



CHILD CARE

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State Capacity Building Center

# Impact Project

An Intensive Consultation and Technical  
Assistance Opportunity for States,  
Commonwealths and Territories

# Presenters

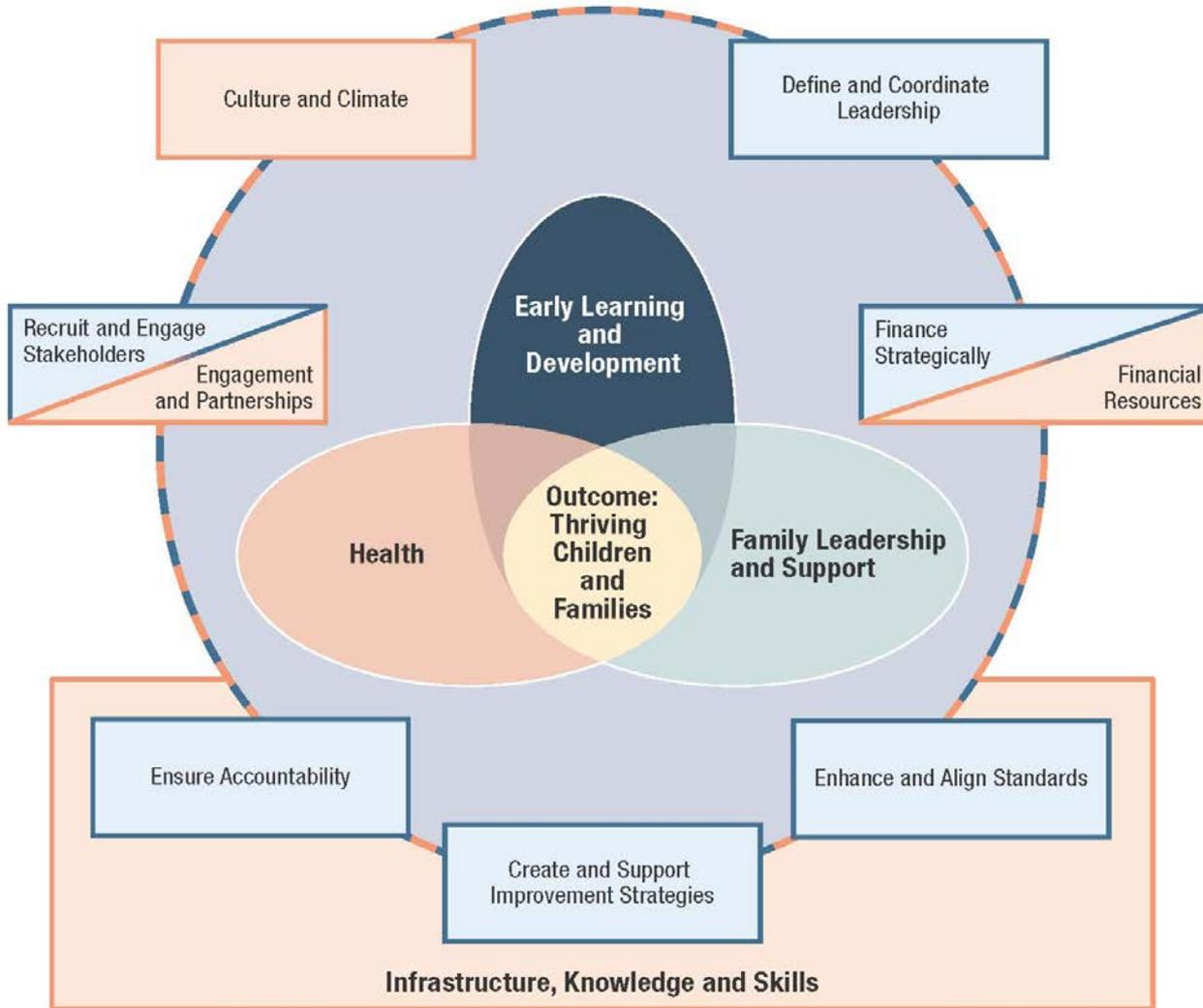
- ◆ Harriet Dichter, State Capacity Building Center/ICF International
- ◆ Erin Hill Freschi, State Capacity Building Center/WestEd
- ◆ Ellen Wheatley, Office of Child Care

# Purpose of The Impact Project

- ◆ To assist States as they develop and expand their capacity for planning, investing in, and implementing quality early childhood systems, policies, and practices

# State Capacity Building Center

- ◆ Impact Project is a new service of the State Capacity Building Center (SCBC). The SCBC has three priorities:
  - Advancing early childhood systems building
  - Implementation of Child Care and Development Fund
  - Improving quality and supply of infant and toddler services



State Capacity Building Center Dimensions of Capacity



Early Childhood Systems Working Group Ovals/Functions

# What Is the Impact Project?

- ◆ States identify a state-specific project based on the State vision and priorities
- ◆ Projects may be new or underway

# What is the Impact Project?

- ◆ Intensive consultation and technical assistance to support the work and to strengthen and support State capacity
  - Timeframes of 18 to 48 months as determined by the State
- ◆ States must include systems and services supported through the Child Care and Development Fund including the goal of addressing the needs of working families by providing more low-income children with quality child care services

# Who Is Eligible for the Impact Project?



- ◆ States
- ◆ Commonwealths
- ◆ Territories
- ◆ States may apply in multistate consortiums
- ◆ Up to 10 States will be selected to participate

