



Meeting the Needs of Young Families Living and Working in Washington



Current Situation for Families With Young Children

Region 12 Solutions

Infants
- 4 Years

Reach
Pre-School


K-5

6-8


9-12

Washington Primary

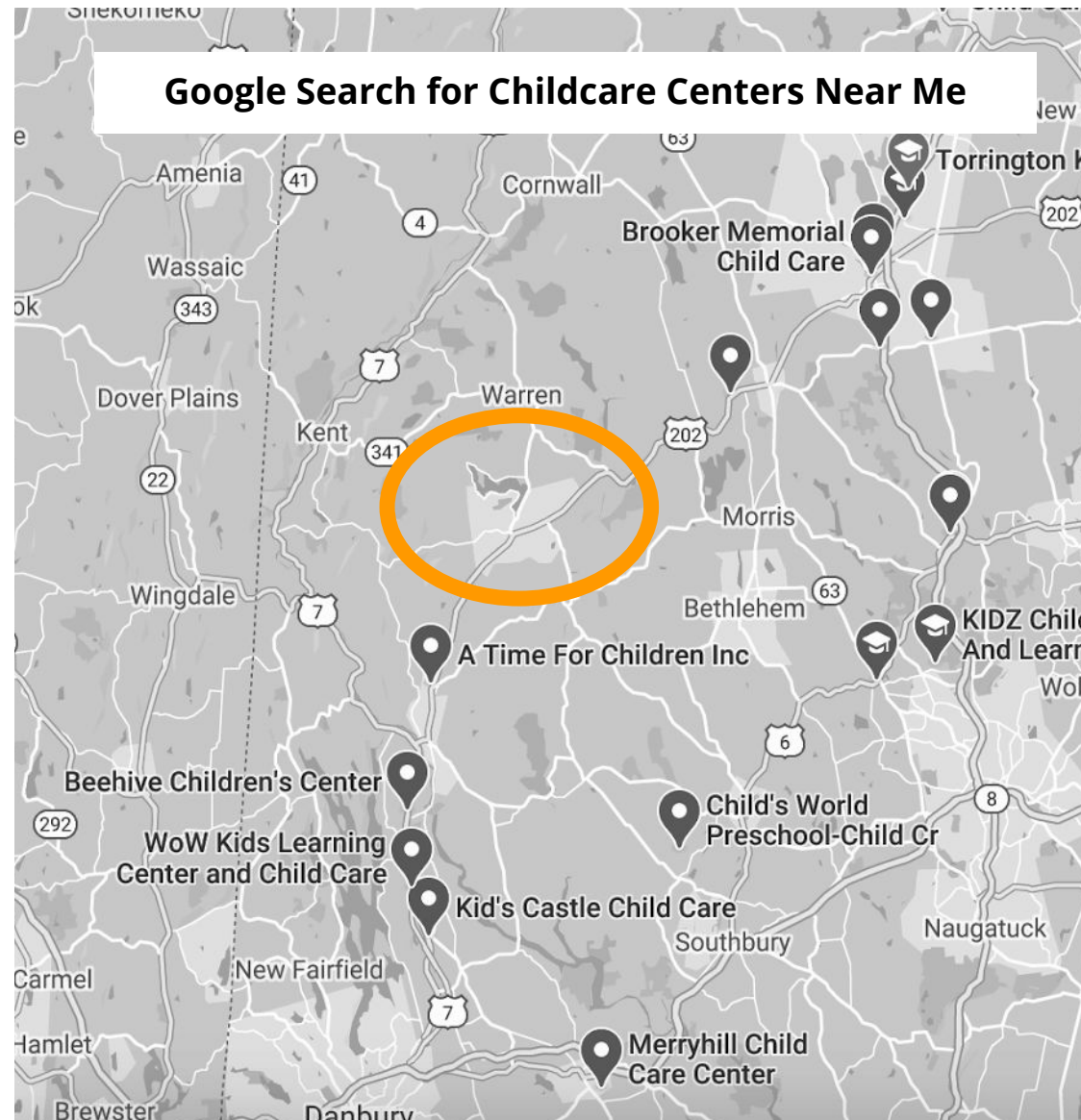
Shepaug Valley School



While Region 12 supports families with children 4 years of age and older, our area is devoid of solutions for residents and employees with infants to 3 years old



The closest options
for daily child care
are located in New
Milford and Litchfield





Can a town of our size
support a child care program?





