Strategies For Building A Supply Of High-quality Infant And Toddler Care
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Why infant-toddler care?

• New opportunities under CCDBG Act of 2014
  • Increased set aside
    • 3% quality spending set-aside for infants and toddlers (658G(a)(2)(B))
  • Increased focus on quality improvement and supply building
    • Quality spending activities include improving the supply and quality of child care programs and services for infants and toddlers. (658G(b)(4))
    • Meeting the needs of certain populations – Infants and toddlers identified as one of four groups for which States must implement strategies to increase supply and improve quality of child care services. (658E(c)(2)(M))
• Early Learning Initiative
Why family child care?

- One in two children under age 5 in non-parental child care arrangements are cared for in some home-based child care setting (Laughlin, 2013)
- Close to 4 million home-based providers care for 7 million children ages 0-5; most providers are unpaid, unlisted (NSECE, 2015).
- Infants and toddlers more likely to be cared for in home-based child care (Johnson, 2005; NSECE, 2013)
- Low-income families with non-standard work hours more likely to rely on home-based child care (Johnson, 2005)
- Over a quarter of children in subsidized child care are in family child care (Office of Child Care, 2013)
- 36% of infants in subsidized child care are in FCC
- 32% of toddlers in subsidized child care are in FCC
Decline in children cared for in “listed” family child care

- Children receiving CCDF subsidy in FCC (child’s home; family home; group home)
  - 2008: 38%
  - 2013: 29%

- 13% decline in the number of licensed/regulated FCC providers from 2008 to 2011
  - 11% decline from 2014 to 2015

SOURCES:
http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/ccdf-statistics
https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/public/042_1304_fcch_licensing_trends_f
http://www.naccrra.org/public-policy/resources/data
Potential for quality in family child care

- For children: one on one relationships, nurturing & responsive care, family setting (NICHD, 2004)

- For parents: convenience, flexibility, affordability for low-income working parents; siblings together; language/culture match (Bromer & Henly, 2004; 2009)

- For communities: economic and social asset in the neighborhood; neighborhood watch on the block (Bromer, 2006; Gilman, 2001)
Need for quality improvement

• Low to mediocre quality care (NICHD, 2004; Layzer & Goodson, 2006; Forry et al, 2013) especially in homes serving low-income / subsidized children (Raikes et al, 2013)

Aspects that limit quality caregiving:

• Isolation and lack of access to information and resources (Porter et al, 2010)

• Role burden: child care-family balance (Bromer & Henly, 2004; Nelson, 1991); mixed ages (Kryzer, Kovan, Phillips, Domagall, & Gunnar, 2007)
Predictors of quality

• Support – professional, personal, social (Forry et al, 2013; Porter et al, 2010; Doherty et al, 2006; Paulsell et al., 2006; Kontos, Howes, Shinn, & Galinsky, 1995)
• Regulatory status – licensing (Raikes et al, 2013)
• Provider training (Doherty et al, 2006)
• Personal resources (Forry et al, 2013)
• Motivation/ intentionality (Kontos et al, 1995)

Aspects that limit quality caregiving:

• Job demands/stress (Forry et al, 2013)
• Provider beliefs about caregiving (Forry et al, 2013)
What do we know from research about high-quality support for family child care?

### SUPPORT SERVICES
- Visits to provider homes
- Direct education and training for providers
- Helpline, regular support groups, provider-program feedback
- Quality assessment
- Social and peer support
- Advocacy

### IMPLEMENTATION PRACTICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service delivery</th>
<th>Specialist support</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Content of services (e.g. children, families, provider, administrative)</td>
<td>Reflective supervision</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dosage</td>
<td>In-service training</td>
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<td>Intensity &amp; consistency</td>
<td>Peer support</td>
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<td>Caseload</td>
<td>Work conditions</td>
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<td>Availability of resources</td>
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### ELEMENTS OF HIGH-QUALITY SUPPORT
- Relationship-based engagement
- Reflection
- Goal setting & motivating
- Information-sharing
- Communication

*Bromer & Korfmacher, 2015*
Continuum of support strategies for sustainable quality improvement

**CCDF/ Grants & Contracts**

**Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships**

**Staffed Networks/ CCR&Rs/ Child Care Agencies**

Offer a Menu of Supports

- Health and safety tool kits
- Mini grants and incentives
- Support groups
- Help-lines
- Provider mentors
- FCC specialists/ infant toddler specialists
- Technical Assistance: Coaching/Consultation/Home visiting
- Training/Education + Technical Assistance
State Strategy Highlights

Illinois
California
Delaware
Small Group Work

• What are the goals of your state’s current efforts to build a supply of high-quality infant and toddler care?
• What are some challenges in your state to building the supply of high-quality infant and toddler care that includes family child care?
• What are some strategies and methods that you might consider in your state to address these challenges?
• What resources could OCC offer to support these efforts?