# What Informed the Impact Project's Design?

- ◆ Key informant interviews with over 4 dozen individuals
- ◆ Literature review



# Ideas from State Leader Interviews

- ◆ Building the supply of high quality family child care
- ◆ Delivering comprehensive services and family supports through quality child care
- ◆ Expanding access to high quality infant-toddler care
- ◆ Improving the skills, qualifications, and stability of our workforce

# Ideas from State Leader Interviews

- ◆ Modernizing and coordinating monitoring
- ◆ Promoting equal access to high quality child care, especially for vulnerable populations or and in underserved areas
- ◆ Strengthening the early childhood system and its infrastructure, cross-sector functioning and integration (e.g., continuous quality improvement, collection and use of data, assessment) with the end goal of increasing access for low income children to high quality care

# Timeline

Friday, March 25	Letters of interest due by 8:00 p.m. ET
Friday, April 22	Applications due by 8:00 p.m. ET
May 16-27	Interviews with applicants, as necessary
Late June	States and/or Territories selected
July	Details finalized with selected States and/or Territories
August	Projects commence
Ongoing	Minimum monthly consultation Site visits at least four times in each 12-month period Semiannual self-assessment and reporting Annual plan review and revision as needed

# Letter of Interest

- ◆ State's interest in applying and brief description of project
- ◆ Signed by the head of the agency as well as the head of the State's early learning council or equivalent stakeholder council
- ◆ Due Friday, March 25, 8:00 p.m. ET

# Application Letter & Proposal

- ◆ Letter of application signed by the head of the agency applying, the State's Child Care and Development Fund administrator, and the head of the State's early learning council

# Application Letter & Proposal (continued)

## 4-Part Proposal

- ◆ Context and vision
- ◆ Project narrative
- ◆ State management team
- ◆ State investment
- ◆ Due Friday, April 22

# Context and Vision

- ◆ State's top early childhood policy priorities
- ◆ State context, including current early childhood strengths, key early childhood issues, and a brief understanding of the State's early childhood population that the State is addressing
- ◆ Overview of the specific state-determined priority that the State is addressing through the Impact Project

# Project Narrative

- ◆ Project goals, strategies, and activities
- ◆ Person responsible
- ◆ Timeline
- ◆ Your measures of progress
- ◆ Consultation and assistance you would like from the State Capacity Building Center to accomplish your work
- ◆ Once selected, Impact Project team will assist States in refining these plans

# State Impact Project Management Team

- ◆ Each team must have a lead and a colead with sufficient leadership responsibility and authority to oversee the State's project
- ◆ Teams, with support from the State Capacity Building Center, will finalize project plan (design and/or implementation)
- ◆ Designate a State official executive sponsor (who may be a lead or colead)

# State Impact Project Management Team

- ◆ Include those who are essential to design and implementation in the team, no later than 6–9 months into the project
- ◆ Ensure meaningful family and stakeholder communication and partnership
- ◆ Participate in regular communication with the State Capacity Building Center
- ◆ Convene the management team and SCBC consultants for regular in-state meetings (at least four times a year) to facilitate planning and problem solving

# State Impact Project Management Team

- ◆ Regularly brief the head(s) of the sponsoring agency and the early learning council on the project and gain their input
- ◆ Track progress toward completion of the State's action plan; reassess and revise strategies
- ◆ Complete a semiannual survey (provided by the State Capacity Building Center)
- ◆ Coleads participate in occasional peer learning and advisement with the Impact Project network

# State Investment

- ◆ Show the State's investment (financial and non-financial resources) in the project
- ◆ Cash investment is not required



# State Selection

- ◆ Quality and completeness
- ◆ Extent to which the selected States represent diverse current capacity and geography
- ◆ Significance of the projected outcome
- ◆ Demonstrated relationship to the State's priorities
- ◆ Degree to which the work is related to priorities discussed in State Leader interviews
- ◆ Likelihood of achieving the goals
- ◆ Likelihood that the project would create sustained change, and the extent to which the work is systemic

# State Capacity Building Center Consultants and Responsibilities for the Impact Project

- ◆ State Capacity Building Center
  - Harriet Dichter
  - Sangree Froelicher
  - Kim Means
  - Desireé Reddick-Head
  
- ◆ WestEd
  - Erin Hill Freschi
  - Diane Harkins
  - George Philipp
  - Gerrit Westervelt
  
- ◆ Child Trends
  - Kelly Maxwell

# State Capacity Building Center Consultants and Responsibilities for the Impact Project

- ◆ Designate a dedicated senior consultant for each State
- ◆ Support the lead, colead, and management team in their progress on the project
- ◆ Provide appropriate types of consultation, to be specifically determined based on each State's application and follow-up conversation, to meet the needs of the State
- ◆ Secure additional expertise from the rich array of experts at the federally funded Early Childhood Training and Technical Assistance System, as relevant to each State's project

# State Capacity Building Center Consultants and Responsibilities for the Impact Project

- ◆ Provide opportunities for the State management team to learn the skills and develop the capacity to sustain the project and be able to develop and implement new projects so project management, documentation and analysis, and facilitation and/or other system building skills as identified by the State and SCBC are embedded in the team at the end of the project
- ◆ Provide intensive assistance throughout the project period through telephone and email consultation and onsite visits (anticipated to occur four times during each full year of participation)

# State Capacity Building Center Consultants and Responsibilities for the Impact Project

- ◆ Provide leadership and coordination to promote strengthened capacity to accomplish the proposed project
- ◆ Provide formative and summative evaluations for ongoing action planning, progress monitoring, and outcome assessment, including use of a semiannual assessment tool
- ◆ Establish and support occasional peer learning and advisement for the Impact Project network

# Questions and Answers



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A Service of the Office of Child Care**

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**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**