



National Center on Tribal Early Childhood Development

# Closeout Session



# Presenters



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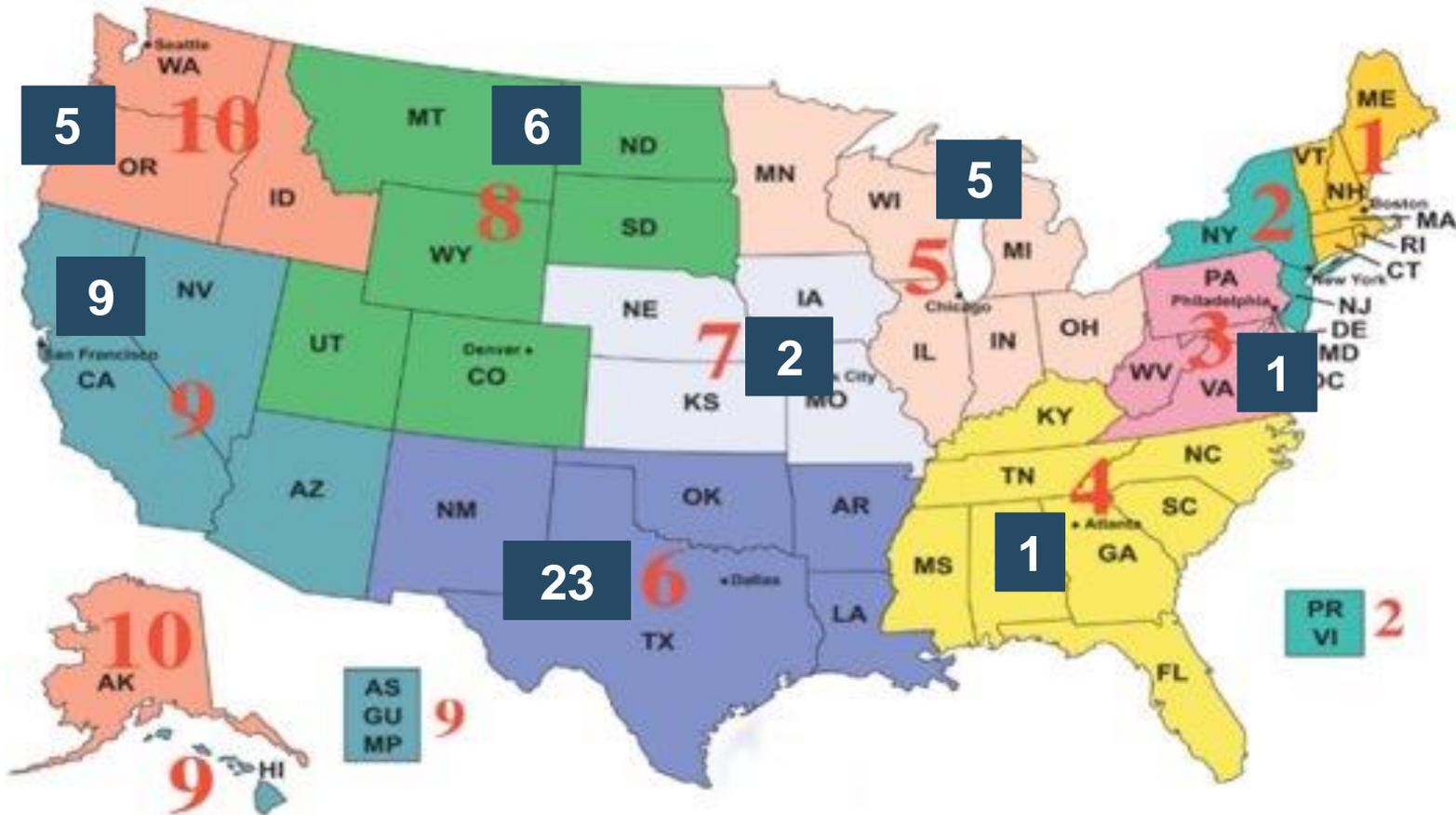
# Closeout Meeting Objectives

- ◆ Provide an overview of topics presented during office hours
- ◆ Review approaches discussed during the office hour sessions
- ◆ Provide tips and tools for developing an implementation strategy including CCDF Plan revisions
- ◆ Close out, reflections, and next steps



# Office of Child Care

An Office of the Administration for Children & Families



# COVID-19 Impact on Regulations

- ◆ Discussed the various considerations for updating child care regulations including health and safety standards, requirements for providers, Tribal child care licensing and state licensing
- ◆ Explored options for incorporating CDC guidance into the CCDF program operating and/or reopening plans; options for ensuring the safety of vulnerable caregivers and providers; guidance on submitting waivers and amendments



