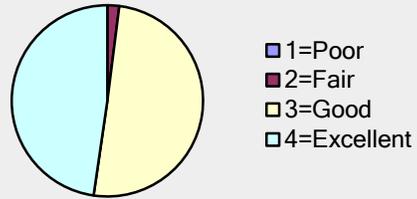


**STAM 2015: Strategies and Partnerships for a New Era in Child Care**  
**July 13–15, 2015 • Alexandria, VA**

**Overall Program Survey Summary**

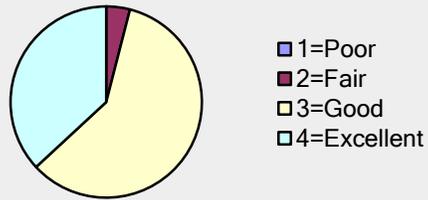
**My overall impression of the meeting was:**

Answer Options	Response Percent
1=Poor	0%
2=Fair	2%
3=Good	50%
4=Excellent	48%



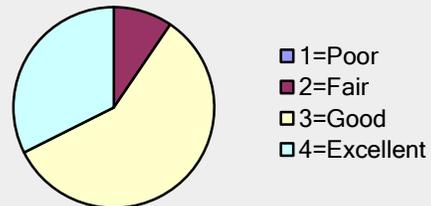
**The information discussed and provided was:**

Answer Options	Response Percent
1=Poor	0%
2=Fair	4%
3=Good	59%
4=Excellent	37%



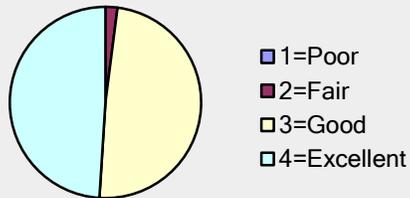
**The value of the information in improving my job skills and my ability to improve services for children and families was:**

Answer Options	Response Percent
1=Poor	0%
2=Fair	10%
3=Good	58%
4=Excellent	32%



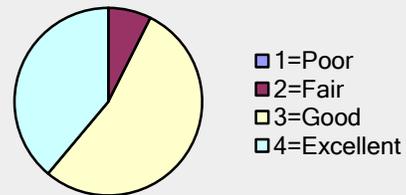
**The presenters and facilitators were:**

Answer Options	Response Percent
1=Poor	0%
2=Fair	2%
3=Good	49%
4=Excellent	49%



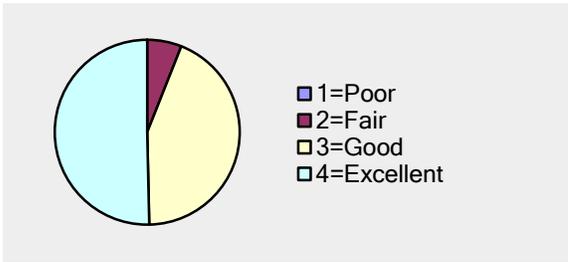
**The plenary session and concurrent workshop topics were:**

Answer Options	Response Percent
1=Poor	0%
2=Fair	7%
3=Good	54%
4=Excellent	39%



**The opportunities for networking were:**

Answer Options	Response Percent
1=Poor	0%
2=Fair	6%
3=Good	44%
4=Excellent	50%



**General Comments**

**Were the presentations, discussions, and topics covered in this year's meeting interesting and relevant to your work?**

- Yes. (40 responses)
- Yes, they were—very much so. (5 responses)
- Yes, Open Space Discussions were best to talk to others about strategies we are considering.
- I appreciated that folks who represent the licensing divisions were present. I have always encouraged collaboration when working with child care providers. There is some resistance out there, and I feel that the messages spoken at the meeting just reinforced how important it is for us all to share information (in a professional manner) so that we all can be efficient in our work with providers as well as knowledgeable about what topics each of us can message to providers.
- The presentations were definitely interesting, and you could tell that a lot of thought went into the topics presented. In the big picture, they are absolutely relevant, but the details of the implementation of reauthorization are so much in the forefront of my work right now, that it's a challenge to think of incorporating some of the broader ideas that were presented. Then again, this may be the iterative approach!
- To some degree, yes. Right now, high level feels too thin and, in the absence of anything specific for implementation, not as value-added. The attendance at peer-to-peer, FBI, and tech sessions highlighted what States were most thirsty for from the offerings. Other non-State administrators may have had different needs that were met.
- Yes, several of them were. I was able to get the contact information for the people that I would like to get more information from regarding the topics they covered.
- Yes, all topics were relevant to my work.
- Yes, all the information shared was highly valuable to the work that I do at the State level.
- As an RTT-ELC project manager, nearly all the content had direct relevance to our work, especially because we are in the process of examining how CCDBG Reauthorization can be utilized to augment or sustain our ELC work.
- Yes, it was clear that a lot of planning went into the meeting, and a lot of great information was presented by a nice mix of Federal staff, TA providers, researchers, and State staff. There was also a nice balance between presentations and discussions.
- Yes, and those that were not helped educate me in areas that I've been unsure about.
- Yes, but as the only representative from my State, I was disappointed that I could not attend all sessions, and I missed several that were important to my State.
- As a collaboration director, it was sometimes hard to wrap my head around all the discussions, but I did find it to be very good information.
- This was one of the best meetings I've ever attended. Very helpful.
- All the discussions were interesting and relevant.
- Yes. With the CCDBG Reauthorization, it would have been helpful to hear more about implementing some of the major changes and to better understand how States are doing so.
- Very good information and resources discussed.
- Yes, a good variety of topics.
- Workforce and evaluation and early childhood systems work integration.
- Yes. The sessions provided basic information on how States are viewing workforce issues and are planning for how to support them.
- Yes, the presentations, discussions, and topics were interesting and relevant. Participation in the meeting is helping our State staff move forward in implementing the CCDBG Act. However, answers to the many detailed questions that our State and other States have submitted are needed. The Federal CCDBG regulation is also needed.
- Yes, but we still want and need the policy on reauthorization.
- To a certain degree.

