

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 4, 2026**

## **Forgivable Child Care Funding Available to Support New and Existing Providers in Eagle Lake**

**EAGLE LAKE, MN** — The City of Eagle Lake, in partnership with the Rural Child Care Innovation Program (RCCIP) and the Eagle Lake Economic Development Authority (EDA), is offering **\$20,000 in forgivable loan funding** to support **new or existing child care providers** within the city. This funding helps strengthen local child care options for families while supporting both experienced providers and individuals interested in starting a child care business.

The funding is made possible through a **\$10,000 grant from the Taylor Family Farms Foundation**, matched by **\$10,000 from the Eagle Lake EDA**.

The Forgivable Child Care Loan Program helps remove financial barriers that can prevent child care businesses from starting or growing. Funds may be used for start-up costs, licensing fees and required training, facility improvements or safety upgrades, equipment, and other eligible child care-related expenses. Loans may be forgiven over time if program requirements are met.

“Access to reliable, high-quality child care is essential for our families, workforce, and local economy,” said **John Whittington, Mayor of Eagle Lake**. “This program supports the providers we already have and encourages new providers who want to serve our community but may need help getting started.”

### **How to Get Started**

Interested providers should submit a **Letter of Interest by March 2, 2026**. No formal application is required at this stage. The Letter of Interest should include your name and contact information, whether care is home-based or center-based, new or existing provider status, and a brief description of your child care plans or current needs.

Once received, a member of the RCCIP Core Team will reach out to discuss next steps and provide **one-on-one support throughout the application process**.

**Submit Letters of Interest or Learn More:**  
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