# Have Your Health and Safety Standards for Providers Changed?

- ◆ “The children centers in the classrooms are set up 6 feet apart and hand washing is done on a constant basis”
- ◆ “Relative care providers are now exempt during the pandemic”
- ◆ If so, how and what provider types were impacted?
  - “We have moved to the CDC Standards for attendance which has decreased the amount of children that the provider can take”
  - “We have supplied PPE's and disinfectants to our providers”

# Has Your Tribal Leadership Mandated Specific Resolutions or Requirements that All Tribal Programs Must Follow, Including Your CCDF Program?

- ◆ “COOP” [Continuity Of Operation Plan] was created and serves as a model to other program directors within the tribe”
- ◆ “Our Tribal Leadership is very involved with all aspects of the pandemic. Every change is either directed by our leadership or is submitted to them for review.
- ◆ "Tribe has Executive Order closing programs, including our tribal child care centers. We continue to serve those children with activity kits and food boxes weekly"

# If You Have Relative Care Providers, How Can Your Tribal Lead Agency Ensure the Health and Safety of Both Children and the Provider?

- ◆ “All the providers get educational material on H&S including C-19. Also phone calls to check in on any needs”



# Questions



# CARES Act Spending



REVIEWED THE  
CARES ACT  
INFORMATION  
MEMORANDUM (IM)



DISCUSSED WHAT  
OTHER TRIBAL CCDF  
PROGRAMS WERE  
CONSIDERING FOR  
OBLIGATING AND  
LIQUIDATING FUNDING



IDENTIFIED  
SUPPORTS THAT  
CAN BE PROVIDED  
BY THE CCDF  
PROGRAM



REVIEWED  
OBLIGATION AND  
LIQUIDATION  
PERIODS FOR  
CARES ACT FUNDS

# What Changes to Your Program Are You Considering at this Time?

- ◆ “Care packages for families including food, cleaning supplies, learning materials, etc.”
- ◆ “Plexiglass portable walls, portable sinks for outside”
- ◆ “Ion air purifiers for families and the center”

# How Will this Ensure the Safety of Children in Care?

- ◆ “Purchasing sanitizing equipment and air purifiers”
- ◆ "Showing them that we are here to support them and are thinking of them"



## In Thinking of Reopening, What Would Be Some Increased Operating Costs While Operating Under CDC Guidelines?

- ◆ “We will need more space and staff in order to isolate children with symptoms”
- ◆ “We are having a company come in and spray weekly”
- ◆ “Increased number of staff as our center children have considerably increased”

# Questions



# Parental Choice



Overview of Equal Access

Discussion on Supporting the Choices of Parents

Availability of Child Care Services

Overview of Collaboration and Coordination

# How is your Tribal CCDF Program Thinking of Supporting the Choices Parents may have to make for Child Care Services?

- ◆ “More family care providers”
- ◆ “Right now, we are writing lesson plans for virtual learning”
- ◆ “We are also preparing a package to be delivered to the households”
- ◆ “We are also providing technical support for the families that don't have Wi-Fi service”

## Supporting the Choices of Parents cont.

- ◆ “Also gave out school supplies, sports equipment, and individual and family games”
- ◆ “We ordered school supplies and back packs for the CCDF families. As soon as they come in, we will distribute to the families”
- ◆ “We are supplying school supplies and backpacks”