- Yes. Some were too basic, but again, I understand that the audience was mixed.
- Information about refugee and homeless populations, information about what data can be used and in what way, and stories from the field.
- Yes, very relevant and helped support my work at the State level.
- To a certain extent.
- Yes, very much so.
- Yes, for about 70% of the presentations, discussions, and topics.
- Workforce and vulnerable populations.
- My work is focused on the background check portion of child care, so the topics were mostly not very relevant to my work. However, they were informative and the networking opportunities were priceless.
- Supporting the workforce at all levels, cross-agency collaboration, and messaging.]]
- Mixing State and non-State presenters and discussion leaders is helpful.
- Overall, yes.
- Yes, but the workshops were hit-and-miss. When choosing States for presentations, more work needs to be done on vetting whether they will provide helpful information.
- Yes, all sessions I attended were appropriate and interesting topics.
- Some yes and some sort of.
- Yes, they were.
- Yes, the planning committee did an excellent job.
- This meeting was a missed opportunity in that we could have spent more time focusing on the issues that States are facing regarding reauthorization. There was a lot of information that was superfluous if you were a State that doesn't have RTT funds or has very few EHS-CC Partnerships.
- Need time to work with State partners with support from ACF and program and Regional partners to eliminate barriers and do actual work with support from Federal staff.
- Yes, a good effort to punt while not having further direction or regulations pertinent to CCDBG Reauthorization.
- Yes, a great diversity of topics. Liked all the State examples and appreciated the open space options.
- Yes. It was difficult to choose only one workshop due to multiple workshops being of interest held at the same time.

**What topics would you like to have covered in future meetings? Are there issues that emerged that you would like to see addressed or explored further? If so, please specify the topics.**

- I'm sure that as the year progresses, there will be additional needs, but right now it would be helpful to have some information on the types of data that are being collected in States for early childhood programs that support child outcomes. How do States share data sources and reporting? What does this look like?
- Monitoring providers and approaches for training staff who work with families on eligibility.
- Just need specific information on requirements.
- I am not sure, as I am very new to this position, so I don't know what I don't know yet.
- Professional development is a very important subject. However, the reality for our community is that more than 95% of the women working in child care settings were previously stay-at-home moms who are now gainfully employed at the facilities and are able to help provide for their families financially. However, they do not demonstrate any desire to further their education beyond where it already is, and in most cases, it is a high school diploma. Is there an alternative to the big credentialing push that is being made? Does professional development only equate to degree-holders providing care? Is there a way to measure the validity of the experience one has from firsthand childrearing?
- Explore the need for development of a uniform process for requesting background checks from other States.
- In future meetings it would be very valuable to continue to support and encourage collaboration and partnerships with child care personnel and the collaboration directors. Allowing time for these conversations reinforces the vision and messaging of the Administration related to working together effectively to better meet the needs of children, families, and the workforce.
- Consumer education requirements of the CCDBG Act.
- Innovative strategies that exemplify how states are using CCDBG, RTT-ELC, EHS-CC Partnerships, and preschool expansion to enhance and expand access to high-quality care for all children.
- Family engagement, two-generation strategies, technology, and supply-building.
- Information technology.
- Any ACF initiatives that involve partnerships or collaboration with partners outside of CCDF lead agencies.
- Continue to cover reauthorization challenges.
- If we have joint meetings with State administrators and collaboration directors it would be nice to have more collaboration-specific things going on, and more time to meet as collaboration directors.
- All topics were addressed.

