Supporting the Most Vulnerable: State Strategies for Increasing Access

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Welcome
Agenda

- Welcome
- Prioritizing and defining vulnerable and special populations
- National perspective on state approaches
- Highlighting state initiatives
- Small-group discussions
Session Objectives

Participants will do the following:

- Review Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) requirements
- Share definitions of vulnerable populations
- Share strategies for serving vulnerable populations
- Identify ideas and potential solutions for increasing access to child care services for vulnerable and special populations
Vulnerable Populations in the Preamble

“The Act increases the share of CCDF funds directed towards quality improvement activities, authorizes a new set-aside for infant-toddler care, and drives investments towards increasing the supply of high-quality care for infants and toddlers, children with special needs, children experiencing homelessness, and other vulnerable populations including children in need of nontraditional hour care and children in poor communities.”

Vulnerable Populations in the Federal Regulations

45 C.F.R. 98 refers to “vulnerable,” “underserved,” and “special” populations while outlining state flexibility to determine populations to serve and service mechanisms.

- 45 C.F.R. § 98.16: Plan provisions
- 45 C.F.R. § 98.20: A child’s eligibility for child care services
- 45 C.F.R. § 98.46: Priority for child care services
Vulnerable Populations

- Children with special needs
- Children experiencing homelessness
- Families with very low income
- Children receiving or at risk of receiving protective services

Special Populations

- Families seeking infant/toddler care
- Families with non-standard work hours
- Families living in rural areas
Vulnerable and Special Populations
Strategies to Serve Vulnerable Populations

- Priority Groups
- Grants and Contracts
- Incentives
- Payment Rates
- Partnerships
State Initiatives

- **Diana Gillispie**, Child Care Policy Specialist, West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, diana.L.Gillispie@wv.gov
- **David Mandell**, Prenatal to Three Systems Fellow, Early Learning Division, Oregon Department Of Education, david.mandell@state.or.us
- **Nicole Rose**, Director of Eligibility and Provider Supports, Washington Department of Children, Youth, and Families, nicole.rose@dcyf.wa.gov
### Serving the Most Vulnerable: State Strategies for Increasing Access for Families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategies</th>
<th>Current strengths you can build on to increase access</th>
<th>Gaps or challenges to increasing access</th>
<th>Ideas or potential solutions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Using differential rates</td>
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<td>Creating partnerships</td>
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<td>Selecting effective incentives</td>
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This resource was prepared by the National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance for STAM 2019.
Small-Group Discussions

◆ Select a topic table
  - Using differential rates
  - Creating partnerships
  - Selecting effective incentives
  - Using grants and contracts

◆ Share with others at the table your
  - Policies related to vulnerable and specific populations
  - Strategies for improving access to and the quality of care

◆ Use your notes template to capture your takeaways
Resources

- **Summary of State Profiles of Successful Public-Private Partnerships**, Child Care State Systems Specialists Network (2014)

- **Using Contracts and Grants to Build the Supply of High Quality Child Care: State Strategies and Practices**, National Center on Subsidy Innovation and Accountability and Child Care State Capacity Building Center (2016)

- **A Deep Dive into the Mechanics of Contracting for Child Care: STAM 2015**, National Center on Subsidy Innovation and Accountability (2015)
Resources

- *Increasing the Quality and Supply of Infant Toddler Family Child Care*, National Center on Early Head Start—Child Care Partnerships (2017)
  [http://events.nhsa.org/annual/2017/profile.cfm?profile_name=download&xtemplate&handout_key=5C0EAEF6-F772-65AC-375E-AE022794A257](http://events.nhsa.org/annual/2017/profile.cfm?profile_name=download&xtemplate&handout_key=5C0EAEF6-F772-65AC-375E-AE022794A257)


- *State and Territory Approaches to Improving the Supply and Quality of Child Care Programs and Services for Infants and Toddlers*, Child Care State Capacity Building Center (2017)
Thank You