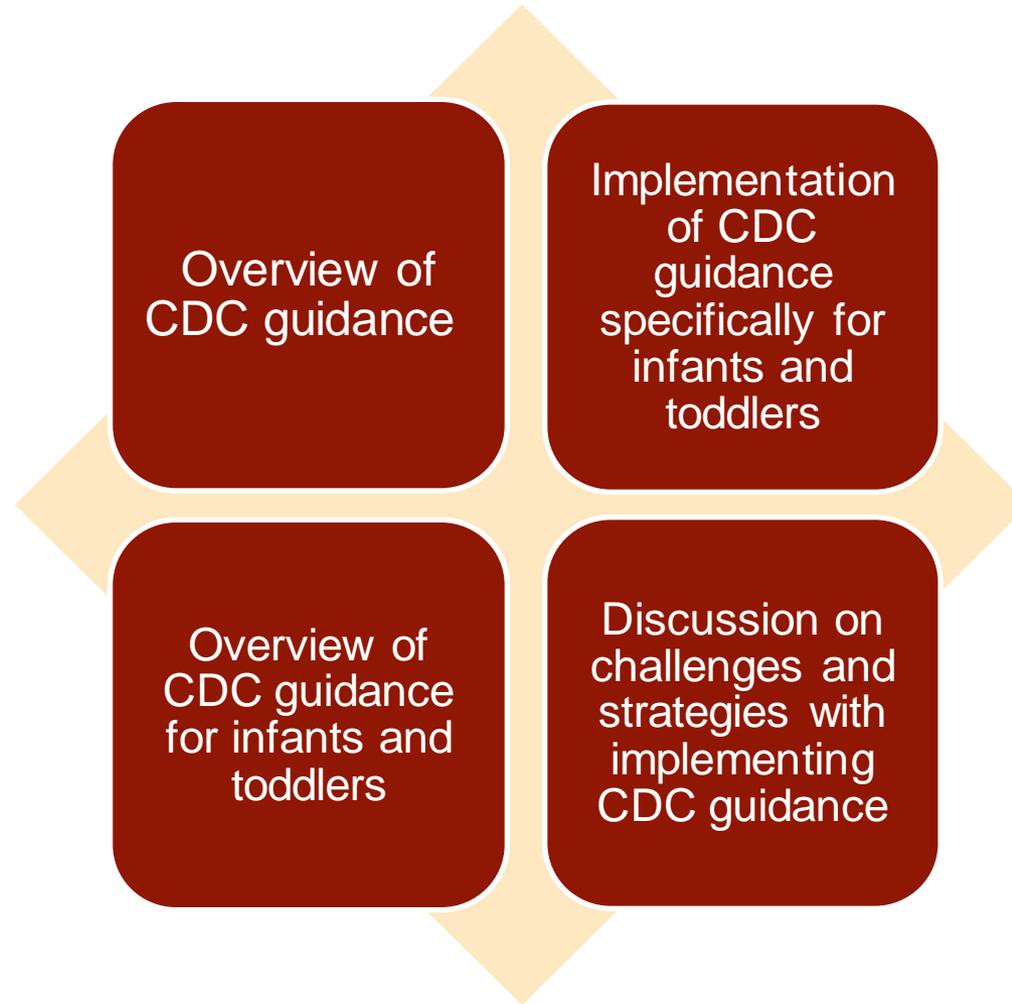
# What Strategies Are You Thinking About Implementing to Increase Parental Choice in Your CCDF Program?

- ◆ “More family care providers”
- ◆ “Zoom meetings”
- ◆ “We are purchasing HATCH tablets for all students with software that is connected to our curriculum software. They can also be used as regular tablets, so we are looking at Zoom sessions as well”

# Questions



# Reopening Child Care



# What Health and Safety Processes Have You Put in Place for Child Care Providers During COVID-19 that You Are the Most Proud of?

- ◆ “Re-opening for families and with curbside drop off and pick up”
- ◆ “The support that we are giving our providers and families. We have provided cleaning supplies, PPE's and thermometers. One of our centers have set up drop off times the other is doing curb side”
- ◆ “Implementing an online screener for the families and a stagger time for pick up and drop off time”