- It would be helpful to have TA in implementing the new background check process.
- More discussion on aligned monitoring systems and data usage and a breakout on two-generation approaches.
- More topics that concern child care and Head Start jointly.
- The inclusion of culture in early learning. Where are we? What can be done? How can it be done?
- Additional topics addressing subsidy strategies. Maybe managing waiting lists, which may become a need in the future for some States.
- For a topic as complex as the FBI checks, I would liked to have seen more than one session at more than one time. It was difficult to attend everything I wanted to go to.
- Early childhood partnering with CCDF. How they work together and share resources.
- Hopefully more information related to implementation and reauthorization.
- Future meetings—guidance and program instruction on CCDBG. Issues that emerge—Early Head Start—Child Care Partnerships.
- Perhaps a better discussion of pre-K.
- How to effectively use the numerous TA streams available. Navigating the TA maze is difficult for States to figure out. Who do I go to when I have a question? What are all the TA centers and what do they do? How have States used the TA centers effectively?
- Most of my remaining interests involve implementing the reauthorization. The release of the regulations will help.
- It would be good in a key note address to tell the full STAM audience about what Head Start does and a bit about the collaboration directors' roles in following what's in the Head Start Act.
- Additional content on supports the workforce needs to address the science, evidence-based support strategies, and opportunities for input from States on challenges and supports needed.
- We need the rules to come out.
- There was more direct integration on the role of Head Start State collaboration directors this time around, and I found that helpful. Further visibility regarding how this all fits together needs to be continued.
- Reauthorization.
- Techniques for a writing a solid and concise State plan.
- More on EHS-CC Partnerships and issues that remain.
- Reauthorization details and implications.
- I think there's more to cover in terms of data aggregation and analysis. I'd like to see more of that.
- I think we need to invite OSEP staff to discuss meeting the needs of children with disabilities and ensuring EHS-CC Partnerships and Head Start meet the 10% requirement.
- More practical information about implementing the CCDBG changes.
- As a Collaboration Director, it was helpful to me to have our meeting in conjunction with STAM. In many ways the work I do as a collab ties closely with the State CCDF plan.
- More on collaboration with community partners, including school districts. More on contracting. More on PD systems that are not only about training but also bout coursework and degrees.
- I really liked the TANF/CC discussions. I think more of those as well as more conversations with HS and EHS.
- For me, a subsidy track that hits all the changes with subsidy would be helpful.
- Monitoring of programs that received CCDF funding, particularly for relative care providers.
- Always more information on data.
- I would like to see continued discussions on much of the same, with an opportunity for States to weigh in on what they've done, progress, and lessons learned.
- More discussion is needed on how States are expected to implement the background check requirements for CCDF and how they will be monitored for compliance.
- Supporting the home care provider—pathways to quality.
- More discussions about leadership development, equity, and movement of minority groups into leadership positions.
- Details of the regulations and expectations regarding reauthorization.
- Background checks.
- Licensing, monitoring, and background checks.
- Expulsion policies.
- As we move forward with reauthorization, would like to have continued support on emerging issues.
- Given the closer collaboration between Head Start and child care, it was odd that there was not more Head Start content during STAM.
- Two-generation approaches.
- More peer-to-peer networking opportunities.
- Making the Head Start/Early Head Start—Child Care connection. Have programs implementing the EHS-CC Partnerships speak about strengths and challenges.

- More guidance regarding reauthorization.
- Braiding and blending funding.
- Have key components of CCDBG in an open discussion for States. What is the most challenging component for your State to implement and strategies other States are taking to implement that requirement.
- Policy alignment across licensing, subsidy, Head Start, developmental day, and pre-K.
- Need more opportunity to network. Open space session good. Needed more time. Need deeper discussions to hear the "hows" and "process" of how each State works.
- Improper payments and attendance policies.
- License-exempt program monitoring and reporting and making results available online. Expulsion policy vs. position statement—what level of guidance is appropriate? Do we need a specific policy on guidelines or just a general statement on expulsion?
- More on background checks and systems.

### Which plenary sessions and concurrent workshops did you find most effective and why?

- Child Care and Early Childhood in the Obama Administration, Messaging and Communicating Child Care Paradigm Change, and FBI Components of the CCDBG Criminal Background Check Requirements. Interesting new information on how child care is being taken more seriously and knowing how the components work and how information is gathered.
- All of them were very effective, as we were able to receive information regarding what's to come.
- They were all great and very effective to me because I just started the job.
- I thought the IT session was helpful.
- Compelling messaging may have been the best plenary session and the most effective delivery on this topic that I have ever experienced!
- I really enjoyed the session about messaging. Our Territory will definitely start looking at presenting the importance of an early childhood education and care message in a way that makes it more relevant across our communities.
- Building a System for the Early Childhood Workforce. The Early Educator Central information will be very useful to our staff.
- I really enjoyed the enthusiasm, positive energy, and opportunity to have a better understanding of the bigger picture with regard to the future of our work.
- Monday's plenary session on Messaging and Communicating Child Care Paradigm Change was most effective. It showed us how our child development message, although very important, does not resonate the same with those outside the child development field.
- The Federal updates are always important. States often get these updates in various ways, but it is helpful to hear directly from agency leads.
- Each session I attended was effective. The format of a general overview, State examples, and a Q&A discussion is a good, balanced strategy.
- Bill Millet's presentation really "hit the nail on the head" as to why my State has struggled for so many years to get funding for quality. We are immediately changing our messenger and the message so that we can pull in the necessary funding to build a high-quality child care system.
- Data and IT workshops were the most useful.
- It was good to hear from ACF staff—the direction and perspectives that are leading this work.
- All of them.
- The first one. It really got the message across that we need to change our message to reach the right people.
- The plenary sessions were all very good. They were inspirational and also provided valuable information. The workshops weren't as informative.
- Data—gave concrete suggestions.
- Communication—speaker was very engaging and really made me think about my communication strategies in a different and new way.
- Two-Generation Approach—the strategy supports both the present and future generations.
- Leading Change was excellent considering all that is changing in the field.
- Bill Millet was fantastic and did great presentation.
- Those related to CCDBG Reauthorization because that is our current focus.
- Bill Millet—messaging—provided a lot of food for thought. Grants and Contracts—deep dive into the mechanics of contracting for child care—very well laid out. Could have even allowed more time for this presentation with questions and answers.
- Two-Generation Approach.

