

# 2019 Legislative Priorities

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## Child Care

Region Nine supports legislation to improve child care access in the region:

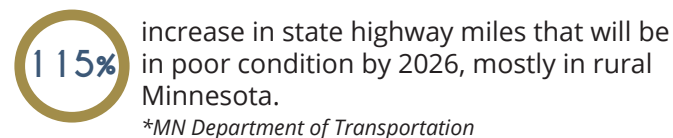
- Increased access to flexible capital for child care providers, as well as immediate support from DEED for shovel-ready child care projects.
- Provide uniformity for county regulations by better standardizing and guiding county enforcement.
- Increase child care reimbursement rates (CCAP).



## Transportation

Region Nine supports comprehensive, balanced, and dedicated transportation funding legislation:

- Raising Minnesota's gas tax, and dedicating revenue to roads and bridges.
- Permanently and sustainability dedicating funding by constitutional amendment.



## Local Government Aid

Region Nine supports restoring the Local Government Aid program to at least the 2003 certified level of \$586.8 million.

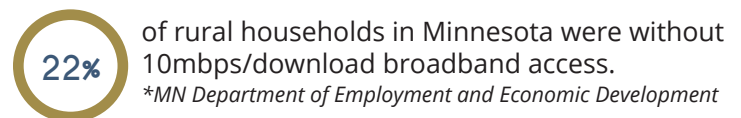
## Regional Crisis Centers and Supportive Housing

Region Nine supports legislation strengthening the mental health continuum of care through regional crisis centers and supportive housing.

## Broadband Expansion

Region Nine supports legislation to improve broadband access in rural communities:

- Funding for the Office of Broadband Development.
- Additional investments in the Border-to-Border Broadband Grant Program of at least \$50 million.
- Incentives for private sector service providers to respond to local or regional needs.



## Substance Abuse Prevention (Opioids & Meth)

Region Nine supports preventative, rather than reactive, substance abuse legislation:

- The creation of a loan forgiveness program/repayment plan for chemical and mental health professionals.
- The offering of prevention grants to organizations who utilize empirical-based prevention programs.
- Support sustainable funding for prevention coordinators in communities.

