

Serving ●●● Adams, Clark, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marquette, Portage, Taylor, Waushara, and Wood County

Good Start Grants is a program of Childcaring, funded by United Way of Marathon County and other community agencies and foundations. Good Start Grants provides financial assistance for eligible families in Marathon County to ensure they have access to quality, affordable child care.

An annual survey to families has collected impactful stories:

How has Good Start Grants helped your family?

- “Gsg has provided us the ability to give quality childcare to our twins which we would otherwise be unable to afford if it weren’t for the gsg”

If Good Start Grants were not available, how would that affect your current child care situation?

- “We as a family will struggle a lot. One parent would have to quit their job to stay home while the other works two jobs. Or one picks up a third shift. No matter what, one of us would miss opportunities with our children. Neither of us don’t want to miss those important life moments. GSG allows us to work our jobs and have those life moments with our children. It allows both of us to laugh with them, to comfort them, to be there with them.”

Do you feel your child care program increases your knowledge and supports you as a parent?

- Yes, I get updates on how my child’s day has went and activities and conversations had, along with problem solving that has occurred. This in return helps myself bring these certain skills learned into our household.

General Comments

- “GSG helps us so much with the financial burden of day care cost. It allows us to continue working our jobs instead of one of us missing out important life moments by working multiple jobs or even a third shift just to get by; which would cause stress and strain. It is such a relief that GSG helps families that still need the assistance. Without them my 2-year-old would not be interacting with others his age. He loves his teachers at day care, he loves playing with children his own age, he looks forward going to day care when mommy and daddy goes to work. So GSG just doesn't help the parents but also helps the children. The children learn to interact with others, sharing, and playing before going into school. GSG gives the children a stepping stone to ready them for 4K/5K. GSG helps the whole family. They keep us as a family.”
- “I never viewed myself as someone who would need assistance with child care costs. I am a working professional with a Master's degree. I had never asked for help before, and was paying independently for child care for two children for several years. Then, my ex-husband began having mental health and substance abuse issues, and my whole life was turned upside down. Suddenly, there was only one income and many other stressful circumstances at home; both emotional and financial. I would not have been able to keep paying for child care on my own with only my income. I was able to move out on my own with my children, continue working, get divorced, and continue their child care without interruption, with the help of GSG. My daughter is in 4-K now, and will only need child care before/after school next year. I'm so thankful for the GSG, and will be happy to have someone else receive that funding next year, when my daughter moves to Kindergarten at the elementary school.”

For more information about GSG, call Childcaring (715-841-9490) or visit our website at Childcaring.org