



NATIONAL CENTER ON  
Early Childhood Quality Assurance

# Session 1: Webinar Series Overview

## Strategies for Building and Financing the Supply of High-Quality Child Care

January 17, 2018



# Introductions

**Gerry Cobb**, State Services  
Director, BUILD Initiative



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# Series Overview

- ◆ We will explore and share supply building successes and lessons learned in states and communities.
- ◆ This is a five-part series.

Session/Date	Description
Webinar 1: 1/17/2018 2:00–3:30 (ET)	Strategies for Building and Financing the Supply of High-Quality Child Care
Webinar 2: 2/13/2018 2:00–3:30 (ET)	Identifying, Mapping, and Alleviating Child Care Deserts
Webinar 3: 3/16/2018 2:00–3:30 (ET)	Innovation in State and Local Finance
Webinar 4: 5/01/2018 2:00–3:30 (ET)	Using Grants and Contracts, Payment Rates, and Financial Incentives to Increase Supply and to Improve Quality
Webinar 5: 6/04/2018 2:00–3:30 (ET)	Innovative Models to Build, Expand, and Sustain Quality Facilities in High-Need Communities

# Series Objectives

- ◆ Identify gaps in the availability of child care in high-need areas of the state.
- ◆ Examine innovative approaches to finance child care at state and local levels.
- ◆ Understand rate strategies aimed at building the supply and quality of child care.
- ◆ Recognize models designed to build, expand, and sustain quality facilities and services in high-need communities.

# Poll Question

In this series, what would be most helpful for you to learn about building and sustaining the supply of high-quality programs in high-need areas?

- Open-ended responses in the chat box

# Webinar Series Webpage

All materials related to this webinar and future webinars can be found at the following weblink:

<https://www.qrisnetwork.org/It/strategies-building-and-financing-supply-high-quality-early-learning-webinar-series/overview>

# Key Requirement

- ◆ The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) requires states to develop and implement strategies to increase the supply and improve the quality of child care services for children in underserved areas, infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children who receive care during nontraditional hours.

# Current Supply and Demand Landscape

- ◆ 65 percent of children younger than 6 have all parents in the workforce (U.S. Census Bureau).
- ◆ 80 percent of licensed child care centers are considered to be of “fair” quality (Child Care Aware of America, 2016).
- ◆ Children of color typically do not have access to high-quality early care and education (Child Care Aware of America, 2016).
- ◆ Small towns and rural communities typically have the lowest supply of high-quality child care (Child Care Aware of America, 2016).
- ◆ Children living in low-income homes typically do not have access to high quality child care (Child Care Aware of America, 2016).

# Poll

- ◆ How would you describe the supply of quality care in your state?
  - Green pastures
  - Unpredictable climate
  - Desert conditions
  - Not sure

# Supply Building Strategies

- ◆ Provider payment rates
- ◆ Financial incentives
- ◆ Direct contracts and grants
- ◆ Investments in community hubs
- ◆ An expansion of high-quality family child care
- ◆ An expansion of the supply of highly qualified teachers and caregivers
- ◆ Early Head Start–Child Care Partnerships

# Poll

- ◆ Select the strategy that you are planning or putting into practice now:
  - Provider payment rates
  - Financial incentives
  - Direct contracts and grants
  - Investments in community hubs
  - An expansion of high-quality family child care
  - An expansion of the supply of highly qualified teachers and caregivers
  - Early Head Start–Child Care Partnerships
  - Other



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# Early Childhood Quality Assurance

## State Stories

# Today's State Panelists

Jeanetta Green, State  
CCDF Administrator

Alabama Department of  
Early Childhood



Tammy Barnes, Chief,  
Regulatory Services

North Carolina Division of  
Child Development & Early  
Education



Dawn Woods, State  
Child Care Director

Oregon Early Learning  
Division



Heather Laffler,  
Administration/Policy

North Carolina Division of  
Child Development & Early  
Education



# Alabama Successes/Challenges

## Successes

### *Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP)*

- Classrooms in 29 of 67 counties;
  - Family Child Care in 20 counties; Center-based care in 13 counties
  - 21 of the counties are designated as Rural
- Classrooms in 20 Rural Counties

### *Family Child Care Partnership*

- Assist family child care providers to provide high quality child care services, with a focus on moving them toward national accreditation standards
- Individualized, onsite training provided by a knowledgeable mentor familiar with the special needs of family child care providers

### *Incentives and Tiered Reimbursement to Quality-Rated Centers*

## Challenges

- Quality care in rural areas
- Retention of Infant/Toddler teachers
- Infant/Toddler slots

# Building and Financing the Supply of High Quality Child Care in NC

Tammy Barnes, Assistant Director for Regulatory Services

Heather Laffler, Policy Unit Manager

NC Division of Child Development and Early Education, Department of  
Health and Human Services

