



National Indian Child Care Association

Expanding and Strengthening Early
Learning in Tribal Communities

STRENGTHENING TRIBAL EARLY LEARNING SYSTEMS TOGETHER

NATIONAL INDIAN CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION

Scan for more information and session materials



National Indian Child Care Association

Promoting high quality culturally relevant child care and development and to unify tribes and tribal organizations by providing leadership, support and advocacy.

Led by a Board of Directors from Tribal child care programs who are supported by their Tribe to serve in this important role





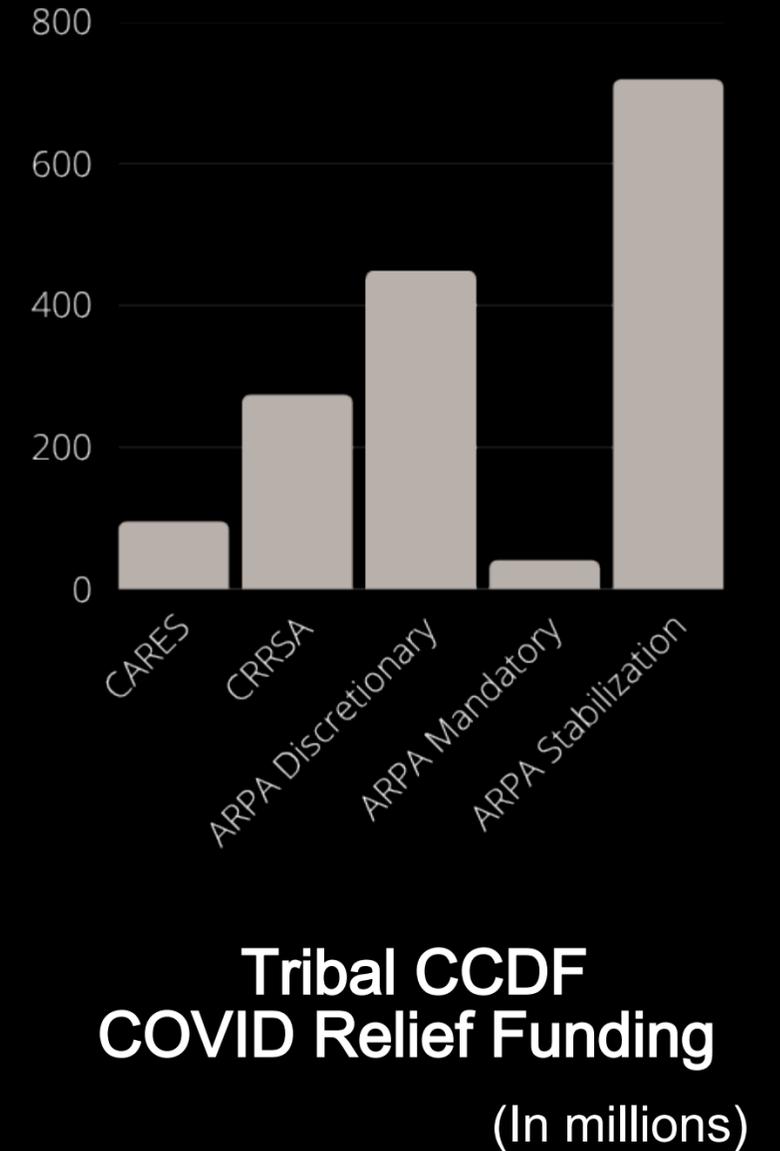
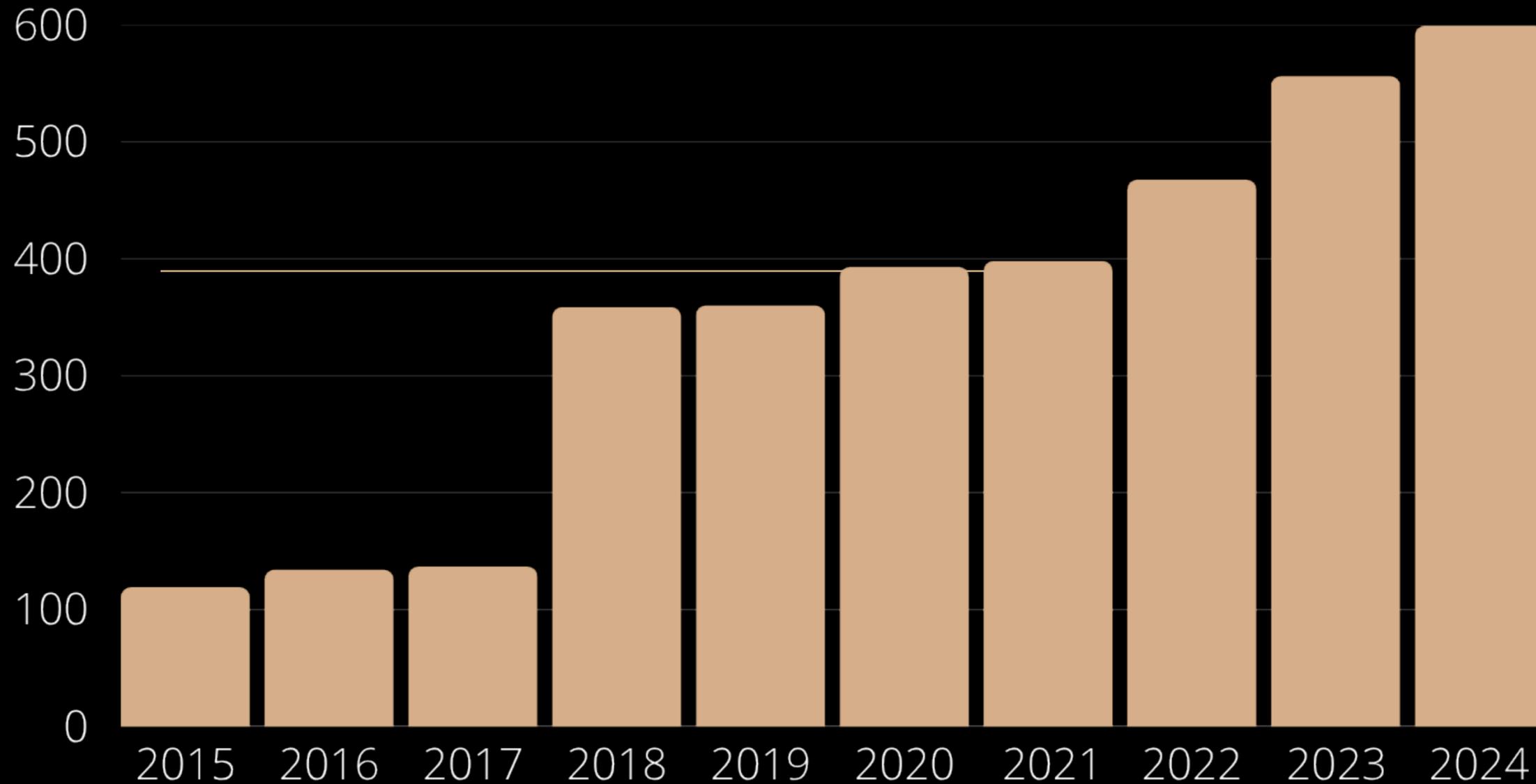
Child Care and Development Block Grant

