

Meeting the Needs of Young Families



Washington's Investment in the Future

“Continue to support the social and cultural assets that make Washington an attractive place for younger age groups, either through financial assistance or Town services” - POCD pg. 11

Purpose of today's public hearing

- Inform and present the idea of a daycare in Washington including costs and operations information
- Gather community input regarding the proposal
- Answer questions that the public would like us to explore

This meeting will NOT hold a vote



Current Situation - Need

There currently are no full day child care programs operating in Washington forcing working parents to have to leave town to find child care.

“I live in Washington and work in Washington, my older children go to school in Washington and I have to drive to New Milford back and forth everyday 4 times a day and it is very inconvenient. I would appreciate having a closer day care center for her.”

-survey comment 8/2021



Current Need



“...I’d like to send my girl to the preschool through the district but have a younger daughter who also needs care .. it seems like a logistical nightmare to even attempt to consider it.” - K.C. Washington Community Facebook page 4/2021

“... We would love to attend REACH but the hours do not cover our work day and we don’t have coverage for the summer. As remote work is more common than ever, which I feel is bringing more families in, we just need the support structure to keep them!”- B. H. email following survey 11/2021

2021 Survey Data Regarding Daycare

106 respondents - 53 from Washington

- 51 children in our target age
- 39 of the 51 attend a licensed child care program outside of our town (76%)

When asked the survey question “ *If you had access, at a fee you were able to pay for year-round, out-of-home licensed child care for infants to four year olds in Washington Depot, would you consider enrolling one or more of the children in your household in it?*”

The respondents answered yes inclusive of the care for 100 children, which includes anticipated future need

There was also just as much interest from Region 12 staff and parents in Roxbury and Bridgewater.



Proposed Solution-Shepaug Valley Children's Center

Hours: 7:30 am - 6:00 pm, year round

Ages Served: 6 weeks - 5 years old

Capacity: 34 - 16 infant/toddler, 18 pre-school

* Ability to add 19 school aged children during the summer months

Location: 11A School Street, Washington Depot - Region 12
Central Office next to Washington Primary School

Operator: Non-profit organization



Solutions from Other Communities- All run by a local non-profit

	Town Yearly Contribution	Tuition Cost	Initial Investment
Sharon Daycare Pop. 2,733	\$40,000	290/wk	Space in Schools
Housatonic/Salisbury Pop. 3,658	\$42,000	331/wk	Gifted land for the building
Cornwall Pop. 1,364	\$45,000	250/wk (shorter day)	Town built the building



Operation of Shepaug Valley Children's Center



Run by a non-profit that will hire a Director

Washington residents that have agreed to be on the board:

Dave Werkhoven

Mike Croft

Michelle Gorra

Chloe Mathews

Peter Bowman

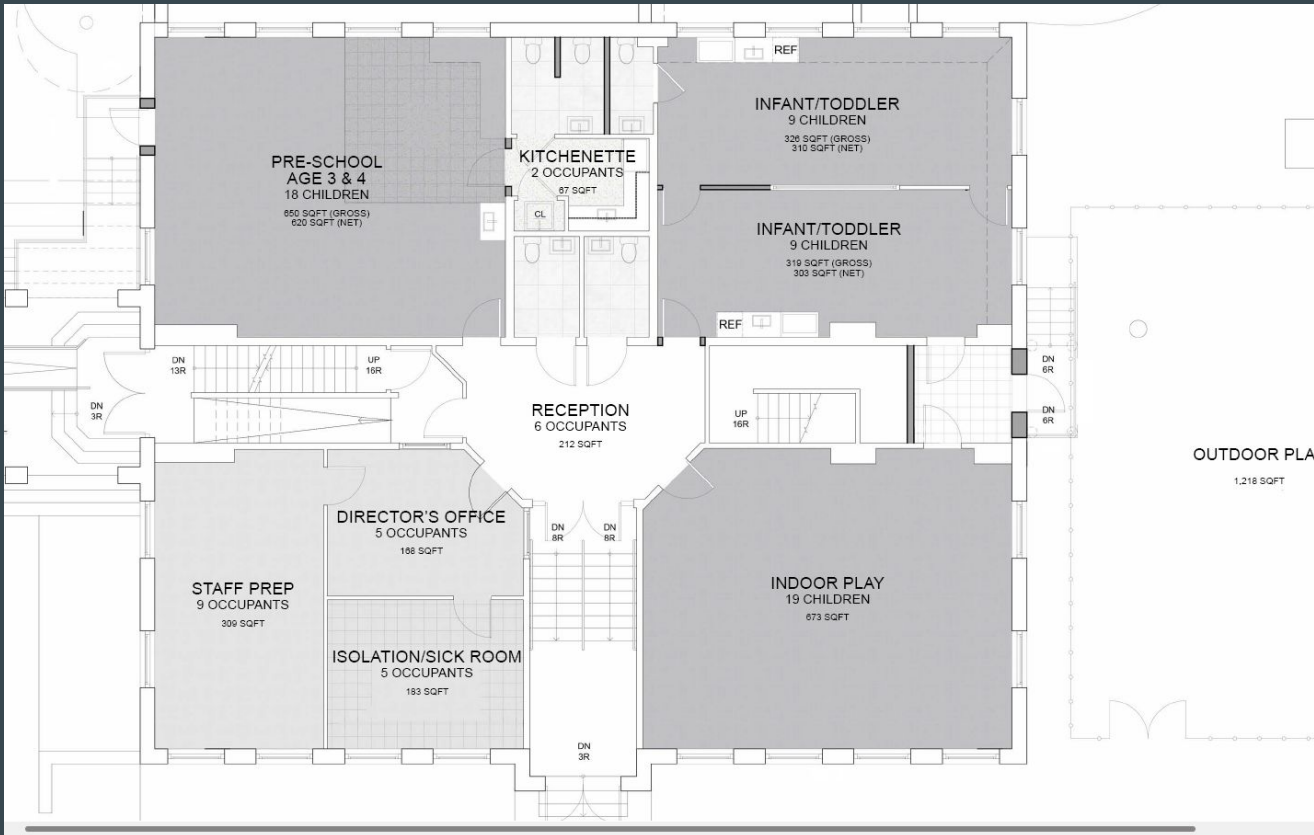
Julie King

Trisha McMahon

Sarah Belanger

Building Renovation Plan-

VAKOTA
Architecture PLLC

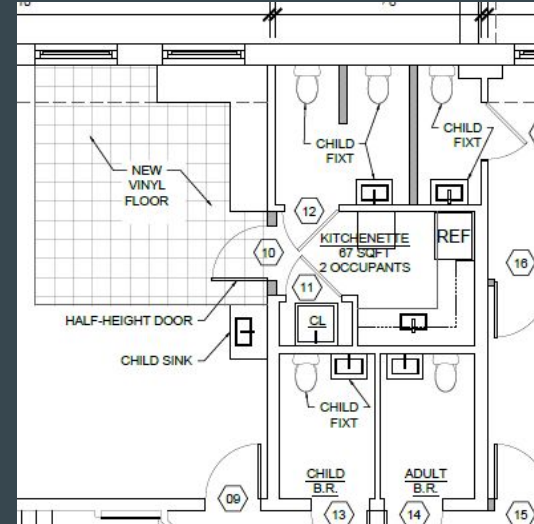


Renovation Cost Estimate

- Estimated cost of construction: \$411,119

Including: protection materials and installation, demolition and carting of interior walls, demolition of metal pan stair, rough carpentry, drywall, dealings, finish carpentry, doors and hardware, glass and mirror, painting, tile walls in bathrooms, vinyl flooring, carpet tile patching, carpet tile patching flooring, plumbing, plumbing fixtures, bath accessories, electrical, HVAC, cabinetry & millwork, exterior fencing, cleaning, door openings and peripheral work, fee, general conditions, insurance & tax

- Architect's fees for construction
- Drawings & management: \$9,870
- Environmental Testing: \$2,000
- Engineering (if needed): \$2,500
- Contingency (10%) \$30,000
- Permits: TBD
- Furniture, fixtures & equipment: \$45,000
- \$500,489



Anticipated Operating Costs

Income: \$429,500- tuition at full capacity (\$300/ wk)

Expenses: \$414,705

Cushion of \$14,795

Staff (at full capacity)	\$337,655 (no benefits budgeted)
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Building / Operations*-	\$62,725
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Supplies	\$14,325
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*includes: advertising, capital improvements, cleaning-interior, accountant, health consultant, permits, dues, licenses, payroll fees, bank fees, liability insurance, maintenance- exterior & interior, utilities, flood insurance, water testing

- Requesting \$45,000 annual cost from the town to pay for building operations of the program



Potential ways to pay for Renovation

- ARPA funds
- Town fund balance transfer
- STEAP grant
- Other state grants
- fundraise



Questions to consider about a Daycare

How are we providing for our young families?

How are we introducing diversity of ages into our towns?

How are we securing the future of our schools?

Questions, Comments, Feedback

