

MEDIA ALERT

Lucas Camuso-Stall

Sr. Director, Public Relations & Advocacy

lucas.stall@unitedwaytoledo.org

(419) 254-4652 office | (765) 977-3712 mobile



United Way of Greater Toledo
Serving Lucas, Wood,
& Ottawa counties

Economic Side Effects of COVID-19, Working Mothers & Childcare Drastically Impacted

WHO: United Way of Greater Toledo (UWGT)
Lesley Doria, Vice President, Childcare, YMCA of Greater Toledo
Christie Fair, working mother
Kellie Jones, Vice President, Human Resources & Engagement, UWGT
Mayka Rosales-Peterson, working mother
Libby Schoen, moderator, Director of Education & Collaboratives, UWGT

WHAT: While COVID-19 devastates countless industries across the U.S., one key sector fights for survival: **Childcare.**

Financial losses due to months-long closures, smaller class sizes and new operation protocols to keep kids safe is proving to be a great fiscal challenge for local childcare providers. Many centers are now asking questions on how long they can stay open, pay their staff and offer the high quality care that every child in the community deserves.

Some parents are wondering if it's worth quitting their jobs altogether to avoid the high-costs of care, while those who have no other choice are going into debt. This issue is specifically hurting working mothers, who account for a third of all employed women (23.5 million). Recent U.S. Census Bureau data shows that the number of women who cited leaving the workforce because of childcare increased by 178 percent. According to the U.S. Labor Department, that equates to roughly 865,000 women who have indeed exited the workforce since the pandemic began.

"The Realities of Childcare in a Pandemic: A Community Conversation" features a panel of working parents, local providers and childcare experts who will shed light on the importance of high-quality care for the long-term academic success of children and financial stability of working families.

WHEN: (Zoom virtual event) Tuesday, October 20, noon to 1:00 p.m.

HOW: Register on Eventbrite at childcare-panel.eventbrite.com