- The messaging plenary was fantastic! Being able to know how to reframe the issue so that it resonates is critical to implementation.
- The FBI background checks—because now I understand what we are up against to meet the regulations.
- The messaging session had the most content, and I found it to be the most useful.
- Overall vision to guide the direction of CCDF.
- I always find Federal vision and leadership direction most valuable.
- The Open Session Discussion on the Child Care Disaster Plan was very effective and helpful. We are initiating plan development now, and the models and examples that were discussed were very timely and helpful.
- Leading change.
- The messaging session had a lot of great "ah-ha" moments.
- Messaging and Communicating Child Care Paradigm Change—key to everything else.
- Hearing mistakes that other States have made and what they had learned from them.
- Communication—but all were applicable and well done for "newbies" in the group.
- The plenary sessions in which Federal staff discuss their direction and expectations is always good.
- The marketing plenary and the background check sessions were great. They provided concrete information. Not a panel that talked about what their State does. That isn't that helpful without contextual information about the State.
- Plenary Session: Messaging and Communicating Child Care Paradigm Change—effective because it reinforced the importance of sending the right message to the right audience. Workshops B-3 and D-1—learned more strategies on building supply and support for high quality in rural areas and strengthening the workforce. Our State is currently updating the EC Career Lattice, so all of this information was very helpful. In addition, the information and resources shared on the EC Educator Central were very helpful.
- Two-Generation Approach (important information and ideas). CCDF as an Asset for Systems-Building (good State stories).
- I have to say I liked the open space sessions the most. People are too distracted in the plenary sessions, so I don't enjoy them as much.
- The tabletop on serving homeless children as well as the in-common States discussion.
- The sessions on monitoring just because they gave us some ideas regarding how to proceed.
- Raising the Bar on Quality, Strengthening the Workforce. This session provided more thought-provoking ideas for the goal of strengthening our workforce. I took copious notes and feel that after attending this session I was struck with inspiration and a vision for future tasks relating to workforce development. Evaluating Statewide Quality Initiatives was also a very insightful session. Bently and Karen answered questions with obvious knowledge and experience of longitudinal data collection and child outcomes.
- I was impressed with the messaging session.
- Contracted slots and serving vulnerable populations—because these are two key areas of reauthorization.
- Really enjoyed the session on messaging. The background check session wasn't as helpful as I had hoped; the FBI wasn't able to provide the clarification that we really need.
- Meeting with other Regional members was informational and a great networking experience. Supporting a networking meeting, such as this, at the next meeting and in-between would be beneficial.
- Have been to several conferences recently, and I am not sure why, but in general, I am not finding the plenaries to be that useful or stimulating.
- Opening Plenary, Strengthening the Business Practices of Child Care Centers and Homes.
- I felt all the concurrent workshops were effective due to hearing directly from the States that have implemented or are implementing these services.
- Monitoring nonexempts, CBC changes, and emergency preparedness Regional discussions—they pertained to my responsibilities at work.
- The background check session was particularly interesting and helpful.
- The Open Space Discussions were so much more effective than the plenaries or workshops. These discussions were wonderful because they allowed States to get "into the weeds" of reauthorization.
- Open space option seemed to be an add-on that did not work well with other sessions going on at the same time.
- Communication, two-generation, leading change—good examples from States.
- The workshops were all effective by design. Information with time for questions, discussion, and sharing was very helpful.
- The use of "data" session was very helpful. The leading change session was informative.
- Messaging and communicating paradigm change.
- Background checks and IT vision.

