



NATIONAL CENTER ON

Early Childhood Quality Assurance

Supports and Systems for Improving Access to and Sustainability of Family Child Care

Webinar

December 12, 2017

National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance

- ◆ Supports state and community leaders in improving the health, safety, and quality of early childhood settings
- ◆ Works across early childhood sectors
- ◆ Encourages policies and practices that are culturally and linguistically responsive

Our Priorities

- ◆ Advance strong health, safety, and quality standards and licensing regulations
- ◆ Support the development and enhancement of state quality initiatives
- ◆ Enhance quality assurance systems through the use of technology, data analysis, and research

Introductions



Amanda Szekely

- Senior Technical Assistance Specialist on state policy with ZERO TO THREE



Harriet Feldlaufer

- Director of the Division of Early Care at the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood



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- Chief Operating Officer, All Our Kin, Connecticut

Supporting Access to High-Quality Family Child Care: A Policy Assessment and Planning Tool for States, Territories, and Tribes



<https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/supporting-access-high-quality-family-child-care-policy-assessment-and-planning-tool-0>

Assessment: Four Steps to Action

1. Current Systems and Data to Inform Policy Change
2. Policy Strategies to Support Access to High-Quality Family Child Care
3. Initiatives to Support Supply and Quality of Family Child Care
4. Outreach to the Full Range of Providers

Current Systems and Data to Inform Policy Change

- ◆ Assessing Current FCC Systems
- ◆ Assessing Data Collection on Family Child Care



Assessment Tool: Current Systems

Policy Benchmark or Indicator	Measure	Comments
<p>FCC is incorporated in state-level plans to promote high-quality child care and build strong early childhood education (ECE) systems.</p> <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Do your strategic plans include FCC? ◆ Is FCC included in the ongoing work of ECE advisory councils? ◆ Is FCC a priority for your state agency partners? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Benchmark is fully met <input type="checkbox"/> Benchmark requires implementation <input type="checkbox"/> Benchmark is not met 	
<p>Data are available to inform policy decisions.</p> <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Does your state have data on the demand, supply, and quality of FCC? ◆ Are the data available for use by the Lead Agency? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Benchmark is fully met <input type="checkbox"/> Benchmark requires implementation <input type="checkbox"/> Benchmark is not met 	

Assessment Tool: Data Collection

Data	Licensed FCC	License-Exempt FCC	Comments
<p>The number of FCC providers currently operating in the state</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Available <input type="checkbox"/> Not available Source:</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Available <input type="checkbox"/> Not available Source:</p>	
<p>Demographic data on FCC providers:</p> <p>Language preference <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Age of provider <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Level of education <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Number of years' experience <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Available <input type="checkbox"/> Some but not all data is available <input type="checkbox"/> No data is available</p> <p>Source(s):</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Available <input type="checkbox"/> Some but not all data is available <input type="checkbox"/> No data is available</p> <p>Source(s):</p>	

Policy Strategies to Support Access

- ◆ Licensing and monitoring
- ◆ Quality rating and improvement systems or quality frameworks
- ◆ Professional development systems
- ◆ Child care subsidy policy

Assessment Tool: Licensing & Monitoring

Policy Benchmark or Indicator	Implementation Status	Comments
FCC providers serving a minimal number of children who are not their relatives are required to be licensed. (States typically require licensing for providers serving three or four children who are not relatives.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Partially implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable	
License-exempt FCC providers are required to be listed with or otherwise monitored by a public agency.	<input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Partially implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable	

Initiatives to Support the Supply and Quality of Family Child Care

- ◆ Staffed FCC networks
- ◆ Unstaffed FCC networks or associations
- ◆ Shared services model



Initiatives to Support the Supply and Quality of Family Child Care

- ◆ Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership initiatives
- ◆ Partnership between providers and ECE initiatives
- ◆ Other initiatives that provide support to FCC



Outreach to the Full Range of Providers

- ◆ Target high-need communities
- ◆ Include license-exempt and relative care providers
- ◆ Offer resources in languages other than English



Outreach to the Full Range of Providers

- ◆ Provide access to information online and outside typical business hours
- ◆ Provide support and resources for those caring for children with special needs
- ◆ Connect to trusted sources within community



Action Planning Tool

Action Steps	Next Steps	Who Will Take the Lead?	When Will It Be Done?	Priority (high, medium, low)
I. Current systems and data				
II. Policy strategies				
III. Initiatives to support supply and quality of FCC				
IV. Outreach to providers				

Initiatives to Support Supply and Quality and Outreach to a Full Range of Providers

Connecticut Office of Early Childhood
Division of Early Care and Education



Engaging Family Child Care Providers in Quality Improvement Systems



<https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/engaging-family-child-care-providers-quality-improvement-systems>

Building Systems Inclusive of FCC Providers

- ◆ What challenges do states have to overcome to effectively reach out to FCC providers?
- ◆ What can we learn from past studies and initiatives with FCC providers that can inform our future efforts?
- ◆ What outreach and recruitment practices effectively engage FCC providers in quality improvement initiatives?

Strategies for Engaging FCC Providers

- ◆ Active involvement of providers
- ◆ Effective partnerships using a strength based approach
- ◆ Multiple engagement & communication approaches
- ◆ Respect for FCC provider knowledge, time & unique role
- ◆ Networks and social supports
- ◆ Financial and material incentives



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Thank you



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