. It has given me something that is just for me, something to take pride in that I am accomplishing because I am so passionate about caring for children and I choose to work hard on my coursework. I am so thankful for all of it. - Sara Orton, Family Child Care Provider

<sup>1</sup> National Governors Association Center for Best Practices: Supporting States' Policy Strategy to Improve Early Care and Education Workforce. Minnesota Workforce Compensation Advisory Group Summary Report and Recommendations. Accessed February 22, 2021 at [https://mn.gov/gov-stat/pdf/MN\\_Workforce\\_Compensation\\_Advisory\\_Group\\_Summary.pdf](https://mn.gov/gov-stat/pdf/MN_Workforce_Compensation_Advisory_Group_Summary.pdf)