Models to Build, Expand and Sustain Quality Facilities and Services in High Need Communities

Webinar Series on Strategies for Building and Financing the Supply of High-Quality Child Care

June 4, 2018
Introductions

Debi Mathias, QRIS National Learning Network 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.

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| Webinar 1: 1/17/2018 2:00–3:30 (ET) | Strategies for Building and Financing the Supply of High-Quality Child Care  
Check out the recording link for the webinar! |
| Webinar 2: 2/13/2018 2:00–3:30 (ET) | Identifying, Mapping, and Alleviating Child Care Deserts  
Check out the recording link for the webinar! |
| Webinar 3: 3/16/2018 2:00–3:30 (ET) | Innovation in State and Local Finance  
Check out the recording link for the webinar! |
| 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  
Check out the recording link for the webinar! |
| Webinar 5: 6/04/2018 2:00–3:30 (ET) | Innovative Models to Build, Expand, and Sustain Quality Facilities in High-Need Communities  
TODAY’S Webinar! |
Webinar Series Materials

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

Today’s Panelists

Natalie Brake
Early Learning Indiana

Bevin Parker-Cerkez
Reinvestment Fund

Monica Duncan
IFF

Natalie Renew
Public Health Management Corporation
Innovative Models to Build, Expand and Sustain Quality Facilities and Services

June 4, 2018
Agenda

- Activity
- Three models to expand supply:
  - Fund for Quality (Philadelphia)
  - Early Learning Indiana
  - Learning Spaces (Detroit)
- Program History & Key Elements
- Survey Response
- Collaboration
- Program Impacts
- On the Horizon & Resources
- Q&A
Reflect on your region or locality in answering the following questions (*enter responses into the chat area using the question #)*:

1. How are you assessing facility quality?
2. What framework (aside from licensing) exists to guide improvements?
3. How do you prioritize these improvements?
Reflection: Context for Supply Building

- Can QRIS serve as a proxy for facility quality? How is ERS used in your QRIS? – Common understanding of quality – Existing data sources – Administrative capacity

Models to Expand Supply

Philadelphia, Indiana, Detroit
Partnership between PHMC (a local QRIS administrator) and Reinvestment Fund (a community development financial institution)

Fund for Quality supports capacity of existing high-quality providers so they may expand services to reach more low-income children

FFQ Vision/Mission
Our mission is to ensure the highest level of early care and education for children in Indiana.

As Indiana’s oldest and largest early childhood education nonprofit, we provide leadership, advocacy, and early childhood education services to continually improve the early learning landscape in Indiana.
**Mission:**
IFF strengthens nonprofits and the communities they serve by providing leadership, capital, and real estate solutions.

**Leadership** reflects our research, policy, sector work, and convening role.

**Capital** includes a range of financial products: loans, New Markets Tax Credits, equity, and Pay for Success.

**Real Estate Solutions** includes a range of consultant services, development, and ownership.
Program History

Philadelphia, Indiana, Detroit
Philadelphia: Data + Investments

- Local philanthropy wanted to understand where best to make investments
- Supply/demand/gap analysis: www.childcaremap.org
- Capitalization of $23+ million in grant funds and $2.6 million in Reinvestment Fund loan funds
- Create nearly 2,400 new high-quality seats over 7 years
Early Learning Indiana – Capacity Building Grants

**Funding Sources:**
- Capacity Building Grants funded through a $20 million grant from the Lilly Endowment
- Coaching supports funded by the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration’s Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning

**Goal:** Create 1000 new high-quality seats.

**Project Design:** Single payment grants ranging from $2,000 to $100,000 to add new seats. Budget categories included facility improvements, professional development, classroom materials and curricula supports, and family engagement.
Study Recommendations....

Increase access to quality, licensed facilities and programs.

- Focus investments for expanded capacity in the Top 10 Highest Need Neighborhoods
- Inventory program center quality and capacity in the Top 10 Highest Need Neighborhoods to understand facility expansion opportunities and combine with recommendations to increase quality
- **Create three new high quality, blended funded, continuum of care centers in the Top 3 Highest Need Neighborhoods as models for center program and facility quality for Detroit**

Increase the quality of existing licensed facilities and programs.

- **Increase participation in the Great Start to Quality Program**
- Invest in center’s management and programmatic infrastructure to increase capacity to blend program funding to achieve higher quality
- Promote blended funding programs as a conduit to higher quality programs
- **Create a facilities renovation program to create higher quality facilities**
Tri-County Study Recommendations

- Focus on expanding **capacity** in the Highest needs areas.
- Continue to support policies and efforts that improve **quality**
- Improve **facilities** to ensure a safe, clean and comfortable learning space for children.
- Tailor early childhood care and education programs based on the **needs of each community**.
• Identify high-quality providers with strong organizational capacity and a commitment to serving low-income and vulnerable populations

• Assess feasibility of expansion project and agency strength and sustainability

• Guided planning to develop expansion projects and ensure agency sustainability
Support existing high-quality providers expand operations:

• Expand in current location
• Expand to new location
• Expand with support of a community partner

Various forms of support to complete projects:

• Predevelopment grants
• Capital grants
• Loan funds
• Ongoing technical assistance
Early Learning Indiana – Capacity Building Grants

- Require capacity expansion linked to Paths to QUALITY (Indiana’s voluntary quality rating improvement system). All grantees must achieve Level 3 or 4.
- Support state’s mixed delivery system.
- Hold on-site consultations prior to final scope of work.
- Offer additional business practices TA.
Facility Challenges

- Providers are operating in spaces because of availability not because of quality
  - Physical structures exist but are expensive to renovate + bring online for ECE programs
  - Buildings require significant improvements due to deferred maintenance (e.g., boiler replacements, roof repairs, )

- Facility issues impact daily operations, classroom dynamics, inspiration and dignity of users
- Providers have limited access to and use of professional services to support the appropriate facilities infrastructure
Lessons Learned:
• Many providers are unaware/uncertain about the key indicators and components of facility quality.
• Great Start to Quality Rating & Improvement System does not have established benchmarks or measures to monitor facility quality.
• Many providers focus on aesthetics instead of long-term facility investment and improvements.
• Providers need support to explore increased funding options and/or other financing tools to create high quality facilities.

