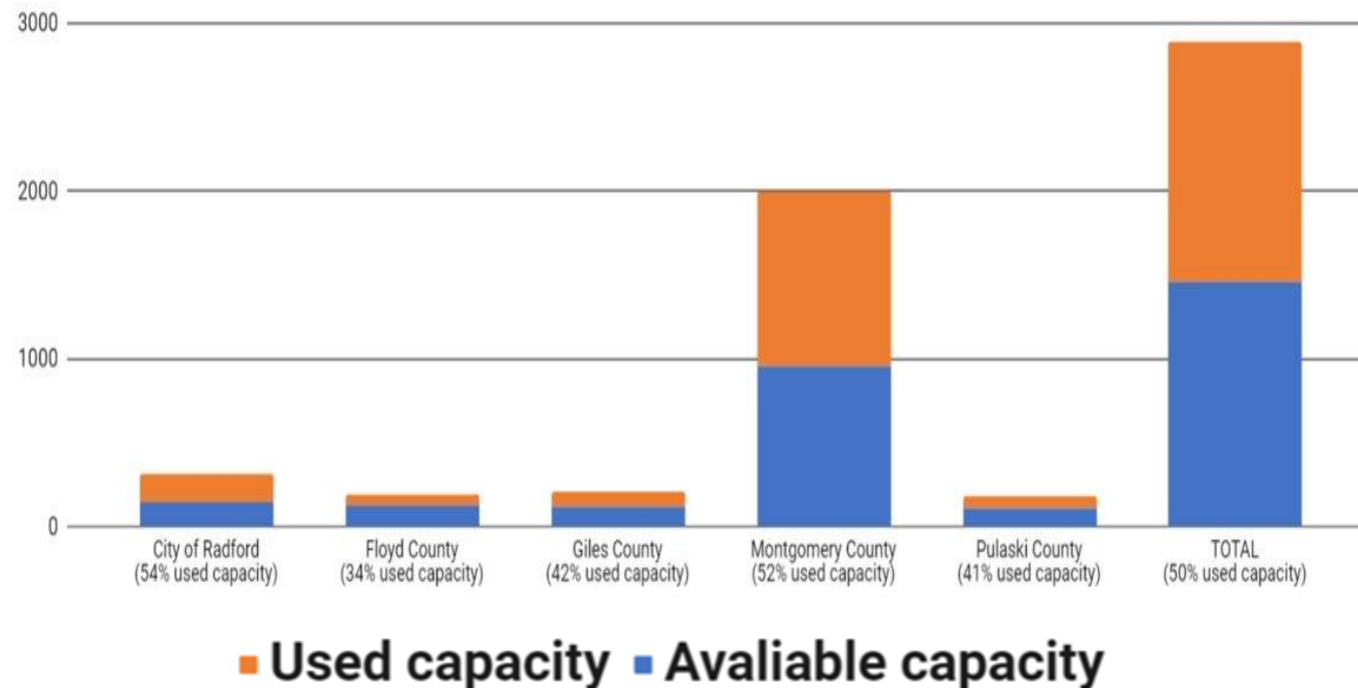


Early Childhood Education Initiative March 2023



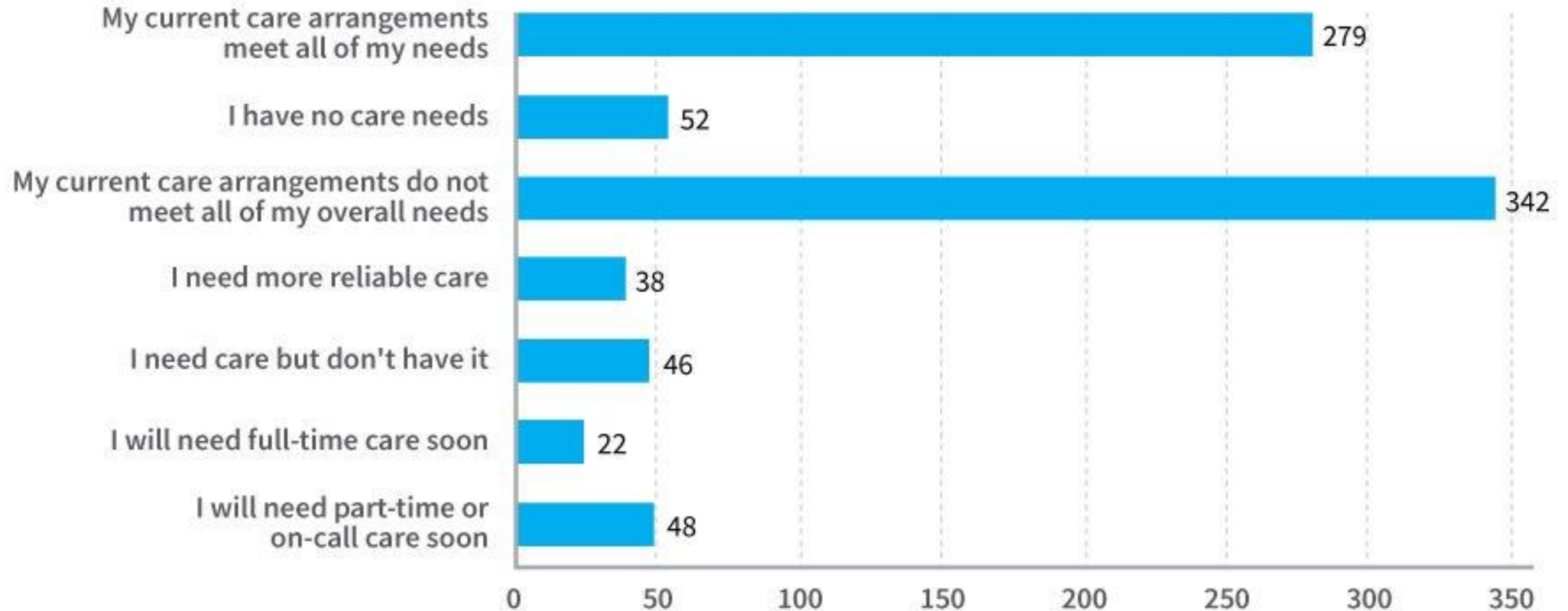
Status of Childcare in Montgomery County

- **26** licensed childcare programs.
- Total licensed capacity for children under 6 is **2,068**.
- **3,252** children under age 6 have working parents.
- **15%** of kindergartners are **not school-ready**.

