

# CHILD CARE

## Steps to Opportunity

Childcare assistance for parents that want to return to work.



We all know people who are ALICE — Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. ALICE workers educate our children, keep us healthy, and make our quality of life possible, yet do not earn enough to support their own families. ALICE households are forced to make tough choices, such as deciding between working or remaining on public assistance.

Childcare is often the second-most expensive item in the ALICE family budget, after the cost of housing. Nationwide in 2017, the average annual cost of a two-bedroom apartment at HUD's Fair Market Rent was \$12,478, family-based childcare for a 4-year-old was \$8,964 per year, and this cost continues to grow.

*From: [Let's Take the Initiative Act](#) strategy*

It's an **everpresent** challenge in one area of a family's budget have consequences in other areas. Nowhere is this more apparent than in child development, which requires safe housing, reliable transportation, nutritious food, and quality childcare, education, and health care. When there is not enough income to provide these essentials, children's development and future potential can be negatively impacted.



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**Mission:** Our program is intended to help families that fall just outside the parameters of childcare assistance with Job and Family Services. It will enable a group of parents from Portage County to provide for their family by reducing the cost of childcare that would otherwise exclude them from the workforce. In addition to the childcare subsidy, we will provide programming that offers participants opportunity to develop financial skills, parenting abilities, and community involvement.

**Get Involved:** Contact Catholic Charities Serving Portage and Stark Counties' Ravenna Office for more information and see how you can help. (330) 293-1745.

### Monthly Income Parameters

Family Size	Minimum Income	Maximum Income
2	\$1,034	\$1,812
3	\$1,261	\$2,172
4	\$1,391	\$2,328
5	\$1,623	\$2,585
6	\$1,812	\$2,740

Income does not include 10% of the participant's net income by the state of Ohio.



**Catholic Charities**

Serving Portage and Stark Counties

Providing Help. Creating Hope.