



Budget Fact Sheet – Investing in Workers

The largest new investment in this year’s budget is to support the people doing some of the toughest work in Seattle to support our communities – human service providers and child care workers. This workforce, which cares for our youngest and most vulnerable neighbors, is essential to our city continued economic recovery and healthy, thriving communities. Combined with investments made in the 2023 adopted budget, human service workers have seen an 18.5% wage increase over the last two years.

Recognizing the importance of City workers who continued to provide essential services during the pandemic, Mayor Harrell continues to express his urgent and good faith commitment to signing a labor contract that raises wages for City workers.

Wage Increases for Housing and Human Service Providers

COST	INVESTMENT AREA
\$23M	Wage investment to support human service providers and child care workers INCLUDES: \$15.7M representing a 7.5% inflationary increase for contracted human service providers. INCLUDES: \$4.3M as an additional 2% increase to support contracted human services provider wage equity. INCLUDES: \$2.9M in one-time retention bonuses for child care workers who work in a licensed childcare facility in the city. Since 2021, the Department of Education and Early Learning has invested more than \$8 million in child care workers to provide financial relief for them, which helps mitigate ongoing pandemic impacts to staffing within the industry.
\$26M	Housing for Workforce Stabilization Fund to support permanent supportive housing providers wages.