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# Exploring the Benefits of Partnerships Between Early Head Start (EHS) and Family Child Care (FCC)

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**18<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BIRTH TO THREE INSTITUTE:**  
**Nurturing Relationships, Responsiveness, Readiness**  
**Washington, DC                      July 31, 2014**



# Early Head Start (EHS)-Child Care (CC) Funding Opportunity Announcement

***This presentation will not provide technical assistance or information regarding the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for the Early Head Start – Child Care Partnerships grants. Additionally, presenters will not be able to answer any FOA related questions.***

# Objectives

Participants will...

- identify benefits of partnerships between early head start and family child care
- explore strategies to support partnerships
- discuss ideas to support partnerships in their own communities

# Activity

The knowledge I have of EHS-FCC Partnerships could fill a...

- Thimble
- Post-It Note
- Sheet of Paper
- Book

Introduce yourself to someone you don't know.  
Tell them your: name, role, program, and where you're from

# Prevalence of Family Child Care



Courtesy of EHS for FCC Demonstration Project



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# Family Child Care

- Personalized unique environment
- Mixed ages and small groups
- Provides flexible schedules
- Continuity of care
- Present in some form in most communities



Photo courtesy of EHSNRC



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# Some Benefits Family Child Care

- Home-like setting
- Smaller intimate setting
- Continuity of care
- Share family's culture and home language
- Closer one to one relationships
- Home cooked meals
- Flexible hours of operation
- Preferred choice of my many families
- Parent engagement and growth better facilitated
- Siblings together

# Potential Strengths



Photo courtesy of EHSNRC



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# Need for Quality Improvement



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# Promising Strategies: Relationship-Based Services and Supports



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# Provider Home Visits



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# Coaching & Consultation



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# Agency Affiliation: Networks, Systems, Associations



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# FCC Network Study



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# The Final Rule for the Family Child Care Option - Definitions



Photo courtesy of EHSNRC

# Family Child Care Program Option

## 1306.35

- **Subpart A – General**
  - 1306.1 Purpose and Scope
  - 1306.2 Effective dates
  - 1306.3 Definitions
- **Subpart B – Head Start Program Staffing Requirements**
  - 1306.20 Program staffing patterns
  - 1306.21 Staff qualification requirements
  - 1306.22 Volunteers
  - 1306.23 Training
- **Subpart C – Head Start Program Options**
  - 1306.30 Provision of comprehensive child development services
  - 1306.31 Choosing a Head Start Program Option
  - 1306.32 Center-based program option
  - 1306.33 Home-based program option
  - 1306.34 Combination program option
  - 1306.35 Family Child Care Program Option
  - 1306.36 Additional Head Start Program Option variations
  - 1306.37 Compliance waiver





# EHS for FCC Demonstration Project, Jefferson County Madras, Oregon



Video courtesy of EHS for FCC Demonstration Project



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# Indicators of Quality

- Ratios and group size
- Curricula and assessment tools
- Provider's level of education, credentials, and experience
  - ✓ Degrees
  - ✓ Child Development Associate Credential (CDA)
  - ✓ Training
  - ✓ Previous early child care experience
- Provider's pursuit of quality
  - ✓ Professional development registry/career ladder
  - ✓ National Association of Family Child Care (NAFCC) accreditation
  - ✓ Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS)
  - ✓ Provider's personal commitment to career
  - ✓ Professional association memberships
- Provider's interaction with children



# Highlights of Head Start Program Performance Standards



Photo courtesy of EHS for FCC Demonstration Project



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# Examples of Incentives for EHS/FCC Providers

- Training and opportunities for professional development
- Money for higher education
- Liability insurance
- Materials
- Equipment
- Higher rates of payment
- Paid closure/substitutes for training and vacation days

# Tools to Support EHS/FCC Quality

- Child Development Specialist visit
  - Individualize support during the visit
  - Build a relationship with the provider and the children
  - Use checklists
  - Observe, model, and coach
  - Use a team approach
- NAFCC Accreditation
- CDA

# Family Child Care Models in Focus



Photos courtesy of EHS for FCC Demonstration Project



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# Family Child Care Models in Focus



Photos courtesy of EHS for FCC Demonstration Project



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# Family Child Care Models in Focus



Photos courtesy of EHS for FCC Demonstration Project



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# EHS/FCC Provider Support



Photo courtesy of EHSNRC

# Working with Family Child Care Providers

- Respect their education and experience.
- Respect their time.
- Be respectful of entering their home.
- Respect their culture.
- Individualize support.
- Provide support that is relationship based.

# ROUND ROBIN

1. Children's development and learning in the 5 Essential Domains
  - a. Social-Emotional
  - b. Language/Literacy
  - c. Cognitive/General Knowledge
  - d. Physical/Health
  - e. Approaches to Learning
2. Curriculum & Ongoing Assessment
3. Comprehensive Services
4. Self-Esteem
5. Professional Development
6. Child Outcomes (pre-academic and social emotional skills of preschool-aged children)



# Concluding Remarks



Photo courtesy of EHSNRC

1. What is your program already doing to support partnering between early head start and family child care?
2. What is your biggest barrier and how could you overcome it?

# Resources

Bromer, Juliet and Jon Kormacher, *Evaluation of a relationship-based training pilot for agency specialists working with home-based child care providers: Final report summary*. Chicago, IL: Erikson Institute, 2012.

Wilcher, Holly Higgins, Barbara Gebhard, and Suzanne Williamson, *Staffed family child care networks: A strategy to enhance quality care for infants and toddlers*. Washington, DC: ZERO TO THREE, 2012.