**Were the CCDF program knowledge requirement levels helpful? Please expand on your reply.**

- Yes, the information handout and discussions deepened my understanding, especially since I'm new at this.
- Yes, it helped guide me in choosing topics.
- Yes, however, there were some that I didn't attend because the narrative said it was geared toward folks who had more knowledge in the area. Even though it was not my focal area of work, I was interested in attending.
- Somewhat. I think I still chose the topics I thought were most relevant. I probably have enough knowledge to have attended any of the workshop.
- In concept, yes. Not sure the workshops lived up to that.
- Yes, the CCDF program knowledge requirement was helpful as we work toward compliance with the 2014 CCDBG Act.
- Yes, the levels were somewhat helpful in knowing if the workshop information was basic 101 or more in depth.
- Somewhat.
- Yes, but it would have been helpful if there were more higher knowledge workshops for those of us who have been doing this for more than 15 years.
- I didn't notice this.
- If this question relates to the 1-2-3 level rating for the workshops, then yes, they were helpful in ensuring I did not attend a workshop that I would not gain further understanding from.
- Not particularly, I did not feel that Level 3 was much more difficult to comprehend than Levels 2 and 1.
- In general, yes. It gave us an idea of what level of understanding participants should have going into the workshop.
- Yes (5 responses)
- Yes. Especially for those attending without CCDF knowledge.
- Yes, we attended with team members that were new. This was valuable to allow a better analysis of the appropriateness of fit.
- Somewhat. As a collaborative partner, I felt that I was able to grow in awareness of needs for early learning and CCDF; however, I feel that specific strategies from counterparts would have been a nice incorporation.
- Not really. (2 responses)
- Not particularly—more relevant were the tracks and descriptions.
- Yes, as it gave people a sense of how in depth the session was going to be.
- State weeding out fraud and raising rates.
- No. The training levels were not accurate. There was also not a wide enough variety of levels offered during each workshop. Why have three levels if you're only going to offer levels one and two during a workshop session?
- Yes, I think so. But I went to a session based on the topic, not the level.
- We didn't find it helpful for this meeting, although it might be in the future depending on the range of items on the agenda. Because we had a limited number of staff participating in the meeting, we tended to participate in sessions based on subject rather than degree of difficulty.
- No, the ratings were not always representative of the level of information being provided.
- I did not use them.
- Not really. I went to a level 1 and felt a little overwhelmed.
- Yes. Always learn more that will help our State as we prepare our plan for submission.
- It was helpful; however, I would have liked more discussion and examples on how CCDF regulations and HS regulations can work at the State level.
- Yes. I work closely with our CCDF program manager (we are in the same office), so for me it all fit together. I'm not sure how this worked for others.
- Not for me.
- Not really. I felt that anyone could have benefitted from the workshops.
- Yes. This helped our State's group tackle the meeting from a more thoughtful perspective.
- Not entirely, at least not for me. With my role being focused on background checks, the session with the FBI and other background check requirements (Level 3) was right at my level. However, many of the other workshops were outside my realm of experience even though they were listed as Level 1 or Level 2.
- Not really.
- Yes. The questions and discussions were on the level needed to meet participants' needs.
- I did not feel they were always on target. For example, the FBI presentation was more a Level 1 session (not a Level 3).
- Yes, to ensure we chose meaningful topics with concepts to apply to our jobs.
- I think they were probably most helpful for those who are new to this work. I don't think our team used them extensively.

- Yes, because it made it easier to choose which session to attend.
- I didn't really go by those. I just went to the topics that interested me most.
- I was maybe more timid than I should have been about attending some of the Level 3 sessions. Based on what I was hearing from other participants, I may have missed out.
- Yes. Glad we had several members of our team so that we could cover different topics. Liked the theme approach.
- Didn't use them, but they were probably helpful to other partners.
- No new information was presented, but you told us that ahead of time.
- The levels did not influence my selection of workshops.
- No. Was not clear what that was or why it was there.
- Yes, but sometimes inaccurate.
- Not really. Attended what I was interested in.

**What can we improve on for next time in terms of meeting content (e.g., sessions, participants)? Suggestions would be appreciated.**

- Collaboration directors did not spend ample time together. There was one meeting on 1 day, which was an informational meeting. I suggest additional time for a sharing meeting(s). We would learn so much and would provide support to each other. That would be most helpful.
- More time in Regional meetings, with topics more tied to current challenges and sharing specific strategies.
- I think how it was structured worked well.
- Don't have peer-to-peer sessions (open discussion) compete with concurrent workshops. Attendees need both.
- The venue for this year's meeting was good in terms of the layout of the workshop rooms in comparison with the main one where the plenary sessions were held. I recommend looking for another venue that offers comparable facilities, if not larger to accommodate for larger groups during the workshops. Hearing directly from Secretary Burwell and Acting Assistant Secretary Greenberg was great. However, if their schedules were to permit them to stay around for more time to interact with meeting participants, that would be AWESOME!
- Continue allowing States to bring additional staff from various program areas, as they share the information with coworkers. I have seen staff come back energized and committed to implementing the coming changes.
- With regard to the meeting content, it would be very valuable, if possible, to continue conversations at the State level with child care and HSSCO directors related to some key topics discussed at the meeting. For example, the opportunity to discuss initiatives related to public and private partnerships would be valuable to have at the State level for those States that might not be effectively using these types of partnerships.
- More higher knowledge workshops.
- I was surprised not to see the Director of OHS there (Dr. Enriquez). I think it is very helpful when we can hear from OHS and OCC together.
- The content was great.
- Not particularly impressed with Bill Millett. I believe his message is "old school" and needs to factor in the "new" world reality, which, in my mind, is no longer based on rankings (i.e., "U.S. exceptionalism").
- The Open Session Discussions weren't marketed and were difficult to access. The concept was good, and I would have enjoyed more informal discussions about CCDBG Reauthorization.
- It is always great to have an opportunity for facilitated networking.
- Continue to keep it relevant—which I thought it was this year.
- Continue with the stories of success from other States. It's great to hear that things are working for some!
- Two full days instead of 2 1/2. More time to plan on attending. We were invited 1 month before the meeting.
- Excellent job, with a nice balance of formal presentations and small-group discussions.
- I prefer rotating roundtable discussions over panels.
- Require ELC project directors to attend and require State coordinators for State-level EHS-CCP grants to attend.
- It was nice to have presenters from various States that have expertise and/or have experienced successes in various components related to child care.
- Having more Office of Head Start experts there presenting would be helpful.
- Provide opportunities for participants to network with partners.
- I'm sure there are reasons for delimiting the scope of focus, but I would find it useful to include all the moving pieces in the discussions. PDGs were glaringly absent from the discussion, as was the direct exploration of how we will be redesigning systems to separate 4-year-olds from CCDF and Head Start. Refocusing attention on infants and toddlers is only half the challenge. STAM is such a valuable venue for thinking things through together and learning from one another that it would be good to use this venue for thinking out loud together about these major shifts in system components.
- More Open Space Discussions based on topics submitted by State administrators.
- More on integrating child care and Head Start.