New Process:
**Learning Spaces: Inform, Inspire and Implement**
• Co-hort Selection (5-10 participants)
• Lunch & Learning-Training Sessions
• Technical Assistance/Consulting
• Facility Plan w/prioritized goals
• Investment of $5,000-$50,000
Indoor Environmental Quality

**QUALITY MATTERS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING SPACES**

1. **TEMP & AIR**
   - Room temperature & air quality impact student performance

2. **COLORS**
   - Room colors guide focus & participation

3. **DAYLIGHT**
   - Natural daylight boosts learning

4. **VENTILATION**
   - Ventilation controls odors & reduces illness

5. **OUTDOOR PLAY**
   - Builds social/emotional & creative skills

6. **LESS NOISE**
   - Less noise equals less stress & behavior problems

7. **FACILITY QUALITY**
   - Lifts overall quality
     - Boosts ROI, inspires teachers, reflects family dignity

**Sharing a mission of change**
Activity: Developing a framework to describe a landscape of supports

Identify the number initiatives in your community designed to (respond in the chat box by category eg. improve-2; maintain-3; expand - 0):

- **Improve** the quality of ECE (technical assistance; coaching, professional development, teacher scholarships, grants, etc)

- **Maintain/sustain** the quality of ECE (tiered add-on, facility upgrading, quality-level grants, etc)

- **Expand** the supply of quality ECE (facility start-up grants, loans, etc)
Reflection: Framework to describe a landscape of supports

- Engage funders and stakeholders in filling “gaps” in the landscape
- Develop a system of prioritization based on developmental trajectory:
Collaboration

Philadelphia, Indiana, Detroit
Philadelphia Landscape
ECE Resource and Support Landscape – Increasing Quality

Quality Improvement
- Pennsylvania Keystone STARS
- United Way Success By 6
- T.E.A.C.H.

Shared Services

Place-based Strategies

Quality Maintenance
- Pennsylvania Keystone STARS
- City Facility Fund
- QRIS Tiered Reimbursement Add-On

Quality Expansion
- Fund for Quality
- PHLpreK

Increase availability of high-quality early care and education in Philadelphia.
Early Learning Indiana – Capacity Building Grants

Collaboration
Priority: Leverage private and public partnerships.

Rely upon the statewide coaching system for:
• Grantee recruitment
• Consultation expertise
• On-going TA

Use Early Learning Indiana staff for:
• Grant development
• Grantee contract management
• Coordinated media engagement

Contract for:
• Additional business TA
Learning Spaces
Inform. Inspire. Implement.
Program Impact
Philadelphia, Indiana, Detroit
Before & After
Philadelphia FFQ - Outcomes

- Creation of 1,500+ new child care seats
- Planning and/or capital underway for 1,100+ new child care seats
- Jobs created: 135 FT/PT
- Enrollment:
  - >40% vulnerable populations
  - >50% supported by income-based subsidy (plus 40% PHLpreK)
Early Learning Indiana – Capacity Building Grants

Program Impact – Current Grantees
• $1.9 million dollars granted
• 1500 new high-quality seats
• 30 quality improvement advancements to Paths to QUALITY Level 3 or 4

Program Impact – Expanded Partnerships
• Leveraging $750,000 alongside up to $4 million through FSSA’s Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning to build capacity (2018-19)
• Participating in pilot Business Supports Train the Trainer with the Federal Quality Assurance Center
Hopeful Outcomes....

- Inspire an ECE Movement of change-focused on Quality, Innovation and Comprehensive Solutions
- Progress alignment between facility & program quality
- Mediocrity is unacceptable
- Environment reflects Best Practice Components
- Preserve and Expand ECE opportunities for children
On the Horizon
• Head Start Facilities Report:

• National Academies Study:

• CCDBG:
• Mapping Tools:
  • www.childcaremap.org
  • https://www.iff.org/our-services/research/

• Design Guides:
  • http://www.fundforquality.org
  • https://www.iff.org/opportunities/learningspaces/

• Live Data Center:
  • http://www.stats.indiana.edu/eli/
Learn More

- **IFF Detroit:**
  http://iff.org/learningspaces

- **Fund for Quality Philadelphia:**
  www.fundforquality.org/

- **Early Learning Indiana:**
  http://partnershipsforearlylearners.org/
Questions? Ask Us!

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Questions, Answers, and Comments

Audience Sharing Their Own Strategies
Webinar Survey

How much was your understanding of Building, Expanding and Sustaining High Quality Facilities 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.
If you have additional questions or are looking for resources, email:

- Debi Mathias, dmathias@buildinitiative.org; and
- Zelda Boyd, Zelda.boyd@icf.com.
Resources and Links


KIDS COUNT Data Center, [http://datacenter.kidscount.org/](http://datacenter.kidscount.org/)
Resources and Links


References