Towns with full-time programs for infants to 4 years old



CORNWALL
1364 Population

SHARON
2733 Population

SALISBURY
3658 Population

Cornwall Child Care Center

Town	Cornwall
Town's Population	1364
Infant to Toddler Enrollment	8
Pre-K Enrollment	10
Funding	Town + Tuition + Fundraising
Town Contribution	\$45,000
Additional Contribution from the Town	Town built the center in 1995 across from Cornwall Consolidated School

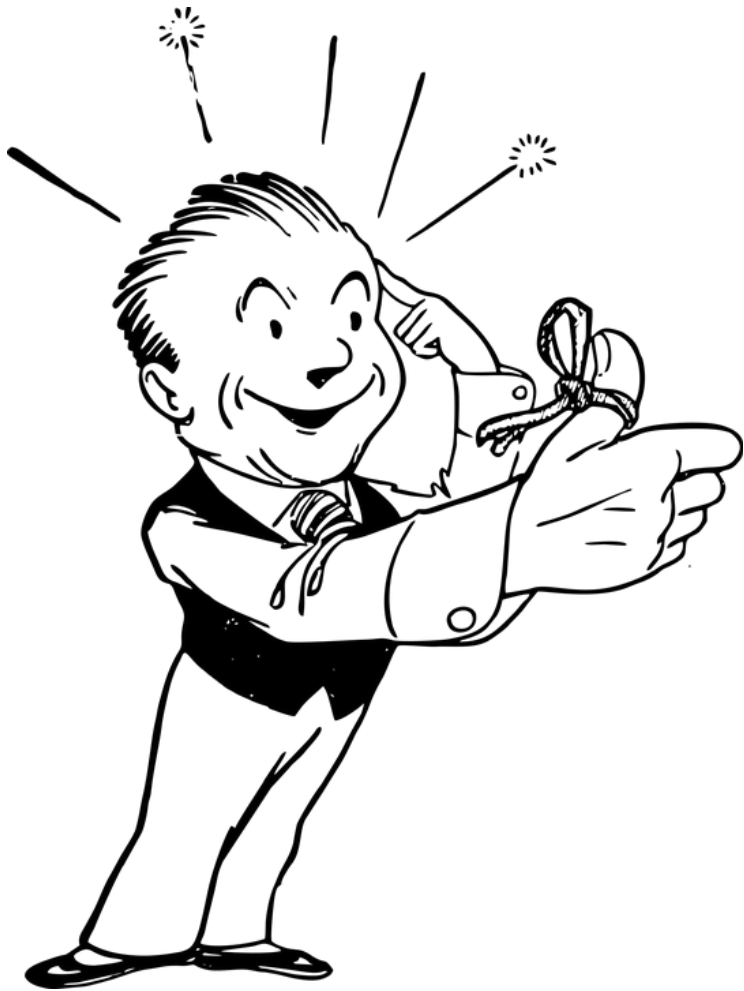


Sharon Day Care	
Town	Sharon
Town's Population	2733
Infant to Toddler Enrollment	20
Pre-K Enrollment	22
Funding	Town + Tuition + Fundraising
Town Contribution	\$42,000
Additional Contribution from the Town	Located inside the Sharon Center School



Housatonic Child Care Center	
Town	Salisbury
Town's Population	3658
Infant to Toddler Enrollment	20
Pre-K Enrollment	22
Funding	Town + Tuition + Fundraising
Town Contribution	\$42,000
Additional Contribution from the Town	Town gifted the land in 1995





Judea Nursery School

- Closed in 2016
- Not a full-time solution for working families
- No solution for families with infants



Washington Family First Initiative



Proposal for Consideration

Make it easier for families with young children to live and work in and around the town of Washington by providing an affordable, full-time, licensed child care solution that serves as a feeder to Region 12 Schools



Is There Enough Demand?