- Would like to have had Head Start Regional Program Managers participate. They have much to contribute, and hearing the same information is helpful in all our work.
- I really like the format of the sessions, with multiple speakers each speaking for 15-20 minutes. That was very beneficial and kept the sessions flowing.
- I thought the meeting presenters lacked diversity. During the plenary sessions the speakers were mostly white, especially those who are at the decision level. I think it is really sad to see this when the children and families we serve are very diverse.
- More concrete sessions. Fewer sessions with stories from each State about what they do.
- This was my first STAM. I thought it was very well put together. I thought there was a good selection of workshops to attend and a lot of opportunity for networking. Our State "team" went to different workshops and then compared notes.
- If there are to be wider audiences, make sure they are part of the planning committee.
- I am wondering if it would be useful to have TANF and child care as participants. I think that reauthorization has gone largely unnoticed by TANF partners. They need to understand that the rules are changing and that their participation and understanding are paramount. The culture is changing.
- Fewer all-group panels.
- I would have liked to see more interactivity or audience engagement.
- Continue to utilize the experiences of States as a way to share information.
- More information and networking regarding supporting the home care educator and the multiple pathways toward quality.
- Get started with planning earlier and perhaps solicit session topics and presenters from those who are targeted to attend, similar to what happens in many State-sponsored public-sector conferences as well as those sponsored by the nonprofit sector.
- More networking and sharing within States; more specifics on the Federal expectations and regulations.
- Continue to request participation/presenters from States that are successful in implementing the topic up for discussion.
- There wasn't enough diversity on the panels during the plenaries. Surely there are people of color who can speak to some of these issues and bring in a focus on families and children of color. Work on that OCC.
- In general, though, the Open Space Discussions would be better if they had designated an additional facilitator to take notes on the easel pads. The discussions might also have benefited from an opening exercise to establish a common language around certain key terms (a lot of States have different definitions for the same thing).
- Presentations with more time for discussion.
- Get content out sooner!
- Allow the Open Space Discussions to truly be open. They did not need to be scheduled, assigned a moderator, etc. Just provide space for emergent discussions. We are all adults and leaders in our States; trust us to network.
- Earlier notice of content. Obtaining approval for out-of-State travel can be challenging and requires an agenda. The late information more than doubled airfare expenses and only overflow hotel reservations were available.
- Sessions on developing SMART goals/objectives for contracts. Evaluating contracts toward meeting plan goals. QPR data.
- Need more time for State discussions. Need to hear more from OCC. Need to look beyond the ECE field.
- More specifics from the Feds. (I know, good luck with that.)

**What can we improve on for next time in terms of meeting format (e.g., time of year, length of meeting, session format)? Suggestions would be appreciated.**

- Summer meetings are great, which helps avoid weather-related issues. The time of the month works well also. June would also be a perfect time to meet. Three days is plenty! The session format is fine as well. Overall, I think everything was very well organized.
- I think you did well.
- This was good as well.
- I would like to have had more networking time. I found the couple of table discussions at the administrators meeting on Monday morning to be helpful. I liked the idea of the option of table discussions during the workshop times, but I never went to one, as I thought the workshops would be more helpful. Also, I was not able to stay at the Westin, so it would be nice if there was enough space for everyone to stay at the same hotel. I did appreciate the transportation that was provided between the two hotels and to the BUILD conference.
- Hesitant to suggest more time, but for the collective energy and expense to attend, more time and days would be beneficial.