- Established in 1990
- 264 grantees
- Reaches 300,000 children*
- \$598 million appropriated in 2024
- Provides support for child care for working families
- Promote family economic self-sufficiency
- Help children succeed through affordable, high-quality early care and afterschool programs

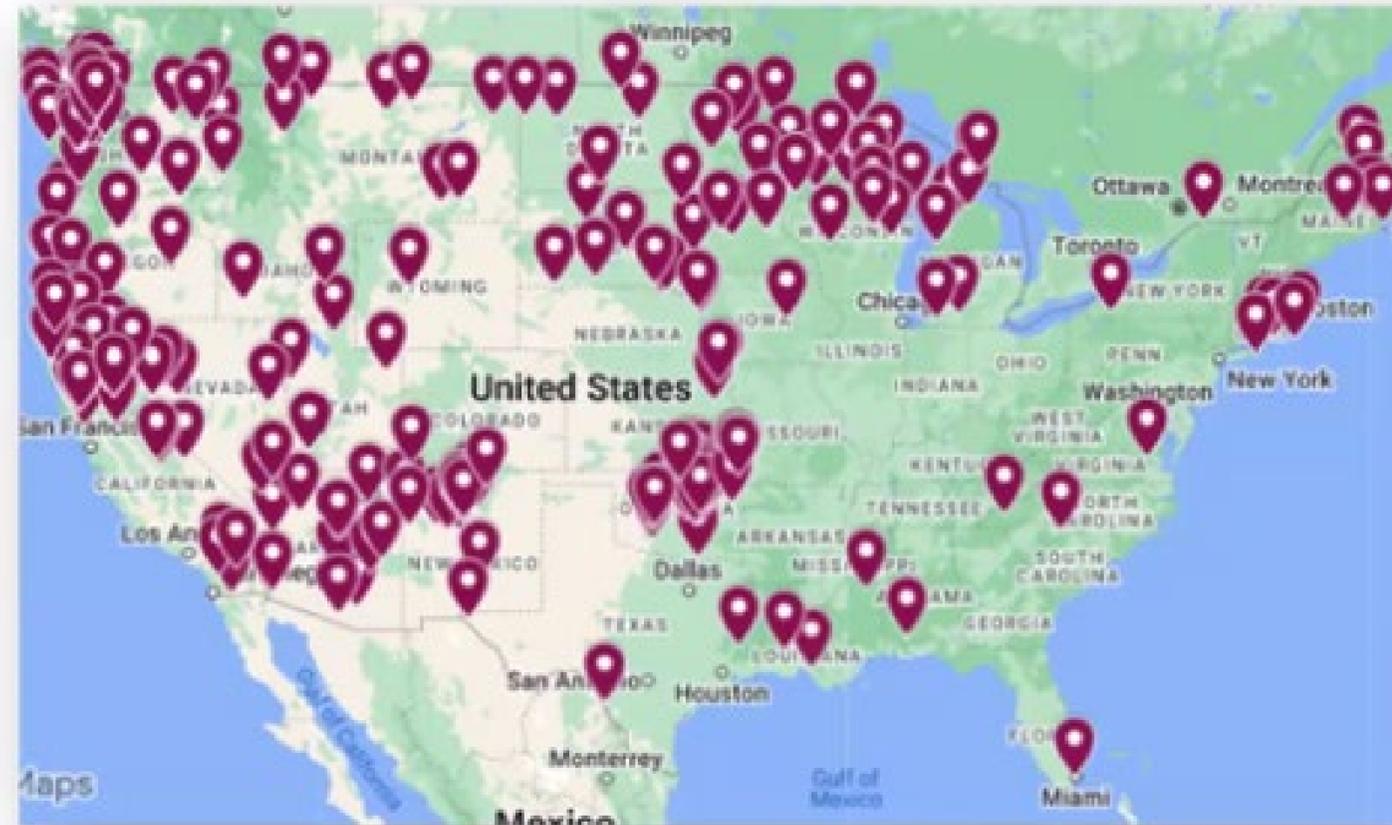
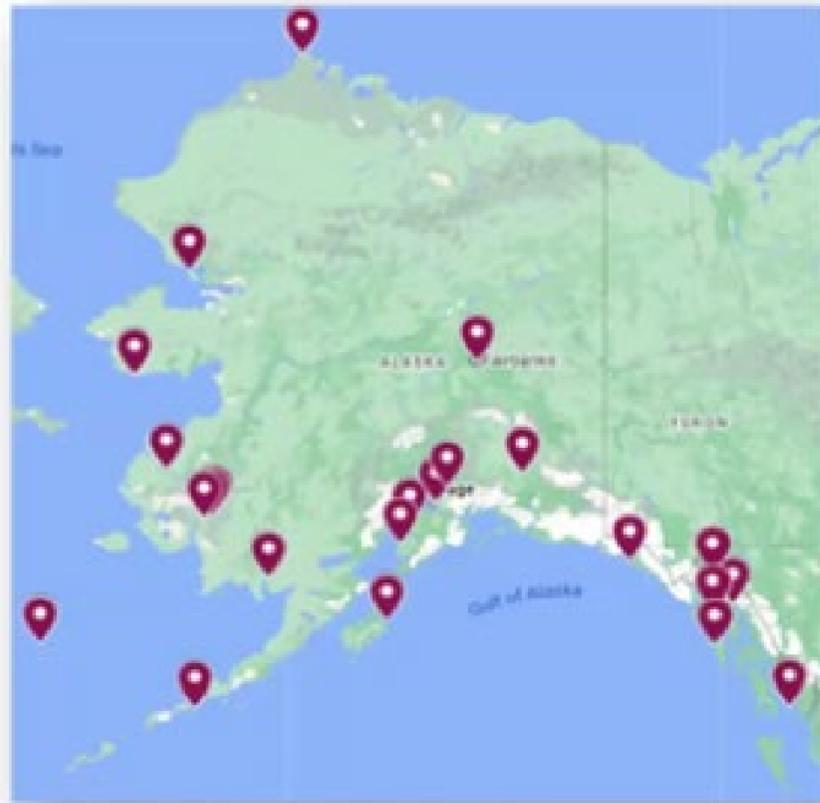
*This figure is an estimate by the Office of Child Care and based on no true data numbers available

Tribal CCDF Funding

(In millions)



Tribal Child Care Programs across the Nation



546 Federally Recognized Tribes | **264** CCDF Tribal Lead Agencies |

50 Integrated CCDF in P.L. 102-477 Plans

Nearly **\$600 million** appropriated for Tribal Nations in FY 2024

Over **\$76 million** toward construction/major renovation (CMR) projects in FY 2023



Major benefits to collaborating

Enhanced access to services, comprehensive supports, improved program quality,
collaborative planning and coordination, shared professional development,
enhancing cultural responsiveness

Challenges of Collaboration

Common Challenges in Collaboration

Funding and resource limitations. Program requirement differences. Systems level issues. Leadership challenges.



NICCA Advocacy Priorities

- Unlock federal early learning data for Tribes
- Ensure Tribal sovereignty in CACFP
- Increase Tribal funding + align rates with true cost of care
- Maximize 102-477 integration for holistic systems
- Include Tribal organizations in advisory bodies



Moving Forward Together

- Start with relationships → trust & shared goals
- Braid funds and strengths → seamless systems
- Engage Tribal leaders → policy & structure alignment
- We are stronger together for our children



Join Us in Hawai'i — September 2026

**2026 National Tribal Child Care Conference
The Strength of Our Children, The Future of Our Nations**

*Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort
Honolulu, Hawaii*

**September 14 - 16, 2026
Pre-Conference Trainings September 13**



We are
stronger together.



 twitter.com/nicca_us
 facebook.com/nicca.us
 instagram.com/nicca.us
 threads.net/@nicca.us

CONTACT

www.nicca.us/contact
jrackliff@nicca.us