## Health and Safety Processes cont.

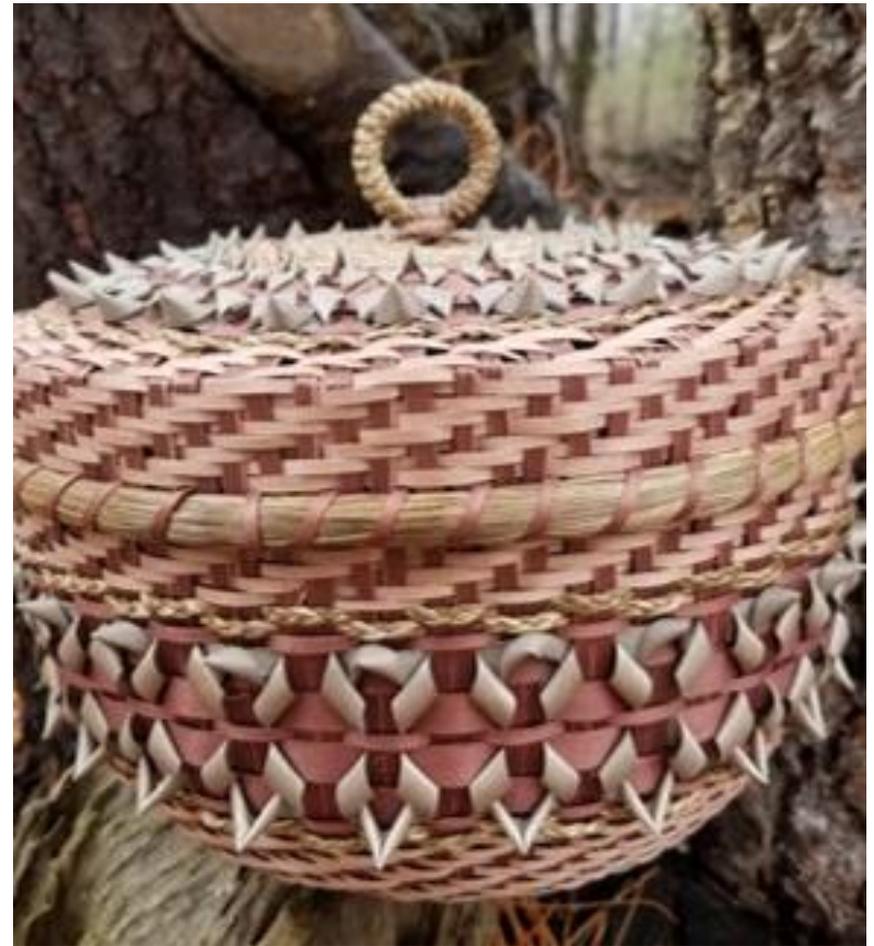
- ◆ “Right now our program is only allowing relative care due to our tribal closure. We were really hit hard by the pandemic within our small community”
- ◆ “We bought clothes, formula, bottles, lockers, cradles, whatever the child needs”

# Social Distancing Strategies

- ◆ “Opening more centers to create smaller groups”
- ◆ “Less children for small spaces”
- ◆ “We are moving more outdoor and getting additional equipment for outside and natural materials donated”

# Infant/Toddler Care

- ◆ “Face shields help as masks prevent providers from seeing if children have a runny nose and they are easier to breath in”



# Questions



# Changing the Categories of Care



Discussed adding or changing the categories of care

Explored options for providing direct services

Discussed Community Needs Assessment

# Have You Determined that You Need to Change or Add Categories of Care Considering COVID-19? How Did You Get to this Decision?

- ◆ “Had to provide online support and virtual classrooms”
- ◆ “We are doing remote learning for now. We are in planning stages to re-open center services”

# How Will Parent and Provider Communication Be Handled?

- ◆ “I send out letters to both family and providers as well as call them regularly”
- ◆ “I send out letters depending on what the changes are. They are used to me sending out letters and reach out to me if they do not receive them”

# Questions



# Building the Supply of Care

Discussed options for building the supply of care

Discussed provider payment practices to consider

Explored ideas to support providers

Identified challenges in supporting providers



# What Types of Providers Are You Currently Using to Support Families with Their Child Care Needs?

Center Based Care	100%
Family Child Care	0%
In-Home Care	0%
School Age Care	0%

# How Will You Support Providers in Your Service Area?

- ◆ “We are maintaining teachers’ salaries while the center is closed. Even while they are working two days a week”
- ◆ “Some of our teachers are renewing their CDA remotely”
- ◆ “PPE's, diapers, materials, and letting them know we are of assistance. During the center's closure, the employees pay is coded to the COVID pay. Also, I have increased teachers’ salaries in their [job descriptions] but have not increased their salaries. This will be done in the new year”

# Support Providers in Your Service Area cont.

- ◆ “My teachers all have laptops, printers, and WIFI’s at home to do their remote learning. I have finalized my Child Care Center's Policies and Procedures today. The P&P will be sent out for review to staff this afternoon”

# Questions



# Tips and Tools

- ◆ “Tip Sheet for Tribes: Using CCDF Amendment and Waiver Flexibility to Meet the Child Care Needs as a Result of COVID-19”
- ◆ Flexibility in Spending CCDF Funds in Response to Federal or State Declared Emergency Situations as indicated in the Information Memorandum: “Flexibility in Spending CCDF Funds in Response to Federal or State Declared Emergency Situations” (CCDF-ACF-IM-2017-02)

# Tips and Tools cont.

- ◆ Center for Disease Control (CDC)
  - Guidance for Schools and Child Care Programs
  - Guidance for Childcare Programs that Remain Open
  - CDC Webinar – "Adapting, Evolving, and Thriving: Tools To Evolve Your COVID-19 Child Care Strategy"

# Tips and Tools cont.

- ◆ Community Needs Assessment to inform CCDF program planning and decision making



# Share

- ◆ What topic do you still need support on?
- ◆ Did this peer learning environment work for you? Why?



# Final Questions



# Contact Us!

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# We would like to hear your feedback!



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