- Although I can appreciate that that STAM coordinates its time schedule to align with the QRIS meeting, I would like to be given the choice. I would like to have a full day to meet as a Region in the morning, then as groups with commonalities in the afternoon. This would add another full day to STAM, but I think it would be worth it because it is not often that we get a chance to get together to share and learn from one another.
- Summer and fall seem better, as travel in winter months can get iffy.
- In terms of the meeting format, it would be very helpful to provide more opportunities for open discussion during the presentations.
- If we continue to have the meeting in the same week as the QRIS National Meeting, it would be helpful if the two entities could coordinate on the location. The availability of shuttle buses was very helpful, but the buses didn't allow for storing suitcases. Thanks to one of the participants who helped the driver unload the suitcases.
- I thought the meeting format was appropriate.
- I liked the format.
- Continue to schedule the STAM and BUILD conferences during the same week. However, try to give more time for changing hotels, eating lunch, and just shifting to another important conference.
- Please do not start STAM at 9 a.m. on a Monday morning. It required me to spend all day Sunday in travel status.
- All good.
- I liked starting at 12 noon and ending the 3-day meeting at 12 noon instead of starting at 8 a.m. and ending the last day in the middle of the afternoon. This schedule allows good options for flights home.
- The space was great! The venue excellent. Time of year was perfect. It would have been more cost-effective to have 2 full days for non-CCDF administrators instead of 1 full day and 2 half days. Maybe next year have the meeting on Tuesday and Wednesday, and the CCDF administrator meeting a full day before or after the meeting. Spreading it out over 3 days was OK, as it did help with travel home.
- Suggest having Regional- or topic-specific times in the middle of the day instead of at the end. I heard a lot of people saying they really liked the open discussion opportunities.
- Address all team members and roles that they bring to the table with early learning.
- If a topic is anticipated to be very popular (such as FBI checks), it would be great if there were multiple offerings of this so that all can enjoy it.
- Meeting format worked well. May be less costly a different time of the year, but it's nice to be in the D.C. area during the summer.
- Get a sponsor for an afternoon break.
- Find a nonprofit sponsor to cover the cost of coffee or have a quick grab-and-pay beverage station available immediately outside of the meeting venue. If there's any way to share a venue for the QRIS meeting to eliminate transfer, that would be awesome. Co-convening with the ELC grantee meeting would also be good.
- Meeting format and length of meeting were good. The session format was effective.
- I hate to say it, but I think it should be longer by about 1 day.
- Nothing—well done.
- Fine as it is. Nicely done.
- Time of year, length of meeting, and general meeting format all seemed fine.
- I'm wondering for those of us who do not go to BUILD if these meetings should be uncoupled?
- More time with Regions together.
- Booking along with the BUILD conference was very difficult.
- Meeting was very well organized; length was just right.
- *Please* ask for tables—rounds, classroom-style, anything. Theater is too awkward for notetaking.
- I wish we had a chance to meet the new Head Start Director at this meeting.
- The venue location was great, hotel was nice, and the shuttles were very helpful. I ended up in an overflow hotel, which was nice, but I felt like I had to leave right at 5:30 every day to catch my shuttle back to my hotel, which meant I missed out on some of the after-meeting networking. Not a huge downer but not ideal. Length of meeting and session format were great. Time of year is tricky for me personally because July is a busy month for family activities, which made it hard for me to be gone.
- Don't call the Open Space Discussions "open space" if they are not truly driven by what participants want to discuss and are decided on ahead of time.
- I think the times for everything were good. I'd like to have more open sessions.
- Three full days might be nice and possibly earlier in the year, like April or May.
- I was a little disappointed that there weren't enough rooms available at the Westin; being at a different hotel makes you feel a little detached from the experience. Not sure why there weren't enough rooms blocked out.
- I liked holding the meeting in July, and the location was very good.
- Some of my staff who were not able to attend the meeting in person really appreciated the opportunity to participate in the workshops by way of a webinar. This option should be expanded for future use.

- The last day seemed rushed; it should be a full 3-day meeting.
- On the one hand, great to pair up with the QRIS meeting. On the other hand, it's a long week!
- Times and formats were good.
- I appreciated that STAM and BUILD are striving to maximize efficiency by reducing the need to travel twice during the summer, but being away from the office for an entire week presents its own set of challenges.
- The length, intensity, and content of the meeting were perfect.
- I think it should be 1 full day for State and Territory administrators and then 2 full STAM days. It seemed like the agenda was packed tight. and I understand given the short timeframe. Having 3 full days would allow for proper breaks and informal networking. Can we have a cash bar reception?
- It would have been nice to serve lunch during some of the plenaries or keynotes. That would have enabled us to get out a little earlier so that we could have time to check and respond to e-mail before the end of the business day.
- Need to consider adult learning styles (e.g., research in designing sessions, too much sitting and lecturing).
- Keep open space.
- Allow a work day for travel at the beginning (States on Tuesday, not a Monday).
- July is good—no longer than 2.5 days. Possibly not linked to BUILD, as it makes the week too long.
- Three days is a good timeframe. Need fewer topics and more time for small-group discussions. Would like sessions on leadership and creating capacity in the States.

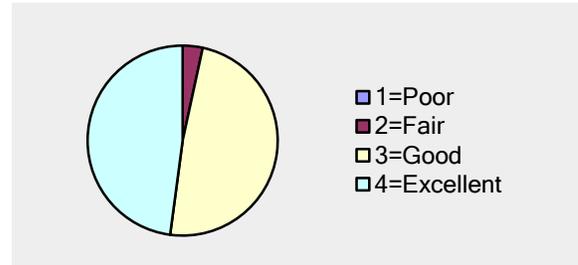
### Do you have anything else that you would like to share?

