



When the Bough Breaks

The Pending Collapse of the Child Care System
in Massachusetts and Its Economic Impact

The Boston
Foundation **tBf**

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sjacksonllc.com

Now is the time for greater public investment to stabilize the early education and care system and ensure economic recovery for the Commonwealth.



“ I realized I was effectively paying one dollar and 78 cents each day to work. It made no sense.”

-Western Mass Parent



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This is not a financial crisis.
This is not an enrollment
crisis. **This is a staffing
crisis.** There are simply not
enough available workers to
maintain our classrooms.”

-Laura Perille, CEO, Nurtury Inc.

The Boston Globe

Child-care providers are facing a staffing crisis, forcing some to close with little notice to parents

By [Stephanie Ebbert](#) Globe Staff, Updated August 17, 2021, 12:21 p.m.



Children from Nurtury Early Education took a walk around the neighborhood in Roxbury. SUZANNE KREITER/GLOBE STAFF

Desperate to hire child-care workers during the pandemic, Nurtury Early Education has raised its hourly rate, hired a recruiter, and offered \$1,000 signing bonuses — \$500 up front and \$500 after six months on the job.

91%

of Massachusetts employers have significant concerns about child care and school issues affecting their employee's ability to show up to work and to be productive once they get there.

-Massachusetts Business Coalition for Early
Childhood Education



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In order for us to have an equitable recovery, we need to address the inequity in child care. Now is the time.”

*–Kristin McSwain, Executive Director,
The Boston Opportunity Agenda*