

Project: ALBANY COUNTY CHILD CARE NEEDS STUDY

Location: Albany County, Wyoming

Client Address: University of Wyoming
Department 3314
1000 East University Avenue
Laramie, Wyoming 82701

Contact: Nicole Ballenger, UW Associate Provost

Year Completed: April 2012

Project Scope:

The University of Wyoming desired information relevant to its consideration of expanded child care services to employees and students of the University in Laramie, Wyoming. Pedersen Planning Consultants (PPC) was retained to complete this study in light of its earlier preparation of an Albany County Childcare Needs Assessment for the City of Laramie in 2009.

PPC initially updated its previous analysis of selected demographic and economic trends in Albany County, identified the number of available childcare facilities, determine child care enrollment trends, and evaluated changes associated with the cost of child care services. The examination of these trends enabled PPC to make reasonable assumptions concerning future economic and population growth in Albany County.

These assumptions were incorporated into a statistical model that was developed by PPC to forecast the resident population of Albany County and the future demand for child care in the coming decade. Two different scenarios were established to provide a forecast range for future child care demand. Overall child care demands were segregated for infant, toddler, preschool, and school age care and correlated with the authorized capacity of existing child care facilities to determine the level of anticipated unmet demand in the coming decade.

The preceding analyses and forecasts enabled PPC to provide conclusions and recommendations concerning future child care service needs in Laramie, Wyoming.