Region 12

Survey of Family with School Aged Children

- Email survey to families with students enrolled in Region 12 Schools
- Conducted in May 2020, prior to enrollment increases driven by the pandemic
- Families from Bridgewater, Roxbury, Washington
- 166 respondents, 77% of surveys completed by female head of household (mom/stepmom)
- 78% of respondents have lived here 6+ years

Relevant Insights

Survey of Family with School Aged Children

- Region 12 attracts families with multiple children
 - 80% of respondents raised 2 - 4 children here
- 47% of respondents enrolled their children in daycare
 - 13% in home day care
 - 34% out-of-home day care
- 40% of respondents indicated day care options were important when comparing one town to another

Relevant Insights

Existing Washington After-Care Program

Opened in 2016

- Supports K - 5 children on school days and half days
- Averaging 24 children per year
 - 4-5 children per grade



Where Would We House It?



Proposed - Shepaug Child Care Center

Town	Washington
Location	R12 Admin Building assumes existing occupants relocated to SVS
Infant to Toddler Capacity	16
Pre-K Capacity	16
Summer/Holiday Capacity	+17 School Aged Children
Funding	Town + Tuition + Fundraising
Town Contribution	TBD
Additional Contribution from the Town	Current R12 Administration Building



- Estimated Renovation Cost = \$100,000 +/- per consulting architect
- Target Open Date: Fall 2022
- Run by Washington's Park & Rec Department as an extension of the After-Care Program
- Priority given to residents of Washington, followed by residents of surrounding towns

Making It Easier for Families to Live and Work in Washington

Washington Family First Initiative

3 Months
- 4 Years

Reach
Pre-School

K-5

6-8


9-12

School Street Campus


Shepaug Campus

Park & Rec

Regional 12



COMMENTS/QUESTIONS



Next Steps

1. Review initial project plan and operating budget
2. Identify an operating committee or board
3. Inform the public
4. Apply for grants and fundraise for renovations
5. Hire a director/staff

APPENDIX

Survey of Households with School Aged Children

Monday, February 15, 2021

166

Total Responses

Date Created: Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Complete Responses: 118

Q2: How long have you lived here?

Answered: 165 Skipped: 1

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than 1 year	2.42%	4
1 - 5 years	20.61%	34
6 - 10 years	16.97%	28
11 - 15 years	16.97%	28
16 - 20 years	15.76%	26
More than 20 years	27.27%	45
TOTAL		165

Q5: How many children have you raised in this area?

Answered: 166 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1	13.25%	22
2	40.36%	67
3	29.52%	49
4	9.64%	16
5 or more	3.61%	6
Other (please specify)	3.61%	6
TOTAL	166	

Q6: For the children you have raised in this area, what type of schools did/do they attend? (check all that apply)

Answered: 165 Skipped: 1

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
In-Home Daycare	13.33%	22
Out-of-Home Daycare	33.94%	56
Public Pre-K	44.85%	74
Public Elementary School (K - 5)	83.64%	138
Public Middle School (6 - 8)	59.39%	98
Public High School (9 - 12)	45.45%	75
Private Elementary School (K - 5)	6.06%	10
Private Middle School (6 - 8)	4.24%	7
Private High School (9 - 12)	5.45%	9
Home School Pre-K	1.82%	3
Home School Primary School (K - 5)	0.61%	1
Home School Middle School (6 - 8)	0.00%	0
Home School High School (9 - 12)	1.21%	2
Total Respondents: 165		

Q9: Which, if any, of the following were reasons you decided to move from your previous home? (check all that apply)