- Kudos to the planning committee!
- Great location.
- Thank you for all your hard work to put this together. There was certainly a lot of energy and enthusiasm.
- I appreciate the hard work everyone puts in to making events like STAM happen. I can only imagine all of the hours put in to making it come together seamlessly (at least from a participant's perspective). Thank you!
- Congratulations to the OCC and OHS leadership and planning committee; STAM was truly a great opportunity to connect, renew, and get reenergized. You are amazing, well done.
- Having the collaboration directors meet along with State administrators of child care and the RTT-ELC/SAC teams was very helpful. I would love to see this format continue, if possible.
- Tricia and CMC did a terrific job!
- I like how the scheduling aligned with the QRIS meeting and that people were encouraged to attend both. I think it is a good idea to include SAC and RTT-ELC leaders at STAM.
- Thank you for the opportunity to attend. This was my first STAM. I enjoyed meeting others in my field, networking, and learning about what other States do.
- Excellent. Thank you!
- Western States and beyond have asked multiple times to please start meetings on Tuesday or after 2 p.m. on Mondays; it is difficult to travel on Sundays.
- Thank you for the opportunity to clarify the mission and vision of early learning. I take away a clear understanding of what can be offered by the agency I represent to assist in meeting goals as we continue to work together to increase quality for our children and families through early learning.
- Great time! Learned so much!
- A job well done and Tricia Haley did a fantastic job organizing and planning STAM.
- Thank you for all the time, effort and work that went into the meeting—much appreciated.
- I greatly appreciated the opportunity to meet as Regional groups. I also loved the Open Space Discussions.
- It ran very smoothly. Thank you to the planning team.
- Just thank you for continuing to bring folks together to learn and share.
- Rachel is refreshing and am looking forward to her tenure.
- Very much appreciated the opportunity for a joint CCDF/HSSCO meeting.
- I think this meeting was more relaxed. In past recent meetings, everyone was so frenzied about reauthorization that the tone was sort of tense. I think this meeting allowed more learning and acceptance. I enjoyed it. I really liked the sharing in the open space meetings. I liked HS being part of the discussion. Thanks for the opportunity to take part!
- Overall, it was a fabulous meeting!
- Loved the networking and opportunities for discussion on common themes.
- Great job STAM planning committee! Thank you to OCC for bringing this meeting to us!
- As I stated previously, it was a great meeting, good topics, and a lot of great choices.
- It was hard to be at the third choice/overflow hotel. I would have liked to spend more time with the group, but I only had one opportunity to get a shuttle back to my location.

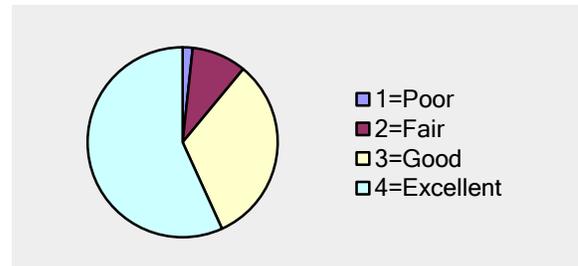
- The person walking around and taking pictures in the session was very distracting. Also, does STAM have photo releases for these pictures to be used? Would have liked all PowerPoint presentations and other information on a flash drive.
- Would prefer a late Monday or Tuesday start.
- Thank you to all who put this together. It is a lot of hard work and is greatly appreciated.
- It seems that States were asked at the last minute to present. Need agenda earlier to determine who to bring to the meeting.

### Meeting Logistics

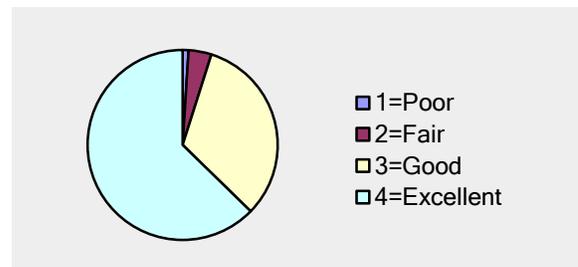
Overall meeting	
Answer Options	Response Percent
1=Poor	0%
2=Fair	3%
3=Good	49%
4=Excellent	48%



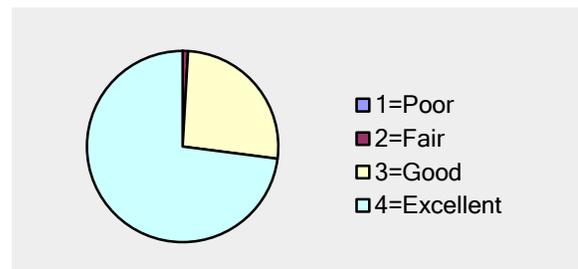
Location of the hotel	
Answer Options	Response Percent
1=Poor	2%
2=Fair	9%
3=Good	32%
4=Excellent	57%



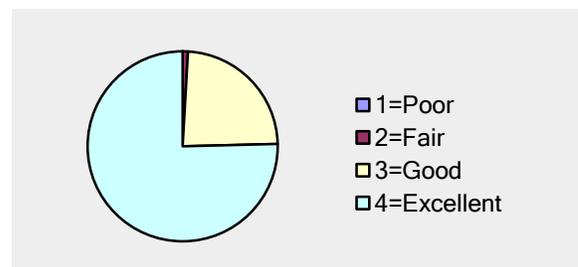
Hotel accommodations	
Answer Options	Response Percent
1=Poor	1%
2=Fair	4%
3=Good	32%
4=Excellent	63%



Meeting registration process	
Answer Options	Response Percent
1=Poor	0%
2=Fair	1%
3=Good	26%
4=Excellent	73%



Logistics staff assistance	
Answer Options	Response Percent
1=Poor	0%
2=Fair	1%
3=Good	24%
4=Excellent	75%



Meeting materials	
Answer Options	Response Percent
1=Poor	0%
2=Fair	3%
3=Good	47%
4=Excellent	50%

