

국공립어린이집의 양적 확충 및 질적 향상을 위한 제도개선 연구

A Study on the Expanding Supply and Design Improvement of
Public Childcare Centers

김상호 Kim, Sang Ho

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□ Background and Status of Public Childcare Centers

Improving the environment for child care is the investment in the next generation, the measure for supporting women's economic activities and against low birth rate, and a comprehensive economic policy that tows job creation through the promotion of building industry. The number of children waiting to be enrolled to public childcare centers increased exponentially as the demand for childcare center soared after the full implementation of the free childcare system for 0~2-year-old children and the expansion of the support for childcare expenses for 3~5-year-old children.

Public childcare centers account for only 5.3% of all childcare centers in the country that there is the limit in providing quality public childcare service. The number of children enrolled to childcare centers is quickly increasing from 13.7% in 2000 up to 48.6% in 2011, and even more rapid increase is expected due to the full implementation of free childcare system for 2-year-old or younger children and the expanded support for children between 3~5 as of 2013.

40% of all childcare centers are more or less 20 years old; the deterioration of facilities is serious. The facility standard for public childcare centers is set to the minimum level (proper level would be 2 times the current level), and the basis for area standard is unclear that the quality of the facility is low. Variation in construction cost for public childcare centers

is quite wide as there is no construction cost standard, which also suggests possible waste of budget. According to the Childcare Center Improvement Demand Survey (2009), the demand for facility improvement (27.7%) appeared high similar to the demand for childcare worker treatment (28.7%) while only 11.867 billion won (as of 2012) was allocated for facility improvement in the whole childcare budget of 3 trillion won.

□ Quantitative Expansion Plans for Public Childcare Centers

- Secure Sites for the Construction of New Public Childcare Centers

When the central or local government is constructing new public facilities of expanding existing facilities such as their office building, community center, library, and police station, they are obligated to secure a childcare center or the site for childcare center. Supply of childcare center fulfilling local demand using the unused state-owned and publically owned land. Use of the unused or least used sites of urban parks in accordance with the 「Act on Urban Parks, Greenbelts, Etc.」

- Expand the Number of Public Childcare Centers through Purchase and Donation

Use the welfare facilities of the rented apartments of LH Bogeumjari Housing (120,000 out of 150,000 households in a year) and those supplied by local public corporations as public childcare facilities. Induce the construction of childcare center inside the building by providing incentives to the private building construction and secure site through donation. Purchase of Apartments and Shopping District inside the Complex Unsold for a Long Time.

- Establishment of the Special Act on Public Childcare Center Establishment Support

It is necessary to secure institutional stability through the establishment of a special law for the systematic expansion of public childcare centers which unavoidably require the input of enormous budget in short and long terms.

□ Qualitative Improvement Plans for Public Childcare Centers

- Extended Implementation of Existing Childcare Center Environment Improvement Plan

Increase the expansion, reconstruction, remodeling, and repair through the childcare center functional reinforcement project funded by the Ministry of Health and Welfare.

- Rationalization of Childcare Center Facilities and Suggestion of Reasonable Construction Cost

Provide rational childcare center facility standard and apply bases for new standards for the area. Prepare proper standard for construction cost for each type of childcare center to efficiently execute the budget and secure construction quality and apply primarily to the construction of public childcare centers.

- Establishment of Public Childcare Center Design Standard and Design Management Tools

Prepare and apply “Public Childcare Center Design Standards” based on the 「Architecture Process Design Guideline for Public Office Buildings」 suggested in the Framework Act on Building to develop high quality buildings and spatial environment along with the decision making principle. Prepare and implement public childcare center design management tools in order to avoid uniform design and discover and propagate creative and exemplary design.

Keywords : Childcare Center, Public Childcare Center