# Resources

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children & Families

**HEAD START**  
An Office of the Administration for Children & Families  
Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center (ECLKC)

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▼ Early Head Start (EHS)

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## Early Head Start and Family Child Care

Webcast	Audio Cast	National Call		
 <b>Monday, May 7</b> 2 p.m. EDT <b>Why Do Partnerships Matter?</b>	 <b>Tuesday, May 8</b> 2 p.m. EDT <b>Making Partnerships Work for You</b> <i>OHS and OCC letter [PDF, 84KB]</i>	 <b>Wednesday, May 9</b> 2 p.m. EDT <b>Increasing Quality Through State Partnerships</b>	 <b>Thursday, May 10</b> 2 p.m. EDT <b>Increasing Quality Through Local Partnerships</b>	 <b>Friday, May 11</b> 2 p.m. EDT <b>Building Into the Future</b> <b>National Call</b> (855) 415-3155

The Head Start Family Child Care (FCC) Program Option is one of four service delivery methods by Early Head Start (EHS) and Head Start programs. The FCC option offers comprehensive services to a small group of children and families through their enrollment in licensed family child care homes. Small settings, a familiar home-like atmosphere, and caregivers nestled in the community are some of the reasons why families gravitate to this service delivery method and why programs choose this option. To learn more download **Technical Assistance Paper** [PDF, 421KB] and browse **more FCC option resources**.

### Resources

- Tip Sheets for Administrators** [PDF, 1.7MB]  
These four tip sheets can help Early Head Start and child care administrators partner together to improve the quality of care for children and help families move toward their work and education goals. They also provide insight into how these two

Caregiver interacts with infants and

<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/ehsnrc/Early%20Head%20Start/program-options/ehs-fcc>

# Resources

The screenshot shows the HEAD START website interface. At the top, the HEAD START logo is displayed with the text "An Office of the Administration for Children and Families" and "Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center (ECLKC)". A search bar and a "Español" link are also visible. The main navigation menu includes "About Head Start", "Grants & Oversight", "Policy & Regulation", "T/TA Resources", "Collaboration & Partnerships", and "Data & Reports". The "Grants & Oversight" section is active, showing a breadcrumb trail: "ECLKC Home » Grants & Oversight » Early Head Start Expansion & Child Care Partnership Grants". Below this, there are links for "Print", "Share", and social media. The main content area features a large image of a baby playing with colorful blocks, with the text "What are these grant funds for?". A sidebar on the left lists various grant-related topics: "Five Year Grant Periods", "Monitoring Reviews", "Designation Renewal", "Grant Application Toolkit", and "Early Head Start Expansion & Child Care Partnership Grants". At the bottom of the sidebar, there is a "Was this page helpful?" section with "YES" and "NO" buttons. The main content area also includes a "Frequently Asked Questions" section with a "Ask a Question" link, a "Funding Opportunity Announcement" section, and a "Be a Grant Reviewer" section with a "Grants.gov" link. The page footer indicates the last review and update dates: "Last Reviewed: June 2014" and "Last Updated: June 17, 2014".

<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/grants/ehs-ccp>



# Resources



<https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/early-head-start-child-care-partnerships>



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# Resources

The screenshot shows the ZERO TO THREE website. The header features the logo and the tagline "EARLY EXPERIENCES MATTER". Below the header is a navigation menu with links: HOME, BEHAVIOR & DEVELOPMENT, MALTREATMENT, CARE & EDUCATION, PUBLIC POLICY, and ABOUT US. A search bar is located on the right. The main content area is titled "EHS Child Care Partnerships" and includes a "SUPPORT US" section with a "Show Your SUPPORT" graphic and a "DONATE" button. The "EHS Child Care Partnerships" section contains text about funding and links to related resources. A "FIND IT FAST" section with a dropdown menu and a "RELATED INFORMATION" section with a "Resources for PARENTS" graphic and an "EXPLORE" button are also visible.

**ZERO TO THREE**  
National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and Families

**EARLY EXPERIENCES MATTER**

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**EHS Child Care Partnerships**  
[Home > Policy](#)

In FY 2014 appropriations, Congress provided \$500 million for FY 2014 for expanding Early Head Start (EHS), including funding EHS-Child Care Partnerships. Under the Partnerships, new or existing EHS grantees will partner with center-based or family child care providers to enhance the quality of existing child care programs. To help efforts in the field to respond to this important opportunity for changing the early care and learning landscape for infants and toddlers, this webpage provides (a) links to key Department of Health and Human Services websites on developing and applying for partnership grants and (b) resources developed by ZERO TO THREE and others.

**For a "first look" at the highlights of the funding announcement, released on June 6, 2014, read the [Baby Policy Blog](#)**

**Early Head Start—Child Care Partnerships Web Page Grants Central**  
<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/hs/grants/ehs-ccp>

This web page, available on the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center (ECLKC) website, offers extensive information about the Early Head Start—Child Care Partnerships opportunity, including how to set up partnerships and apply for funding. Interested persons can ask a question, and Frequently Asked Questions are posted.

**Early Head Start—Child Care Partnerships Program Resources Web Page**  
<https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/early-head-start-child-care-partnerships>

This web page, available on the Office of Child Care's Technical Assistance Network website, provides audio, transcripts, and slide presentations from a webinar series on Early Head Start—Child Care Partnerships, as well as other related tools and resources.

**Early Head Start—Child Care Partnerships Resources List**  
[www.buildinitiative.org/OurWork/StateandLocal/StateLocalSystems/EarlyHeadStart](http://www.buildinitiative.org/OurWork/StateandLocal/StateLocalSystems/EarlyHeadStart)

**FIND IT FAST**  
Select a Key Topic

**RELATED INFORMATION**

**Resources for PARENTS**  
**EXPLORE**

<https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/early-head-start-child-care-partnerships>

# Questions and Answers



Photo courtesy of EHSNRC



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