Professionalizing the Workforce in Out-of-School Time & School-Age Child Care
Welcome

Ellen Wheatley, Ph.D.
Acting Director
Office of Child Care
Administration for Children & Families
Session Goals

• Provide an overview of the Out-of-School-Time (OST) workforce, including data and efforts to professionalize the field

• Address key questions and issues regarding OST workforce development

• Highlight promising practices and state examples of system-building efforts
Agenda

• Welcome & NCASE Overview
• State of the Field
• History of Past Efforts to Professionalize the Field
• Question & Answer
• Promising Practices – State Examples
• Question & Answer
• Close
The broad goal of NCASE is to ensure that school-age children in families of low-income have increased access to afterschool and summer learning experiences that contribute to children’s overall development and academic achievement.
Enhance the quality of child care and the early childhood workforce:

“The Office of Child Care supports low-income working families by providing access to affordable, high-quality early care and afterschool programs. OCC administers the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)…

CCDF also improves the quality of care to support children’s healthy development and learning by supporting child care licensing, quality improvements systems to help programs meet higher standards, and support for child care workers to attain more training and education.”

Office of Child Care Fact Sheet
https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/fact-sheet-occ
State of the Field

- What do we know about the OST workforce?
- Summary of available data from NAA surveys
- What is unique about the OST workforce?
- Supporting the full workforce at all levels
History of Past Efforts to Professionalize the Field

“What's taking so long?”
An Emerging Issue: 1970's and 1980's

- Interest in Professionalization
- Looking for models in Scandinavia and UK
- Seeking broad definition of youth work
Building on Early Childhood Efforts:

- Military Child Care Act
- Child Development Associate
- Council on Professional Development
- Wheelock College Center for Career Development
Accelerating Efforts: The Early 2000's

City and State-Wide Efforts:

• Achieve Boston and School Age and Youth Development (SAYD) Credential
• Building a Skilled and Stable Workforce
• State Professional Development Systems
• Support from Foundations
• Next Generation Youth Work Coalition
How is your state specifically supporting the OST workforce?:

- Core Competencies
- Compensation
- Training & PD (for full workforce)
- Credentials and Certifications
- Career pathways and higher education partnerships
- Building a system that spans the continuum of care, EEC to SAC and beyond

What challenges have you faced in incorporating school-age care practitioners? What plans do you have for the future?
Q & A

NATIONAL CENTER ON
Afterschool and Summer Enrichment
Visit the NCASE Resource Library: https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/ncase-resource-library
Resources

• Transforming the Workforce Birth through Age 8: A Unifying Foundation (2015)
  https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/ncase-resource-library/transforming-workforce-
  children-birth-through-age-8-unifying-foundation

  https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/ncase-resource-library/state-afterschool-quality-
  promoting-professionalism

• NAA Core Knowledge and Competencies for Afterschool and Youth Development Professionals (2011) https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/ncase-
  resource-library/national-afterschool-association-naa-core-knowledge-and-
  competencies

• Strengthening the Early Childhood and School-Age Workforce (2014)
  https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/strengthening-early-childhood-and-
  school-age-workforce

• Office of Child Care Fact Sheet: https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/fact-sheet-occ
Visit the NCASE website at:
https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/national-center-afterschool-summer-enrichment

To contact NCASE, please email us at:
ncase@ecetta.info

Thank You!