Thank you for reaching out,

We understand the concern that you have about the current status of the FSU Childcare Center. The budget process for the Congress of Graduate Students has not started yet, but as we get closer, we’d like to clarify our role in funding the Childcare Center.

It is not the intent of COGS to see cuts to the Childcare Center. However, all funding decisions have to be approved by the Budget Committee, which has not yet been assembled, based on the amount of funding allocated to COGS by the Student Government Association. As a result, we have not been able to make binding promises about how much the Childcare Center would be funded. We should know our allocated budget for next year in the upcoming weeks.

At no point has it ever been expressed that COGS would unilaterally remove all funding given to the Childcare Center. Conversations about funding the Childcare Center have purely been about how to explore other opportunities to guarantee enough funding for the Childcare Center each year. Since SGA funding can change from year to year based on student fees, COGS has been looking at other opportunities to provide more stable funding to ensure the highest quality of services to the families using the Center.

We will continue to work with our partners at the Division of Student Affairs and the colleges to look for other stakeholders to help COGS provide funding to the Childcare Center.

We highly encourage you to make your voice heard to the university about how important the Childcare Center is to you and how important it is for the university to give support for the Childcare Center, whether it be through the colleges providing funding, grants given to the childcare center through outside funding, or other avenues. COGS is committed to providing support to not only the Childcare Center, but to all graduate students on campus. Our funding allocation covers several entities all over campus that work to support the graduate student experience at FSU.

If you have any further questions about this issue, please contact us at the emails below and we would be happy to talk more.

Thank you for your interest in the issue and we hope that you and your family have a great rest of the semester.

Sincerely,

The Executive Board of the 32nd Congress of Graduate Students

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