# Statewide Supports

*providing*

# Statewide Results

- **Early Childhood Education training** – Certificate, Associate's Degree and Continuing Education available through **58 Community Colleges** throughout the state and online everywhere – 3<sup>rd</sup> largest system in the US.
- **14 Child Care Resource and Referral regions** support
  - Infant-Toddler Specialist technical assistance
  - Healthy Social Behaviors technical assistance
  - Locally based continuing education, training and technical assistance for facilities and teachers
- NC's child **care licensing system (QRIS) is not voluntary** – facilities must have at least 1 star to operate. Star-rated license has increased quality throughout the state.
- **High percentage of 4 and 5 star rated facilities**, child care centers and family child care homes are located *throughout* North Carolina's 100 counties. **74% of NC children in child care are enrolled in 4-5 star rated care.**
- To participate in child care subsidy, facility license must be 3-5 star. Majority of children receiving subsidies are enrolled in 4-5 star care.

# Statewide Supports

*providing*

# Statewide Results

- **Child Care Market Rate Survey** system – provides differentiated tiered reimbursement for child care subsidy based on type of care, star rating, age of child and geographic location.
- **WAGE\$ Program** allows teachers, providers and R&R system to work together to increase teacher education and salaries and reduce turnover, improving quality for children.
- **T.E.A.C.H. scholarships** provide financial support for continued education.
- **Local Smart Start partnerships throughout NC** improve child care quality by:
  - collaborating with other organizations, supporting families and assisting child care providers in maintaining a sustainable business model for high quality care,
  - identifying local needs and working with community partners to address challenges,
  - creating public-private partnerships and supporting statewide efforts.

**All parts of this system have taken time to build, and that work is ongoing and constantly improving**

# Oregon Supply Building Strategies

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- Spark (Oregon QRIS)
  - Quality Improvement Specialists in CCR&R
  - Professional Development Supports
- Subsidy bonuses (provider and parent)
- Focused Child Care Networks
- Preschool Promise



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## Early Childhood Quality Assurance

# Questions, Answers, and Comments

## Audience Sharing Their Own Strategies

# Webinar Survey

How much was your understanding of Building the Supply of High Quality Care in High Need Areas improved?

Not improved

A little improved

Moderately improved

Significantly improved

# Webinar Survey

**How likely is it you will use at least one of these strategies or practices?**

**Won't**

**Probably not**

**Will consider**

**Definitely**

**Already doing all of this**

**Not applicable to my work**

# Webinar Survey

**Please tell us what was useful – and how we could improve the webinar.**

# Thank You

Join us for Session II on February 13, 2018:  
Identifying, Mapping, and Alleviating Child Care  
Deserts, 2:00–3:30 p.m. (EST)

Registration links can be found at: <https://www.qrisnetwork.org/lt/strategies-building-and-financing-supply-high-quality-early-learning-webinar-series/overview>

# Webinar Follow-Up

- ◆ If you have additional questions or are looking for resources, email:
  - Gerry Cobb, [gcobb@buildinitiative.org](mailto:gcobb@buildinitiative.org); and
  - Zelda Boyd, [Zelda.boyd@icf.com](mailto:Zelda.boyd@icf.com).

# Resources and Links

National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance. (2017).

*Developing a staffed family child care network: A technical assistance manual.* Retrieved from

<https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/developing-staffed-family-child-care-network-technical-assistance-manual>

National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance. (2017).

*Staffed family child care networks: A research-informed strategy for supporting high-quality family child care.* Retrieved from

<https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/staffed-family-child-care-networks-research-informed-strategy-supporting-high-quality>

KIDS COUNT Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/>

# Resources and Links

Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2015). Information memorandum: Building the supply of high-quality child care information memorandum [Log no: CCDF-ACF-IM-2015-02]. Retrieved from [https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/occ/ccdf\\_acf\\_im\\_2015\\_02.pdf](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/occ/ccdf_acf_im_2015_02.pdf)

Oregon Department of Education. (n.d.). *What are hubs?* Retrieved from <https://oregonearlylearning.com/administration/what-are-hubs/>

Ramsburg, D., Bromer, J., Saterfield, L., McMannis, D., & Hallam, R. (2015, July). *Strategies for building a supply of high-quality infant and toddler care*. Presented at 2015 State and Territory Administrators Meeting, Alexandria, VA. Retrieved from <https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/strategies-building-supply-high-quality-infant-and-toddler-care-stam-2015>

# References

Child Care Aware of America. (2016). *Parents and the high cost of child care*. Retrieved from [https://usa.childcareaware.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/CCA\\_High\\_Cost\\_Report\\_01-17-17\\_final.pdf](https://usa.childcareaware.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/CCA_High_Cost_Report_01-17-17_final.pdf)

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2016 American Community Survey, as cited in analysis by Population Reference Bureau (Population Reference Bureau, DataFinder, U.S. Profile). Retrieved from <http://www.prb.org/DataFinder.aspx>)

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