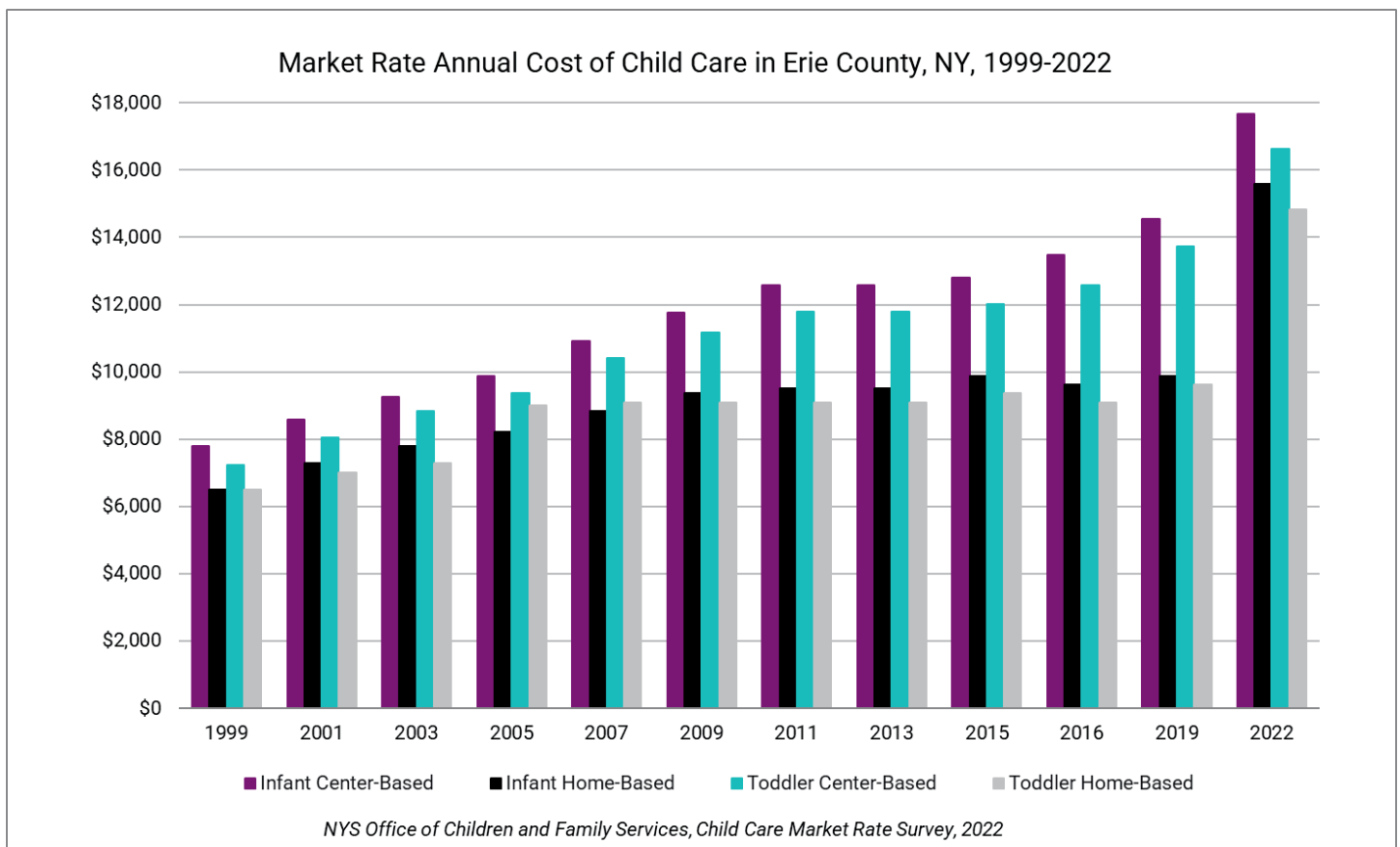




WNY WOMEN'S FOUNDATION

Child Care

In 1999, the cost of infant center-based child care in Erie County stood at **\$7,800** annually, equivalent to 13% of the median family income for a family of four (NYS Office of Children & Family Services, 1999). By 2022, that figure had risen to **\$17,680** per year, constituting 14% of the median family income for the same household (NYS Office of Children & Family Services, 2022). If current trends continue, the annual cost of infant center-based child care would soar to an estimated **\$40,075** in another 23 years—a staggering 16% of the median family income. Child care is considered affordable when it costs families no more than 7% of their household income (U.S. Dept of Health & Human Services, 2016). The escalating costs paint a grim picture of the financial burden families will face. If current trends continue at the same rate, a million women could be kept out of the workforce (House et al., 2022).



Call to Action: Write or call your NYS legislators today to advocate for universal child care!

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