



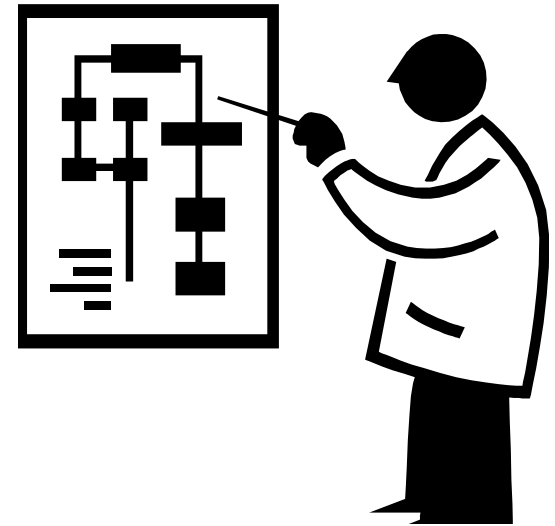
# **PLEASE NOTE...**

***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.***

# PRESENTERS

## *National Center on Child Care Subsidy Innovation and Accountability (NCCCSIA)*

- Kathie Boling
- Sue Wilson
- Stacy McCallan





# *LEARNING OBJECTIVES*

**By the end of the presentation, participants will be able to:**

- **Understand key CCDF policies**
- **Understand strategies to meet low income child and family needs**
- **Identify service delivery models for partnering**

# *TABLE DISCUSSION*

**Think about your current working relationship with the State child care program...**

- How do you work together?
- What are the benefits of the relationship?
- What is challenging about the relationship?
- What might you do differently?



# CCDF BASICS



## Overview of CCDF basics

- 1990 authorization
- Funding of approx. \$5 billion with State matching
- Administered by States, Territories, and Tribes
- Support for low-income working families
- Quality improvements for ECE

# RELEVANT CCDF COMPONENTS

- **Subsidy Program**
- **Quality and Systems Improvements**
  - Quality set-aside requirement
  - Infant and Toddler targeted funds
  - Initiatives for QRIS
    - professional development
    - early learning guidelines
    - infant-toddler specialists
    - infant-toddler credentials
    - core knowledge and competencies



# GROUP DISCUSSION: EHS & CHILD CARE ASSETS

## EHS Strengths

for example:

- EHS Performance Standards
- Professional development
- Family services
- Health, developmental, and behavioral screenings
- Service delivery options
- High expenditures per child



## Child Care Strengths

for example:

- Some high quality child care
- Full-day, full-year with flexible schedules
- CCDF Subsidy payments
- State Quality and Infant & Toddler initiatives

# ***MECHANISMS FOR SUCCESSFUL PARTNERING***

- **State Head Start Association**
- **Head Start State Collaboration Office**
- **State Advisory Council**





# ***BRIDGING EHS AND CCDF***



- **Align policies to encourage stability and continuity of care**
- **Identify opportunities to layer funding**
- **Access financial and other supports**
- **Identify infant & toddler populations**
- **Develop joint or streamlined processes**

# STATE INITIATIVES

*Despite difficult economic times, 23 states have at least one initiative that builds on the federally funded EHS program.*

Colvard, J., Schmit, S., Center for Law and Social Policy & Zero To Three. (2012). *Expanding access to Early Head Start: State initiatives for infants & toddlers at risk*. Center for Law and Social Policy, Inc.

# #1. ESTABLISH ELIGIBILITY

- **Income** – Children below Federal Poverty Level are eligible for both CCDF and EHS  
(CCDF also serves a broader income range -- up to 85% SMI)
- **Activities** – flexibility to define employment, education, training
- **Flexibility** – authorizing hours of care not limited work schedule

## **#2. SERVE VULNERABLE POPULATIONS**

- **Special eligibility considerations**
  - Define vulnerable
- **Protective Services**
  - Child welfare client
  - Waive requirements
    - Work
    - Training & education
    - Income
- **Policy Implications**

## **#3. ALLOW JOB SEARCH**

**Allow a period of job search that permits continued eligibility and subsidy payment following job loss**

# #4. REFER DUALY-ELIGIBLE FAMILIES

## **During CCDF eligibility process**

- family referred to EHS and CC Subsidy

## **Family-friendly eligibility process**

- extended office hours and call centers
- multiple application methods
- parent liaison

## **#5. ALIGN LENGTH OF ELIGIBILITY**

- **Establishing CCDF eligibility while in EHS**
- **Establishing CCDF eligibility for 12 months**
- **Aligning eligibility periods with EHS**
- **Easing family reporting requirements**

## **#6. WAIVE PARENT FEES**

**Child care lead agencies may eliminate parent fees for families whose incomes are at or below poverty level**



# #7. ESTABLISH CONTRACTS

**States may use contracts to:**

- Establish CCDF eligibility while in EHS
- Delegate eligibility determination to EHS
- Negotiate reimbursement rates and rules
- Specify formalized procedures

# **#8. PAY PROVIDER RATES THAT SUPPORT QUALITY**

- **Establish base rates that support quality**
- **Offer higher rates for higher quality care**
- **Negotiate rates through contracting**

# **#9. SUPPORT PROVIDERS WITH PAYMENT POLICIES**

## **Design sustainable payment practices:**

- **Implement flexible attendance policies (EHS allows for 85% attendance)**
- **Make timely payments**
- **Assign a provider liaison to assist with subsidy issues**

## **#10. LAYER FUNDING**

**States, communities, and programs can layer EHS and CCDF subsidy funds for the same child as long as there is no duplication in payments for the exact same service**

# PROVIDER SERVICE DELIVERY MODELS

## Child Care

### Enhancement Services

- A family qualifies for a CCDF subsidy, and the family's home- or center-based child care provider receives the subsidy payment. EHS provides additional services.

## Expansion of EHS

### Direct Services

- EHS or the subcontracting child care provider receives subsidies for an eligible family. Combined funds are used to expand the program.

# ***TABLE DISCUSSION: NEXT STEPS***

Think again about your current working relationship with the State child care program...

***How can you strengthen or develop that partnership?***



# THANK YOU!

For questions or comments:

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