Answered: 137 Skipped: 29

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Schools	36.50%	50
Safety	12.41%	17
Taxes	20.44%	28
Economy	2.19%	3
Traffic	8.03%	11
Density of development	16.79%	23
Change in family status	27.01%	37
Be closer to friends/family	26.28%	36
Outgrew home	22.63%	31
Quality of Life	37.96%	52
None of the above	2.92%	4
Other (please specify)	24.09%	33
Total Respondents: 137		

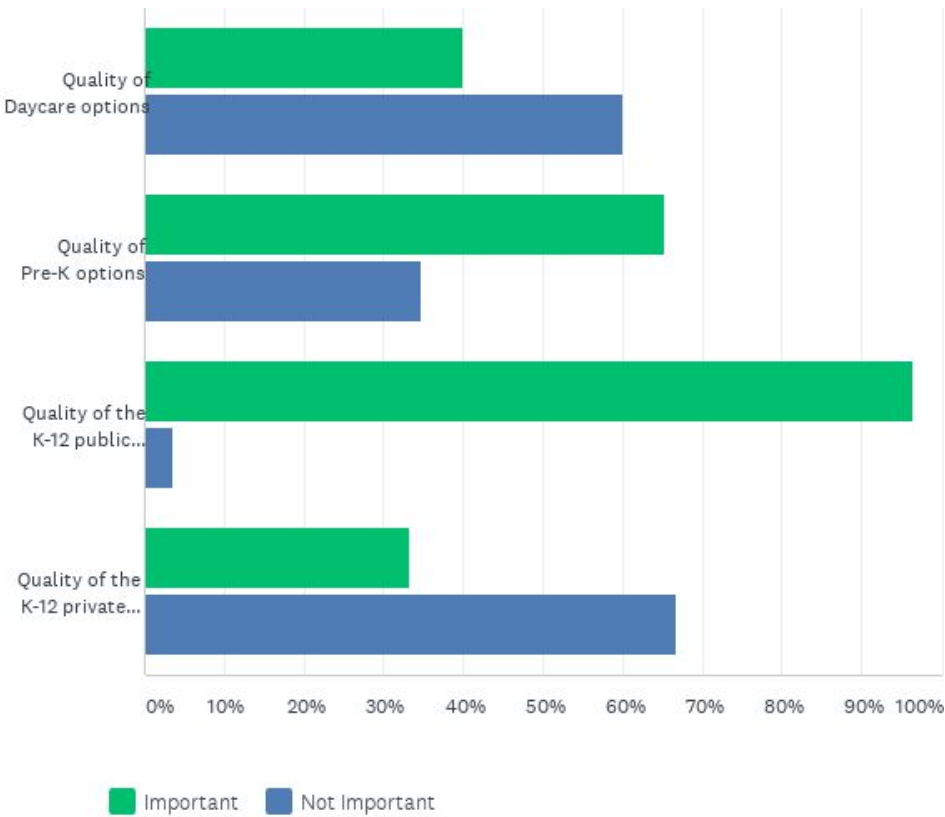
Q14: In addition to the town you live in, which of the following towns did you include in your search? (check all that apply)

Answered: 110 Skipped: 56

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Bethel	10.00%	11
Bethlehem	10.91%	12
Bridgewater	35.45%	39
Brookfield	18.18%	20
Danbury	7.27%	8
Goshen	1.82%	2
Kent	12.73%	14
Litchfield (including Bantam)	18.18%	20
Middlebury	5.45%	6
Morris	9.09%	10
New Fairfield	10.00%	11
New Milford	18.18%	20
Newtown	17.27%	19
Roxbury	41.82%	46
Salisbury	0.00%	0
Sharon	0.91%	1
Sherman	7.27%	8
Southbury	19.09%	21
Thomaston	3.64%	4
Torrington	0.91%	1
Warren	6.36%	7
Washington (including New Preston, Marbledale, Woodville)	36.36%	40
Waterbury	0.00%	0
Watertown	2.73%	3
Woodbury	24.55%	27
Other (please specify)	16.36%	18
Total Respondents: 110		

Q23: How important were each of the following factors when comparing properties in one town vs another?

