Rural Child Care: Building Supply and Support for High Quality

State and Territory Administrators Meeting

July 13 – 15, 2015
The States of Rural America

Seven out of ten states have a larger percentage of rural population than the national average.

Map shows percent of residents in each state living in rural areas or “urban clusters” of between 2,500 and 50,000.

- **More than 50% rural** (15 states)
- **More rural than U.S. average, 28.8%** (19 states)
- **Less rural than average, 10% to 28.8%** (13 states)
- **Less than 10% rural** (3 states and D.C.)

Source: U.S. Census
A Vision for Strong Rural Kids and Families

1. High quality early learning experiences
2. Expansion of MIECHV
3. Reform and expand Head Start
4. Provide universal Pre-K
5. Expand access to quality, affordable child care
6. Internet and learning technologies
7. Supporting Healthy Kids and Families
8. Helping Families Get Ahead
Today’s Focus

A Vision for Strong Rural Kids and Families

1. High quality early learning experiences
2. Expansion of MIECHV
3. Reform and expand Head Start
4. Provide universal Pre-K
5. **Expand access to quality, affordable child care**
6. Internet and learning technologies
7. Supporting Healthy Kids and Families
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Expand access to quality, affordable child care

The report references the President’s budget which invests $100 million in new competitive grants to address unmet needs.

These pilots could be used to accomplish the following:

• Develop and test promising practices for families in rural communities,
• Assist parents who work nontraditional hours, and
• Support other families who struggle to find and use high-quality care.
Session Format

Interview State Staff
Question and Answer Period
Small Group Discussions:
1. Family Child Care Networks
2. Child Care Resource and Referral
3. Incentives
4. Comprehensive Supply Building Strategies
Introductions

Patty Butler  Montana
Early Childhood Services Bureau Chief

Jan Walker  Vermont
Interview
Questions?
Small Group Discussions

1. Family Child Care Networks

2. Child Care Resource and Referral

3. Incentives

4. Comprehensive Supply Building Strategies
Report and Conclusions

• New?
• Next Steps?
• Information Needed?
• Final Thoughts?