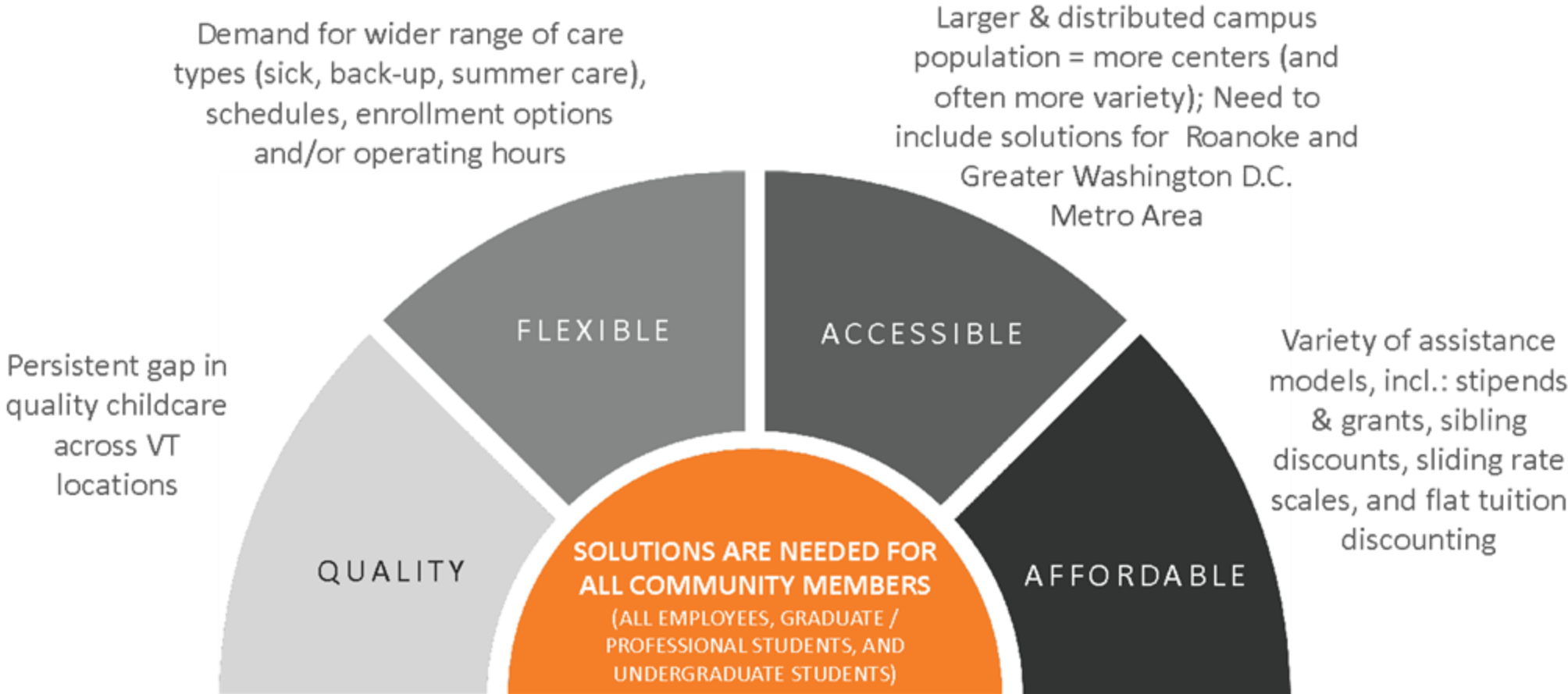


Virginia Tech Community Survey 2022

Current & Expected Needs for Childcare



Focus Areas



Current Progress

Employee Engagement and Support

Updated HR orientation materials

Mapped campus lactation spaces and diapering stations

Established ECE Advisory Office Hours

Quarterly notification of enrollment opportunities

Launched monthly Lunch and Learns

Enhanced communications around the VA Child Care Subsidy Benefit

Caregiving.vt.edu and Facebook



University Programs and Services



Continued \$500 pay supplement for employees with salaries less than \$35.5K



Increased percentage of VT dedicated spaces with Rainbow Riders



Established back up care program (pilot year 2023) with Care.com



Piloting Faculty Dependent Care Travel Reimbursement



The
**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
of the New River Valley

first
STEPS



United Way of
Southwest Virginia



Community Engagement and Partnerships

Continued Partnership with Child Care Aware of VA, sharing resources and providing referrals

Hosting NRV Childcare Regional Summit Series

Igniting Connections Symposium

Strengthened partnership with New River Valley Community Foundation (First Steps Project) and QRIS

Facilitated discussions with public schools, community college, and Virginia Tech to build workforce pipeline

On-going Community Collaboration

Benchmarking with organizational peers

NRV childcare data collection

Host monthly Family Child Care Network Meetings

Host monthly Center Director Network Meetings

Provide individualized professional development for area programs

Support of state & local professional educator organizations



Enhance Programs and Services for University Community



Explore increasing scope and scale of employee pay supplement

Evaluate pilot with Care.com and consider adopting it for the longer term

RFP for additional contracts with providers in the NRV & ROA

Explore additional opportunities to increase access for VT parents.

Explore Au Pair agency partnerships

Summary of Work Underway

Early Childhood Education Initiatives at VT continues to focus on advocating for access to high quality early care and education by:

- Working alongside educators and organizational leaders to support work force development and access to care.
- Piloting opportunities for employees to access and pay for flexible childcare.
- Exploring an increase in partnerships with childcare programs.
- Providing many and varied professional development opportunities for area educators.
- Working thru the ECE Initiatives Advisory Working group to explore opportunities to support working parents of Virginia Tech.