Answered: 116 Skipped: 50



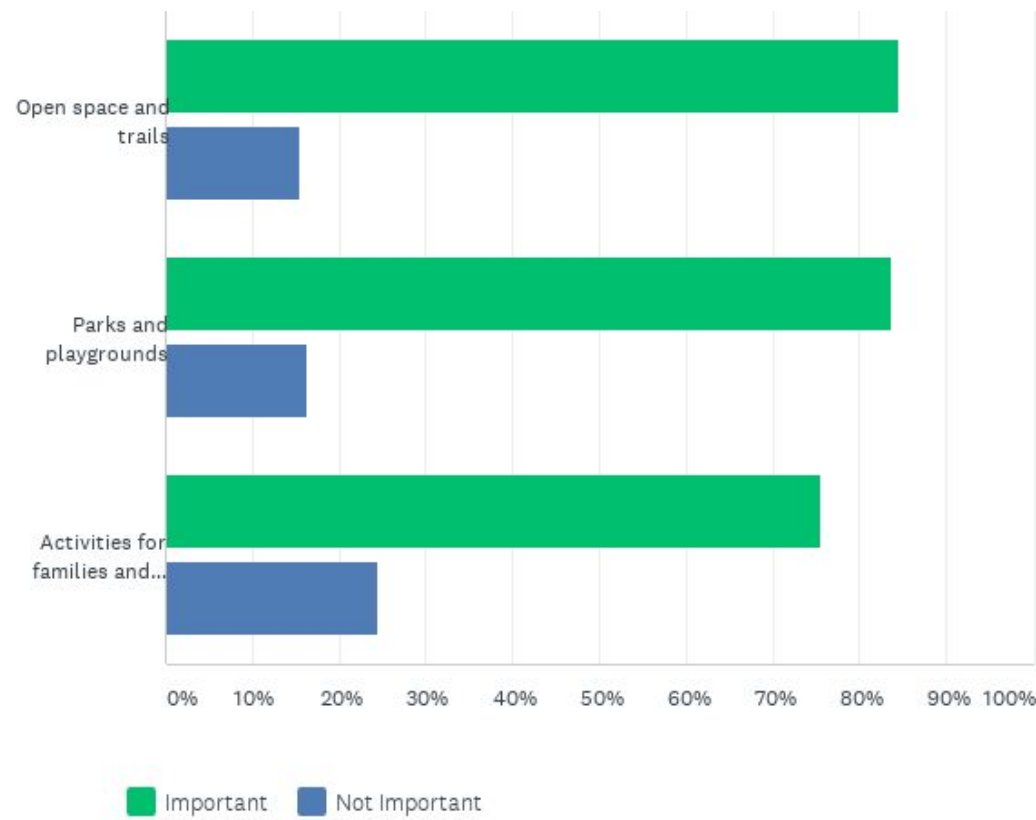
Q23: How important were each of the following factors when comparing properties in one town vs another?

Answered: 116 Skipped: 50

	IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	TOTAL
Quality of Daycare options	40.00% 40	60.00% 60	100
Quality of Pre-K options	65.35% 66	34.65% 35	101
Quality of the K-12 public schools	96.52% 111	3.48% 4	115
Quality of the K-12 private schools	33.33% 34	66.67% 68	102

Q24: How important were each of the following factors when comparing properties in one town vs another?

Answered: 119 Skipped: 47



Q24: How important were each of the following factors when comparing properties in one town vs another?

Answered: 119 Skipped: 47

	IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	TOTAL
Open space and trails	84.62% 99	15.38% 18	117
Parks and playgrounds	83.62% 97	16.38% 19	116
Activities for families and children	75.45% 83	24.55% 27	110