JOIN US FOR THE

NORTHWOODS FORUM ON

CHILD CARE

WEDNESDAY

OCT 14

www.3cwi.org/dreamup

RECEPTION @ 5:00PM
FORUM @ 6:00PM

LINCOLN COUNTY SERVICE CENTER
801 N SALES ST, MERRILL WI 54452

Discussion Topics:

What is the child care issue?

How are families, employers, and communities affected?

What does child care have to do with Wisconsin's workforce and economy?

What can we do, together, to build sustainable solutions?

Reception dinner sponsored by Geiss Meat Service

Panelists:

WI ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVE PATRICK SNYDER
Chair of the Assembly Committee on Children and Families

MICKI KRUEGER
Childcaring, Inc

BRIAN KALISH
Advance Wisconsin Employment

GEISS MEAT
FROM THE PEN TO THE PAN
MERRILL WI
EST 1956

ADVANCE
WISCONSIN EMPLOYMENT

Child Care Coalition of Wisconsin (3CWI)

Northwoods Forum on Child Care 2026

Dream Up! Lincoln County is proud to announce the *Northwoods Forum on Child Care*, a regional conversation about the childcare landscape and the effect on families, community, and the future of Northern Wisconsin.

The forum will be held on **Wednesday, October 14** at the Lincoln County Service Center, Upper Floor. There will be a reception, sponsored by Geiss Meat Serving of Merrill, at 5:00PM. The forum starts at 6:00PM, featuring perspectives from:

Wisconsin State Representative Patrick Snyder, Chair of the Wisconsin State Assembly Committee on Children and Families, will provide a legislative and policy perspective on the challenges facing Wisconsin families and the child care system.

Micki Krueger, Assistant Director of Childcaring, Inc., will bring the perspective of child care providers and the regional child care resource and referral system, including the challenges providers face in recruiting, retaining, and sustaining their workforce.

Brian Kalish, Executive Director of Advance Wisconsin Employment, will address the connection between child care, workforce participation, and the ability of employers to recruit and retain employees.

The discussion will be mediated by **Sara Guild, Director of Lincoln County Economic Development**, and **Elsa Duranceau, President & CEO of the Child Care Coalition of Wisconsin (3CWI)**. Together, they will help guide a meaningful conversation connecting child care to economic development, workforce needs, family stability, and community vitality.

Discussion Topics
What is the child care issue?
How are families, employers, and communities affected?
What does child care have to do with Wisconsin's workforce and economy?
What can we do, together, to build sustainable solutions?

This forum is an opportunity to move beyond identifying the challenges and begin exploring what is possible when families, providers, employers, policymakers, and communities work together. We hope you are able to join us for this important conversation!

Sincerely,

Dream Up! Lincoln County
It truly does take a village!
dreamuplincolncounty@gmail.com
715-527-0486