JULY 22, 2025 BLUE VALLEY TIME PAGE 5

911 Services Restored After Recent Outages

By State Rep. Ann Flood

Recent intermittent outages affecting 911 services across Pennsylvania have been resolved, according to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency. If you are unable to reach 911 in the future, call your county's non-emergency number.

For Northampton County, dial 610-759-2200. Additional county contact information is available here https://links.pahousenews.com/q/MGDjjvuMd40XZuc0jUUqjq9ix6Ja43sQw-dZcOJYnZ0aW1Ic0ByY24uY29tw4g0P7-ggEoeb3HLKnvGroZFWdX5_w.



PA Chambers of Commerce Call for State Lawmakers to Fix the Child Care Teacher Shortage that is Limiting Care Options for Working Parents

Kristianna Del Grande

PA. – Employers know that dependable child care is essential to making their businesses run successfully. That's why business owners and working parents agree that solving the teacher shortage and expanding access to affordable, high-quality child care must be a top priority as lawmakers in Harrisburg finalize the state budget.

The persistent shortage of child care teachers, driven by low wages that make it difficult for providers to recruit and retain staff, is closing child care classrooms and programs across the commonwealth. The PA House of Representatives has already passed a measure to tackle the child

care shortage head-on by establishing and funding a child care teacher recruitment and retention initiative to tackle this issue. At least 18 other states have adopted similar programs.

If the 3,000 unfilled child care jobs in our Commonwealth were filled, an estimated 25,000 more children could have access to quality child care. More parents could enter or to stay in the workforce, contributing to their families – and the Commonwealth's – economic prosperity.



WHAT

Business owners - including child care providers

 and representatives from Pennsylvania chambers of commerce will call on the state legislature to pass a final budget that will address Pennsylvania's child care teacher shortage, allowing classrooms to remain open and parents to stay in the workforce.

WHEN

Wednesday July 23, 2025, at 2:00 PM

WHERE

IN PERSON: Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia, 200 S Broad St #700,

Philadelphia

VIRTUAL: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_sHeXvpKVSPatmzkitQehtg

WHO

Robert S. Carl, Jr., President and CEO, Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce Samantha Chivinski, Executive Vice-President, Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce Nicole Fetherman, Executive Director for LifeSpan School and Day Care (Lehigh, Montgomery and Bucks Counties)

Megan Gherrity, Parent and Teacher, CrossPoint Early Learning Center (Dauphin County) Crystal Lopez, Director, Kiddie City Early Learning Center (Leigh County)

Laura Manion, President & CEO of the Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry Kym Ramsey, Norristown Chamber of Commerce, Chamber Founder & President

Brie Rice, Program Specialist, JB's Bright Beginnings (Westmoreland County)

Heather Valudes. President & CEO. Lancaster Chamber



